

## Office of the Governor

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### NEWS RELEASE

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#### **GOVERNOR PARTICIPATES IN RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY FOR \$280M MILLION EXPANSION OF CAESAR'S CASINO/HOTEL**

Gov. Christie Whitman today demonstrated her commitment to economic development in Atlantic City and South Jersey when she participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a \$280 million expansion of Caesar's Casino/Hotel in Atlantic City. The Governor also toured the expansion project, which is the single largest investment made by Caesar's since it opened in Atlantic City in 1979.

"This expansion has added 620 rooms to the city's total number," the Governor said. "In fact, more than 3,400 new rooms are being built up and down the Boardwalk with the help of the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA), creating more than 3,000 construction jobs and almost 2,000 permanent jobs."

"I'm proud to say Atlantic City is alive with new attractions, new shopping opportunities, new homes, and neighborhood redevelopment," she said.

The expansion project, which was aided by a \$25 million investment by the CRDA, includes the 26-story Centurian Tower with its 620 new rooms; a ball room called Palladium Ball Room that can accommodate 2,000 people seated, and a Palladium Court that can accommodate 500 people.

The project also includes five new restaurants, lobby, and grand entrance.

Gov. Whitman said the casino industry employs 46,000 people and generates nearly \$300 million a year in casino taxes.

"I have always believed that it's my job to help ensure the well-being of our state's biggest tourist attraction," the Governor said. "That's why my administration has worked so hard to ensure a vibrant Atlantic City."