(5/12/11): Cincinnati NAACP will Petition 100% of Casino Money; Funding Statues Not Part of Petition

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Cincinnati NAACP
Media Release
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CINCINNATI OHIO- MAY 12, 2011 -Cincinnati City Council has carved up 100% of the casino revenue before any bet has even been made. A large portion of the casino money has been committed to the Port Authority and operating the streetcar. City Council even gave money to build statues. City Hall estimates $20 million in revenue per year if the casino is built. City Council allocated the $20 million for a 15 year time period. "The people of Cincinnati had no opportunity for input on how the $300 million would be spent. To spend the money on the streetcar, the Port Authority, and statues while the City of Cincinnati faces its greatest economic crisis is irresponsible," Christopher Smitherman, president of the Cincinnati NAACP said.
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The Cincinnati NAACP will petition the government for 100% of the casino revenue. The time period the Cincinnati NAACP is considering is 100 years. The top priority for the casino money is balancing the budget, funding police and fire, and dealing with the pension crisis. However, swimming pools, recreation centers, and nurses in Cincinnati Public Schools will all be funded with casino money. These are a few priorities that the Cincinnati NAACP will petition. "This City Council can no longer mismanage tax payer money without the Cincinnati NAACP initiating a petition," Smitherman says.