



Exhibit VIII.A.15.a.

PROOF OF ADVANCING OBJECTIVES

Past Similar Applicant/ Manager Experience

Submit as Exhibit VIII.A.15.a. a description of the Applicant's and, if applicable, the Manager's experience, training and expertise in developing, constructing and operating casinos and related facilities (e.g., hotels, restaurants and entertainment facilities). For each such project, include the name and location, the total dollar investment, number of gaming devices, number of hotel rooms, amenities, total gaming revenues for the last three (3) years, total non-gaming revenues for the last three (3) years, number of full-time employees, and approximate size of the site on which the project is located. For any such project no longer owned or operated, include a description of the disposition of the project or termination of its operations.

Montreign Operating Company, LLC is a newly formed entity, and as such, it does not directly have experience, training and expertise in developing, constructing and operating casinos and related facilities. However, Montreign's parent company, Empire, and its executive team have extensive experience, training and expertise in developing, constructing and operating casinos and related facilities, and Empire's executive team will manage the Montreign Resort Casino. As detailed in Exhibit VI.G., Joseph D'Amato, Laurette Pitts and Nanette Horner have years of experience in the gaming industry, and their training and expertise will be invaluable to Montreign. Further, Empire, through its subsidiary, Monticello Raceway Management, Inc., owns and operates Monticello Casino & Raceway ("MCR") on approximately 232 acres in Monticello, New York. Approximately \$60,000,000 was invested in MCR. MCR has 1,110 video gaming machines, including 1,090 video lottery terminals and twenty (20) electronic table game positions, and does not have a hotel. MCR also has numerous other amenities, such as: a harness racetrack, year-round live harness horse racing, year-round simulcast pari-mutuel wagering on thoroughbred and harness horse racing from around the world, a 3,000-seat grandstand with retractable windows and a 100-seat clubhouse, parking spaces for 2,000 cars and

ten (10) buses, a buffet and two outlet food courts with seating capacity for up to 350 patrons, a 3,800 square foot multi-functional space used for events, a casino bar and an additional clubhouse bar and entertainment lounge with seating for 75 patrons. MCR has approximately 300 full time employees. Further, MCR's gaming revenues for the past three (3) years are \$14,066,000 (March 31, 2014 YTD), \$63,642,000 (2013), \$63,402,000 (2012), and \$61,388,000 (2011), and its non-gaming revenues for the past three (3) years are \$2,121,000 (March 31, 2014 YTD), \$12,776,000 (2013), \$12,220,000 (2012), and \$11,634,000 (2011). The successful operation and management of MCR, and the 100+ years of experience of its executive team, demonstrates Montreign's sufficient business ability and experience to establish and maintain a successful Gaming Facility.