

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Hofstra University

Terry Coniglio, Vice President of Marketing and Communications

Office: 516-463-4160

Cell: 516-615-1368

terry.coniglio@hofstra.edu

Hofstra University Files Article 78 Special Proceeding Against Nassau County Planning Commission

HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK APRIL 18, 2023 - Hofstra University filed an Article 78 special proceeding today addressing the Nassau County Planning Commission's recent violations of important New York State and Nassau County laws. The Planning Commission failed to properly notice and conduct its meetings for consideration of the transfer of the lease for the Nassau Hub and surrounding public property from its current leaseholder to Las Vegas Sands for the development of a casino.

"We are asking that the Planning Commission commit to a fair and transparent process," says Hofstra University spokeswoman Terry Coniglio. "To this point, the Planning Commission's hearing did not comply with the law, and we have been forced to ask the court to ensure that the public receives the information it deserves and a fair opportunity to be heard on this important matter."

Nassau County law requires that the Planning Commission conduct a public hearing before deciding whether to recommend the lease transfer to the County Executive and the County Legislature, and that public hearing must comply with New York's Open Meetings Law.

Although the Planning Commission claimed to conduct such a meeting on March 2, 2023, the public was not notified in advance that the meeting related to Las Vegas Sands or the transfer of County property for a casino development, and no terms were disclosed to the public regarding the proposed lease. The Planning Commission deemed public comment to be closed on March 2 even though they acknowledged that the lease transfer was still being negotiated.

As stated in our Petition to the court, the Planning Commission violated the law on March 2 and in other meetings, including by failing to provide the public with proper notice, by denying the public a right to attend its "work sessions" and by scheduling meetings to benefit the private interests of Las Vegas Sands. Hofstra brings this special proceeding in court to protect its own and the public's right to appropriate notice, relevant information, and a fair opportunity to be heard on an issue of great import to the citizens of Nassau County.

ABOUT HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY

[Hofstra University](#), founded in 1935, is a nationally ranked and recognized private university committed to preparing students for the challenges of tomorrow, in an environment that cultivates learning through the free and open exchange of ideas for the betterment of humankind. Students can choose from more than 180 undergraduate program options and 190 graduate program options in the liberal arts and sciences, education, health professions and human services, the Peter S. Kalikow School of Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, the Fred DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Frank G. Zarb School of Business, the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication, the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, the Hofstra Northwell School of Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies, and the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. With small classes led by accomplished faculty in cutting-edge facilities, Hofstra University educates students to embrace change and empowers them to become leaders in their communities and careers.