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**THE CORDISH COMPANIES AND LIVE! CASINO & HOTEL MARYLAND HOST FREE MINORITY OUTREACH FAIR TO PROVIDE SMALL BUSINESSES A PLATFORM TO CONNECT WITH MORE THAN 145 COMPANIES AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

***Largest Annual Event To Date Connects Hundreds of Small, Minority and Women-owned Businesses with Leading Companies for Potential Contract Opportunities***

**Hanover, MD (December 14, 2022)** – The Cordish Companies and Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland today partnered with the Md. Washington Minority Companies Association (MWMCA) again this year to deliver a powerful networking opportunity to small-, minority-, and women-owned businesses throughout the region.

This year's annual Minority Outreach Fair took place at THE HALL at Live! Casino & Hotel on Wednesday, December 14, from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. This year's fair provided a platform for small-, minority-, and women-owned businesses to engage with more than 145 potential contracting partners, including leading prime construction companies, utilities, education providers, professional services, suppliers, financial institutions, and casinos. Admission, parking, and exhibitor participation were all completely free of charge.

Exhibitors at the event included Amazon, Anne Arundel Central Services, Purchasing, T. Rowe Price, The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company, Sunbelt Rentals, University of Maryland Global Campus, Verizon Public Sector, PNC Bank, and Washington Gas. [A full list of exhibitors is available on the MWMCA website](#) for reference.

In addition to assisting small businesses in potentially identifying contractual opportunities with prime companies and government agencies, the Minority Outreach Fair empowered participants to network with other businesses and provided access to resources for small businesses. In previous years of the Minority Outreach Fair, thousands of minority-led firms have come together at Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland to meet with companies interested in contracting new work with diversity and inclusion top of mind. This year's event was the biggest to date, with over 1,500 attendees and 145 exhibitors.

"Supporting our community, and in particular, minority and women owned businesses is a critical success factor for Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland," said Zed Smith, COO, The Cordish Companies. "Providing an opportunity and venue for these growing businesses and contractors to network and build relationships is a powerful way for us to support our community members. The fact that this year's event is the largest in history only further proves the importance of this incredible event led by the MWMCA."

Attendees were encouraged to bring business cards, brochures, line cards, and copies of their business' capability statement to support the strongest outcomes for their brands and organizations.

The Minority Outreach Fair is part of a series of regular minority outreach events produced by The Cordish Companies and the MWMCA. Through this ongoing partnership, the two organizations demonstrate their commitment to inclusion and ensure that MBE/WBE firms have their foot in the local economy.

"The Minority Outreach Fair is one of our most impactful events each year and the ongoing partnership we've developed with Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland has allowed the event to grow to where it is today," said Wayne Frazier, President of the MWMCA. "Seeing the number of attendees who sold out the event weeks prior was a tribute to the value that this networking opportunity brings to those who are working hard to make their mark on our local and regional economy."

To learn more about the event, visit [www.MWMCA.org](http://www.MWMCA.org) or email [events@mwmca.org](mailto:events@mwmca.org). For information about Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland, visit [www.Maryland.LiveCasinoHotel.com](http://www.Maryland.LiveCasinoHotel.com).

### **About Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland**

The four-time AAA Four Diamond rated Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland is one of the largest and most luxurious commercial casinos in the country. Offering guests a range of activities including gaming, entertainment, world-class dining and hotel accommodations, Live! Casino & Hotel is consistently ranked the top tourist attraction in the state. Located between Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, and adjacent to the popular Arundel Mills Mall, the property features one of the area's biggest entertainment venues, The HALL at Live!, along with Maryland's #1 Sportsbook with partner FanDuel at Sports & Social Maryland. Other amenities include 183 live action table games, a large Poker Room, approximately 4,000 slot machines, two High Limit Rooms, and the Orchid Gaming & Smoking Patio. The award-winning hotel features 310 luxury guest rooms and The Cordish Art Collection complete with more than 40 pieces of contemporary art from world-renowned artists including Andy Warhol. Multiple dining options and guest services round out the experience at Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland. Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland is owned and operated by a company that is affiliated with The Cordish Companies. More information can be found at [LiveCasinoHotel.com](http://LiveCasinoHotel.com).

### **About The Cordish Companies**

The Cordish Companies' origins date back to 1910 and encompass four generations of privately-held, family ownership. During the past ten decades, The Cordish Companies has grown into a global leader in Commercial Real Estate; Entertainment Districts; Sports-Anchored Developments; Gaming; Hotels; Residential Properties; Restaurants; International Development; Coworking Spaces; and Private Equity. One of the largest and most respected developers in the world, The Cordish Companies has been awarded an unprecedented seven Urban Land Institute Awards for Excellence for public-private developments that are of unique significance to the cities in which they are located. The Cordish Companies has developed and operates highly acclaimed dining, entertainment and hospitality destinations throughout the United States, many falling under The Cordish Companies' Live! Brand, highly regarded as one of the premier entertainment brands in the country. In gaming, The Cordish Companies has developed among the most successful casino hotel resorts in the world including the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa and Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland. Welcoming over 55 million visitors per year, these developments are among the highest profile dining, entertainment, gaming, hotel and sports-anchored destinations in the country. Over the generations, The Cordish Companies has remained true to the family's core values of quality, entrepreneurial spirit, long-term personal relationships, and integrity. As a testimony to the long-term

vision of its family leadership, The Cordish Companies still owns and manages virtually every business it has created. For more information visit [www.cordish.com](http://www.cordish.com) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

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### **About Md. Washington Minority Companies Association, Inc.**

In 2002, Md. Washington Minority Contractors Association, Inc. (MWMCA) originated to advocate for minority and women construction trade contractors because so much work was being completed without the utilization of said firms. Eleven (11) years later, in 2013, MWMCA evolved into Md. Washington Minority Companies Association and expanded its scope of work to include all types of companies: trade contractors, suppliers, and service providers. MWMCA has a unique offering of services with one mission in mind, "Connecting Large & Small Businesses to Work Together." Please visit our website at [www.mwmca.org](http://www.mwmca.org) for more information.