

ROBERT B. STURGES

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:

Highly experienced executive with a strong record of success in a broad range of businesses and economic cycles. An effective leader with excellent communication, recruitment and motivation skills. Excels at operational analysis, goal setting and identifying new business opportunities. Decisive and innovative.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

2006 – Present
Houston, Texas
Nevada Gold & Casinos (UWN: AMEX)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mr. Sturges was appointed CEO in the fall of 2006. This company owns and operates numerous gaming operations including casinos in New York and Colorado. He is responsible for all day to day operations of the company and reports directly to the Board of Directors. Mr. Sturges is licensed in Colorado, New Jersey and New York.

2004 - 2005
Miami, Florida
FLAGLER DOG TRACK

CEO DESIGNATE

Mr. Sturges was retained to develop the facility into a full service “racino” and to assemble the management team that will be responsible, under the direction of Mr. Sturges, for the operation of the slot machines and related facilities. Design team was assembled and conceptual plans developed. The continuation of this project was halted when voter approval was not obtained.

2003 - Present
Miami, Florida
BENIHANA, INC. (NASDAQ: BNHN)

LEAD INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR

Benihana is the largest nationwide chain of Asian restaurants in the U.S. Mr. Sturges was elected to the Board of Directors in 2003 and has served as a member of the Audit, Compensation, Nominating and Executive Committees. In 2005 he was chosen by the Board to be the Lead Independent Director.

2001 - 2004
Miami, Florida
FLORIDA LEISURE INVESTORS

CHAIRMAN AND CEO

While seeking investment opportunities in gaming, hospitality and professional sports businesses, Mr. Sturges has served as a paid consultant in several significant engagements. These consulting contracts included the Florida day cruise casino business and a proposed \$600 million project on the Las Vegas strip.

1994 - 2001
Miami, Florida
CARNIVAL RESORTS AND CASINOS - A partially owned subsidiary of Carnival Corporation which developed, owned and managed resorts, hotels and casinos. At one time operated 85 resorts and hotels and five casinos.

PRESIDENT - GAMING DIVISION, BOARD MEMBER AND PARTNER

Mr. Sturges was responsible for the oversight of multi-property gaming operations and developments. The operations aggregated over \$500 million in annual revenue and 4,000 employees. Operations were located in Ontario, Canada, Louisiana and the Caribbean.

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Accomplishments included:

- * Led team that won government RFP to develop and operate Casino Rama, a \$300 million casino-entertainment center on Mnjikaning First Nation reserve, Ontario, Canada.
- * Supervised for five years all aspects of operations including nearly 3,000 slots, over 100 tables, five food outlets, and summer concert series in 3,000 seat venue. Casino Rama voted Ontario's favorite casino for five consecutive years. Company's management contract extended for additional five-year term.
- * Supervised all aspects of the development and operation of Casino Rouge, a \$175 million riverboat and terminal building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Obtained a 60 percent share of two-boat market.

1986 - 1994

Miami, Florida

CARNIVAL CORPORATION - The world's most popular cruise line, presently operating over 75 ships. Carnival is a publicly traded company and is currently traded on the NYSE with a market cap in excess of \$23 billion.

PRESIDENT, CARNIVAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES AND CARNICON (1989 - 1994)

Mr. Sturges was one of the six executive officers of Carnival, with various senior level executive responsibilities including the oversight of all resort and gaming activity of Carnival, and the presidency of Carnicon Management Services, a joint venture resort management company that operated eight Caribbean region resorts and/or gaming operations.

Accomplishments included:

- * Conceived of and co-founded Carnicon Management Services, a joint venture between Carnival and the Continental Companies.
- * Developed and negotiated eight management contracts for the operation of resorts and/or casinos in the Bahamas, Puerto Rico, St. Maarten, Venezuela, Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Peru.
- * Supervised the operation of all Carnicon management contracts and served as the interface with property
- * Developed master plan for the conversion of government-run Panamanian casinos to private ownership under paid consulting contract with the government of Panama.
- * Responsible for the highly successful operation of all Carnival ship casinos which consistently exceeded aggressive annual budgets.

Introduced several innovations in ship casinos including million dollar progressive jackpots, "Comp-a-Cruise" program and unprecedented testing of productivity of older slot machines versus new slot machines in special arrangement with IGT.

VICE-PRESIDENT AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF CARNIVAL CRUISE LINES (TED ARISON) (1986 - 1990)

Mr. Sturges served as the "right hand man" to Ted Arison, founder of Carnival Cruise Lines, founder of Ensign Bank, majority owner of Miami Heat and a variety of other diverse businesses which resulted in Mr. Arison's listing in Fortune Magazine as one of the 20 wealthiest people in the world.

Accomplishments included:

- * Supervised the development of Crystal Palace, a \$125 million, 875 room resort/casino in Bahamas
- * Supervised all Crystal Palace operations as Vice-Chairman of Crystal Palace Corporation.
- * Obtained on behalf of Ted Arison a controlling interest in a new NBA franchise for \$32.5 million in 1987
- * Became Limited Partner in franchise and represented team on NBA Board of Governors
- * Served on Arison's Ensign Bank Board of Directors.

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: (Continued)

1983 - 1986

Hackensack, New Jersey

FERRO AND STURGES - A six member law firm specializing in corporate law, litigation, administrative and regulatory law.

PARTNER

Mr. Sturges specialized in regulatory, administrative and litigation matters. He also provided consulting services to Carnival Cruise Lines, the U.S. Army and Pratt Hotels. During this time period Mr. Sturges was also very active in national, state and local politics, including his own candidacy for the New Jersey Senate

1980 - 1983

Trenton, New Jersey

NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF GAMING ENFORCEMENT - Agency responsible for investigating all applicants for casino licenses and for the enforcement of all casino regulations in the \$4 billion Atlantic City casino industry.

DIRECTOR AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Mr. Sturges was responsible, while Director, for complete oversight of a 500-employee agency that had a \$25 million annual budget. He reported directly to the state Attorney General.

1974 - 1980

Trenton, New Jersey

NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE - This agency is responsible for the investigation and prosecution of all state criminal offenses, and specializes in white collar and organized crime.

DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL AND CHIEF ORGANIZED CRIME PROSECUTOR

Mr. Sturges began as a white-collar crime trial lawyer and was promoted to become Chief Organized Crime Prosecutor where he supervised 75 attorneys and state police officers.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

* Published author in numerous trade journals and accomplished public speaker at more than 25 hospitality conferences and conventions.

* Most recent appearances include the keynote address at the Mortgage Bankers of America annual convention, and the Commencement Address at Johnson and Wales University.

CIVIC AND CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES:

o Chairman, Board of Governors, Big Brothers Big Sisters for past 11 years; Board member, City Theatre; Board member, Switchboard of Miami; Advisory Board, University of Miami; Trustee of Ransom Everglades School for three years

o Inducted into Big Brothers Big Sisters Hall of Fame; honored as one of Miami's "10 Good Men" by Ronald McDonald House; honored as a "Star of Miami" by Vizcayan Society.

EDUCATION:

- * Honorary Doctor of Business Administration, Johnson and Wales
- * Juris Doctorate, with honors, Rutgers School of Law
- * A.B., History, Dartmouth College