## LIGHT Comments on July 2023 DGE Report

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Comments from Jane Bokunewicz, faculty director of the Lloyd D. Levenson Institute of Gaming, Hospitality and Tourism (LIGHT), Stockton University School of Business, on the July 2023 numbers released Wednesday by the state Division of Gaming Enforcement:

Delivering an expected peak season month-to-month bump in gaming revenue at \$477.13 million, July 2023 generated the highest single month total gross gaming revenue (GGR) in recent history. At \$2.95 billion, the year-to-date GGR (the first seven months of 2023) has outpaced total <u>year-end</u> GGR for seven of the past 10 years. If total GGR performs at least as well in the second half of 2023 as it did in the second half of 2022, we could be flirting with Atlantic City's first \$5 billion year since 2006 (when the industry peaked at \$5.22 billion in total GGR according to <u>UNLV's record</u>).

Brick-and-mortar gaming operations (slots, poker and table games) performed well at \$289.97 million in July 2023, exceeding pre-pandemic 2019 and eight of the past 10 years, but falling short of 2022 by 3%. As is the nature of the gaming industry, there are always fluctuations in the monthly revenues and this 3% decline does not appear to be part of a lastly trend. Year-to-date, brick-and-mortar GGR (\$1.65 billion) has outpaced

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Media contacts: Stacey Clapp Director of Strategic Communications <u>Stacey.Clapp@stockton.edu</u> 609-626-3645 609-412-8069 <u>stockton.edu/media</u>

Mark Melhorn Associate Director of News and Media Relations <u>Mark.Melhorn@stockton.edu</u> 609-652-4593 609-569-6026 <u>stockton.edu/media</u>

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