

Department of Communications

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Karen Freeman-Wilson Mayor LaLosa Dent Burns Director of Communications

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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MAYOR KAREN FREEMAN-WILSON TO HOST MINORITY BUSINESS TO BUSINESS SHOWCASE ON MAY 3

GARY, IN – Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson will host a Business to Business Showcase, focused on minority vendors on Friday, May 3, 2019, at the Majestic Star Event Center in Buffington Harbor. The event is being held in partnership with Spectacle Entertainment, the Gary Sanitary District, the Gary Housing Authority and other entities engaged in the procurement of goods and services.

In discussing the event, Mayor Freeman-Wilson stated, "We are pleased to partner with Spectacle early in their tenure here in Gary. One of the most important aspects of the work of larger businesses and employers is their connection to smaller local businesses. The fact that Spectacle is joining the city in hosting this showcase is evidence of their commitment to ensuring opportunities for Gary businesses."

After purchasing Majestic Star Casino in March of this year, Spectacle Entertainment immediately expressed their desire to collaborate with minority vendors. According to Jahnae Erpenbach, Executive Vice President of Operations for Spectacle Entertainment & General Manager for the Majestic Star Casinos, "We are excited to provide networking opportunities for both local and regional businesses. This event exemplifies community principles on which our company was founded."

With a goal of investing significantly into the city of Gary, the Majestic Star team is working closely with Mayor Freeman-Wilson to make this a unique event. "The mayor feels strongly that it's important to encourage minority and women owned businesses to develop their own unique footprint in the Northwest Indiana community and, in doing so, find success," according to Erpenbach.

Majestic Star Casino CEO Rod Ratcliff said, "We are appreciative that Mayor Karen Freeman Wilson has afforded us these opportunities to make meaningful connections with local businesses."

Register free at <u>www.majesticstarcasino.com/showcase</u>

Registration: 12:30 p.m.

Welcome/Greeting: 1:00 p.m.

Open to the Public: 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Majestic Star Event Center is located at 1 Buffington Harbor Drive, Gary, IN. For more information and registration, visit www.majesticstarcasino.com/showcase.

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Contact: For more information contact: LaLosa Dent Burns, City of Gary (219) 881-1302 or

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