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A CLEAR CONFLICT OF INTEREST



DID YOU KNOW?

Gov. Tim Walz appointed two tribal leaders, Johnny Johnson and Melanie Benjamin, to the Minnesota Racing Commission (MRC). (Star Tribune, June 24, 2024)

The two tribal leaders are now part of the MRC, which has regulatory oversight for live horse racing and wagering, online wagering, and card clubs at both of Minnesota's racetracks: Canterbury Park in Shakopee and Running Aces in Columbus.

These two tribal members applied on a Thursday and were appointed by the governor to the MRC the next day. (Star Tribune, June 24, 2024)

One of the appointees is currently a defendant in a federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) suit filed by one of the racetracks they will be tasked with regulating. (United States District Court for the District of Minnesota, Case 0:24-cv-01369, Filed April 16, 2024)

The other appointee received a plea deal for alleged fraud committed against the tribal casino she managed. (Star Tribune, June 24, 2024)

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