

29 March 2012

Media protocols for Section 143 casino inquiry public hearings

The Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority will hold public hearings as part of its inquiry into The Star casino under Section 143 of the Casino Control Act at Court 8A, Level 8, John Maddison Tower, Cnr Goulburn and Elizabeth streets, Sydney on April 2, 3 and 4 from 10am each day and if necessary April 10,11 and 12. The Authority has appointed Gail Furness, SC, to conduct the inquiry and preside over the public hearings.

Further information is available on the Authority's website: http://www.ilga.nsw.gov.au/resource/reports/143%20-%20media%20Statement%2026%20march.pdf

Media requests

All media requests should be made to Authority media officer Mark Nolan who will be present during the hearings and can be contacted on 9338 6759, 0421 613 720 or <u>mark.nolan@business.nsw.gov.au</u>.

Media access

Media have access to the public hearings at all times subject to the discretion of Ms Furness to hear some evidence in camera.

Filming/photographing/recording

Media must arrange for one pool TV crew (fixed camera) and one pool newspaper photographer to film/photograph the opening addresses. Video footage/photographs are to be made available to other media present. No cameras will be allowed in the hearing room after the opening addresses.

Sound recording is permitted for the duration of the inquiry via a splitter box.

Access to documents

Access to documents is subject to the discretion of Ms Furness and any suppression orders. Requests can be made to Mark Nolan during adjournments or at the end of the hearing day.

Media responsibilities

Media are reminded to ensure minimal disruption when filming, photographing or recording the opening addresses and must not obstruct the view between Ms Furness and Counsel Assisting.

While the Authority advises the media whether suppression orders are in force, journalists are responsible for ensuring they are up-to-date with suppression orders and that they abide by them.



Please turn off mobile phones in the hearing room.

Interviews

The Authority does not arrange interviews with witnesses, counsel and the public or allow such interviews on the hearing premises.

Members of the media waiting for witnesses to leave the building via the ground floor must remain outside the ground floor lobby.

Transcripts

The Authority will distribute copies of the opening addresses to all media present at the end of the opening session.

Transcripts of each day's evidence will be placed on the Authority's website at <u>www.ilga.nsw.gov.au</u>.