

Questions for Connecticut Lottery Corporation Board of Directors Nominee

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Connecticut Lottery Corporation

The Connecticut Lottery Corporation (CLC) operates the Connecticut state lottery. The statewide lottery was legalized in 1971 (PA 865), and lottery operations began in 1972 with a weekly game. Initially, the Commission of Special Revenue, later renamed the Division of Special Revenue, administered the lottery. Since July 1, 1996, it has been administered by CLC, a quasi-public agency created by [PA 96-212](#).

CLC is charged with serving a public purpose, specifically (1) operating and managing the lottery in an entrepreneurial and business-like manner, (2) increasing lottery revenue by “being responsive to market forces and acting generally as a corporation engaged in entrepreneurial pursuits,” and (3) operating the lottery with integrity and for the public good ([CGS § 12-806](#)).

CLC is governed by a 13-member board of directors, including the state treasurer and Office of Policy and Management secretary, who both serve ex-officio. The governor appoints five of the members, who must be confirmed by both houses of the General Assembly and have skill, knowledge, and experience in management, finance, or private sector operations. The six top legislative leaders appoint one member each.

The court may remove directors for misfeasance, malfeasance, or willful neglect of duty. Anyone so removed becomes ineligible for reappointment ([CGS § 12-802](#)).

The Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) has regulatory oversight of the corporation ([CGS § 12-806\(b\)\(13\)](#)). This function includes (1) licensing lottery employees and lottery agents, among

others; (2) assuring the integrity of the lottery, including the computer gaming system, computer internal control, and system testing; and (3) limiting advertising and marketing content to ensure the prohibition of ticket sales to minors ([CGS § 12-568a](#)).

Questions

1. How has your background and previous experience prepared you for this role?
2. In the last few years, CLC has attracted some negative publicity because of the Cash 5 game scam, the departure of the corporation's executive director, and legal action brought against CLC by former employees. Some people say that CLC is not subject to sufficient legislative oversight; some have even suggested dissolving CLC and returning lottery operations to a public agency. What would you consider to be the optimal level of legislative oversight for CLC? What do you think are the pros and cons of maintaining the lottery as a quasi-public corporation?
3. What effect, if any, do you believe these recent events have had on the public's trust in CLC? If the effect has been negative, what can the corporation do to regain that trust?
4. In December 2019, unions representing CLC employees released survey results that indicated a significant percentage of the corporation's unionized employees held negative opinions of CLC leadership, as reported by the [Hartford Courant](#). What is your response to these results? What can the CLC board do to address the results?
5. In March 2018, CLC's then-chairperson criticized DCP for overstepping in its regulatory oversight of the corporation. Others, however, have said that CLC is not appropriately responsive to DCP oversight. Do you agree with either of these positions? How would you characterize the relationship between CLC and DCP?
6. Legislation implementing the governor's proposed FY 21 budget adjustments ([SB 8, §§ 84-90](#)) allows CLC to offer lottery draw games online. What is your position on this proposal? What are the pros and cons of online gaming?
7. CLC has repeatedly said that it takes seriously its commitment to market games responsibly. What are the elements of a responsible marketing campaign?
8. An aggressive advertising policy is one way to attract bettors and increase revenue, but such a policy also fuels problem gambling. Is there any evidence to indicate that advising people to play responsibly in an advertisement aggressively promoting the lottery will deter compulsive gamblers from playing?
9. How can CLC strike a balance between deterring problem gambling while also growing its revenues?
10. What would you consider to be a comprehensive gambling treatment program? Based on your knowledge of the issue, how much funding do you think the state should contribute annually to a compulsive gambling treatment program?
11. Where do you see the Connecticut lottery and state lotteries in general in 10 years?

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