



## *Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians*

*Executive Branch of Tribal Government*

*Office of the Chief Executive*

July 31, 2024

*Via E-mail*

Michelle Pomerleau, Gaming Regulatory Authority Executive Director  
Gaming Regulatory Authority Board Members

Re: Data Request

Dear Michelle Pomerleau and Gaming Regulatory Authority Board Members:

On April 16, 2024, Running Aces Casino, Hotel & Racetrack filed a federal lawsuit against ten employees of Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures in both their personal and official capacities. The lawsuit alleges that, for several years, Corporate Ventures has been operating class III card games not authorized by the Band's gaming compact with the State of Minnesota. Specifically, these games are identified as Mississippi Stud, Three Card Poker, Let It Ride, Ultimate Texas Hold'Em, and side bets on blackjack.

The Running Aces litigation is greatly concerning to me because, as Chief Executive, I am responsible to conduct external relations with all other governments and their political subdivisions. I am concerned not only about the potential of lost Band revenue, but—more importantly—about how the Band's image and reputation may be negatively impacted.

As the Band's independent gaming regulator, you are responsible to regulate gaming matters under Band law and the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. In the event you have made compliance efforts concerning any of the above-mentioned games, I hereby request that you provide me with whatever pertinent information you can under Band law. My request encompasses all relevant correspondence, e-mails, meeting minutes, etc.

Please submit the requested data at your earliest convenience to both of my legal counselors: Legal and Policy Counsel Hanna Valento ([hanna.valento@millelacsband.com](mailto:hanna.valento@millelacsband.com)) and Senior Legal Advisor Adam Candler ([adam.candler@millelacsband.com](mailto:adam.candler@millelacsband.com)). Thank you for your prompt consideration in this very important matter.

Miigwech,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Virgil Wind", is written over a horizontal line.

Virgil Wind  
Chief Executive

CC:

Chuck Naughton, Deputy Solicitor General