

Keep Indian Gaming on Indian Lands

Is Station Casinos the Kind of Partner California Wants?

Station Casinos, the Las Vegas gambling company financing the Highway 99 casino project in Madera, has made many promises to the State of California, Madera County, the City of Madera, the Madera Irrigation District, and to businesses and citizens throughout the region about the jobs and wealth their mega-casino will bring to the community. Station's past treatment of its partners should raise some serious questions.

The Culinary Workers Union, Local 226 UNITEHERE! represents workers at Station Casinos facilities in southern Nevada. The union prepared a detailed report entitled: "**A Post-Mortem: How Station Casinos Insiders Drove the Company into Bankruptcy.**" The report shows how Station insiders amassed more than \$1 billion of wealth from the company, and drove it into bankruptcy at the expense of its workers, customers, lenders, business partners and vendors. Some of the report's key findings:

- **Insiders Win:** Company insiders at Station Casinos, led by the Fertitta family, amassed over \$1 billion of wealth from the company through stock-based compensation and direct payments from 2001 through the 2007 buyout. This transfer of wealth was directly and indirectly paid for by making the company take on billions of interest-bearing debt. It was this debt used for insider enrichment that made it impossible for the company to weather the severe economic downturn.
- **Station hurts workers:** At the same time Station insiders enriched themselves, the company stopped matching its 401(k) contributions for employees, doubled health care premiums for rank and file workers, and slashed shift hours.
- **Station hurts business partners:** The company owes hundreds of thousands of dollars to local businesses. Station Casino's bankruptcy filings list a number of local agencies and individuals as unsecured creditors including the Madera County Tax Collector and the Madera District Fair.
- **Station stiffs lenders:** Station defaulted on tens of millions of dollars in loans and left bondholders standing with billions of dollars in unsecured notes that Station does not want to pay.

Are these the kind of people California should partner with?

For more information or to obtain a copy of the UNITEHERE! Report, go to www.NoOffReservationCasino.com.

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