

JULIE I. BROWN, VICE CHAIR CHUCK DRAGO, COMMISSIONER JOHN D'AQUILA, COMMISSIONER TINA REPP, COMMISSIONER

Meeting Agenda Items # 1 - 3

- 1. Approval of meeting minutes
  - 1.1. February 13, 2025
- 2. Discussion of Default Final Orders
  - 2.1. 2023-063772 Bennett, Jacauline
  - 2.2. 2023-067629 Brown, Tyler Levi
  - 2.3. 2024-017221 Marquez Fajardo, Misael Orlando
- 3. Discussion of Consent Orders
  - 3.1. 2024-045025 bestbet St. Augustine, Inc.
  - 3.2. 2024-058077 TBD Entertainment, LLC
  - 3.3. 2024-063449 Tampa Bay Downs, Inc.
  - 3.4. 2024-067393 Bonesi, German E.

PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION ON ANY OF THE AGENDA ITEMS SHOULD EMAIL <u>DIXIE.PARKER@FLGAMING.GOV</u> NO LESS THAN 24 HOURS BEFORE THE START OF THE MEETING

## 1. Approval of meeting minutes

FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

## PUBLIC MEETING/WORKSHOP HEARING

## LOCATION

Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 152 4075 Esplanade Way Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

(Page Nos. 1 - 85)

Thursday, February 13, 2025

9:30 a.m. - 11:08 a.m.

BEFORE: Vice Chair Julie I. Brown Commissioner Chuck Drago Commissioner John D'Aquila Commissioner Tina Repp

> Stenographically Reported By: I. Iris Cooper Stenographic Reporter

Job No.: 387731

Page 2 1 **APPEARANCES:** 2 COMMISSION MEMBERS: 3 Vice Chair Julie I. Brown Commissioner Chuck Drago 4 Commissioner John D'Aquila Commissioner Tina Repp 5 6 **PARTICIPANTS:** 7 - Emily Alvarado, Deputy Chief Attorney 8 9 - Shireen Anbardan, Senior Attorney - Joe Dillmore, Director of Pari-Mutuel Wagering 10 - Rene Harkins, Chief Attorney 11 - La'Kesha Jelks, Government Operations 12 Consultant III 13 - Justin Thomas Hundersmarck, Senior Attorney 14 - Ross Marshman, Acting Executive Director - Elina Valentine, General Counsel 15 - Lisa M. Mustain, Director Of Administration 16 - Dixie Parker, General and Operations Manager I 17 - Marc Taupier, Deputy General 18 - Carl Herold, Director of Law Enforcement 19 20 21 22 OTHERS PRESENT: 23 - Various Members of the Public 2.4 - The Florida Channel 25

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Page 5 Thereupon, the following proceeding began at 9:30 a.m.: 1 2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Welcome to the Florida 3 Gaming Control Commission's February 13th agenda meeting. If you will, please stand for the pledge 4 of allegiance which will be led by 5 Commissioner Drago. 6 7 (Pledge of allegiance.) 8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, 9 Commissioner Drago. 10 We've had a busy month already, and we'll get to that at the end of the meeting and talk about 11 12 some of the great updates going on. I did want to note that there is an attorney-client meeting at 13 the end of this meeting, and we'll talk about that 14 15 as well. We will be taking public comment 16 thereafter. 17 With that, we're going to go ahead and open up 18 the meeting on Item No. 1, General Counsel Valentine. 19 20 Item No. 1 is the Mutual MS. VALENTINE: 21 Cooperation Agreement between the Commission, HISA 2.2 and HIWU for the 2025 calendar year. There are a 23 few changes to the 2025 Mutual Cooperation Agreement that are in front of the Commission for 24 25 review from the prior terms of the agreement.

Page 6 One notable one is the confidentiality 1 2 provisions in the racetrack safety component of the 3 agreement. HISA and HIWU has requested the Commission to agree to keep certain notices of 4 suspected or actual violations confidential when 5 those violations relate to the racetrack safety 6 7 rules and other violations that don't involve prohibited drugs or medications. 8

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. I just want to 10 talk briefly about the confidentiality provision 11 for the racetrack safety as it is distinguished 12 from the Anti-Dope ADMC program. There are some distinctions from the proposed language, including 13 under the ADMC portion which is on paragraph 17, 14 15 there's some indemnification language that attaches 16 to the confidentiality provision.

As you all know, we have a very robust Florida public records laws, and some of this kind of gives me some concern to have such confidential nature. Ms. Valentine, if you could talk about the need for having it for the racetrack safety program, or Mr. Dillmore.

23 MS. VALENTINE: Sure. If we agree to these 24 confidentiality provisions, we would receive 25 notices of suspected violations which my

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1 understanding is before any discipline is taken
2 against a covered person, they would receive a
3 notice of a suspected violation, racetrack safety,
4 or for failure to comply with some of the
5 Authority's rules.

And so the value of the notices is not as 6 7 important as the risk that the Commission would be 8 taking on based on the public record laws. And 9 based on the language of the HISA and HIWU rules as 10 well, which don't carve out any special status for 11 the Commission should the Commission agree to these 12 confidentiality provisions as it does under the 13 ADMC program.

14 Thank you. And I'll just VICE CHAIR BROWN: 15 note, Commissioners, it's on Page No. 11 under 17B. 16 The inclusion of language that had already been 17 agreed to by HISA and HIWU was talking about 18 indemnifying any challenge the Commission's withholding of confidential information shall be 19 20 indemnified and defended by the Authority. 21 I don't have a problem with that confidentiality provision in the earlier section if 22

23 that language is also included, if you guys are

24 open to that.

25 Commissioner D'Aquila.

Page 8 1 COMMISSIONER D'AOUILA: I have a question. Is 2 paragraph 1, subparagraph 9 if it were removed, what would be the effect? 3 The effect would be that the MS. VALENTINE: 4 5 Commission might not be notified of these notices 6 of suspected or actual violations that are received 7 by the covered persons which include horse owners and other individuals who would be responsible for 8 9 these violations, and we would not receive them 10 before the public does. 11 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: So it's your recommendation as counsel that we leave that added 12 13 language in there? My recommendation would be 14 MS. VALENTINE: 15 that this language is not -- it is not necessary 16 because, again, just by virtue of agreeing to the 17 confidentiality provisions, there are no federal 18 rules that would guarantee that we would receive those notices, even if we did agree to the 19 20 confidentiality provisions as there are under the 21 federal rules covering the ADMC program. 22 So, again, the concern here is that there are 23 under Chapter 119, we have an obligation to the public to release information that is not otherwise 24

1 request.

2 And as Vice Chair Brown noted, with respect to the ADMC program, there is indemnification language 3 4 that provides that if we did not release certain confidential information and there was a lawsuit 5 against us to release it, then HISA or HIWU would 6 7 indemnify us, would cover the attorneys' fees, and would litigate the matter of whether this 8 9 information is or is not exempt under Florida law. 10 That is not the case under Section 9 as it is 11 currently drafted in Item No. 1. 12 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Thank you. 13 Thank you. So it sounds VICE CHAIR BROWN: 14 like the language that's proposed is not necessary 15 under Section 9. And I believe we may have a 16 speaker on this item, if that's correct. 17 Commissioners, if you will indulge us, Mr. Rutledge 18 is here to speak on the item. 19 MR. RUTLEDGE: Thank you. Gary Rutledge of 20 Rutledge Ecenia appearing on behalf of Tampa Bay Just a brief comment, not a request or 21 Downs. action item. 22 23 I was asked yesterday to just let the Commission know that there's a deep concern in the 24 25 horseracing industry about the funding situation.

Evidently, they've advised me in their Situation, as well as Gulfstream Park's, that the money that's been provided, the credits and so forth that Emily and Joe and everybody knows very much about are going to not be close to adequate going forward.

7 And so there's going to be a potential huge --8 and I can't tell you how much at this point in 9 time, and they don't know, but a huge assessment 10 that the tracks will need to absorb to pay for the 11 HISA assessment.

12 And I mentioned that to Mr. Dillmore 13 beforehand, so I'm not suggesting there's anything 14 you can necessarily do about that. But they did 15 want to let you know that this is going to have a 16 significant adverse financial impact on them and 17 they indicated on Gulfstream Park as well.

18 I'm not sure. I know there's been a lot of 19 frustration by this Commission and everybody in 20 front of you about this whole process. In fact, I 21 asked the client at one point in time, well, why 22 did we do this?

And as you know and everybody here knows that they were handcuffed because if they didn't participate in the program, they wouldn't have been

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Page 11 1 able to do their simulcast and attract wagering 2 around the country. So it was kind of like they were very much 3 handcuffed that they had to go forward with it. 4 5 But the amount of money being spent, I don't need to tell you all, is an incredible amount of money. 6 7 And either because of the decrease in live 8 racing going on around the country or otherwise, 9 now that's going to be compacted on those remaining 10 So I'm not sure what the solution is, but people. 11 they did want me to apprise you of this because it's a deep concern that they have. 12 Thank you, Mr. Rutledge. 13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any questions? All right, Ms. Valentine. 14 15 Commissioners, are there any other questions 16 on the provisions and the proposed agreement? 17 I do want to point out and thank you, 18 Ms. Valentine, for putting some additional language 19 in there under Section 9, which is going to give us the opportunity to conduct our own initiate 20 21 investigations, which we did not have before under 22 the program. So I think the language is good 23 there, and it strengthens our relationship as well. All right. We are ready for a motion, also 24 25 noting that we do not need Section 19.

Page 12 1 Commissioners, can we get a motion to approve with 2 the removal of Section 19. 3 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I make a motion to 4 approve. 5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a 6 second? 7 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second. 8 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second. 9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those 10 in favor, say aye. 11 (Multiple ayes.) 12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you for your work on this. We are moving on to Item 2.1. 13 Good morning. LaKesha Jelks, for 14 MS. JELKS: 15 the record. Case No. 2025-005515, Dania 16 Entertainment Center. They had a power outage on 17 January 22nd. They notified the Commission of this 18 outage, and they would now like to --19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can you start over, please. 20 MS. JELKS: I'm so sorry. I talk fast. 21 Again, for the record, LaKesha Jelks. Case No. 2025-005515, Dania Entertainment Center Jai Alai 22 23 had a power outage on January 22nd. They notified the Commission, and they would now like to 24 25 reschedule those performances on February 17th. Ιt

Page 13 1 is our recommendation that this request is 2 approved. 3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, any questions? 4 If not, can we 5 get a motion to approve Dania's application to amend its 2024-2025 operating schedule. 6 7 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved. 8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second? 9 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second. 10 All those in favor, say VICE CHAIR BROWN: 11 aye. 12 (Multiple ayes.) 13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Motion passes. We are moving on to discussion of default final 14 15 orders 3.1 and 3.2, Ms. Alvarado. 16 MS. ALVARADO: Item 3.1 is St-Phard Davidson, 17 2024-054731. In these case materials, you were 18 provided with a one-count administrative complaint 19 alleging that respondent was excluded from Casino 20 Miami on September 12, 2024. He is therefore subject to exclusion from all 21 pari-mutuel and all slot machine facilities in the 22 23 state of Florida pursuant to Sections 550.0251(6) You were also provided the certified 24 and 551.112. 25 USPS tracking showing that he was served and failed

Page 14 1 to respond within 21 days. Therefore the Division would ask that the 2 Commission enter an order finding that the 3 respondent was properly served with the 4 5 administrative complaint, that the respondent failed to respond within 21 days, that the facts in 6 7 the administrative complaint are the facts in this 8 case, and concluding that respondent will be added to the permanent exclusion list for all pari-mutuel 9 10 and slot machine facilities. 11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado. 12 Are there any questions? If not, can we get a motion to that effect. 13 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make that motion to 14 15 accept the recommended order. 16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second? COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I will second that 17 18 motion. 19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say 20 aye. 21 (Multiple ayes.) 22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Item 3.2. 23 MS. ALVARADO: Item No. 3.2 is 2024-060176, 24 Omar Castro, Jr. In the case materials, you were 25 provided with a one-count administrative complaint

Page 15 1 alleging that the respondent was excluded from 2 Bonita Springs Poker Room on September 28, 2024. He is subject to exclusion from all 3 pari-mutual facilities pursuant to Section 4 5 550.0251(6). You were also provided with the USPS tracking that showed that he was served and failed 6 7 to respond within 21 days. Therefore, the Division would ask the 8 9 Commission to enter an order finding that the 10 respondent was properly served, he failed to 11 respond within 21 days, that the facts in this 12 administrative complaint are accepted as the facts in this case, and concluding that the respondent 13 will be added to the permanent exclusion list for 14 15 all pari-mutuel facilities. 16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado. 17 This is a very interesting fact pattern here that involves another individual, too, Mr. Gutierrez, I 18 19 believe. I was wondering, have we seen a permanent 20 exclusion? 21 MS. ALVARADO: Has he been presented to you. As yet, there is still a pending case with him. 22 23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, are there any questions on this 24 25 If not, can we get a motion to approve the item?

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1 recommended order.

COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make a motion to
 approve the recommended order.

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4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?5 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say7 aye.

8 (Multiple ayes.)

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you we are moving on10 to consent orders now.

MS. VALENTINE: Item 4.1 is Florida Gaming Control Commission versus Stephen Glen Kirby, Case No. 2024-015793. This issue has been in front of the Commission before. In the meeting materials, there are two consent orders to draft.

16 The first one is a consent order that was a 17 counteroffer by the Office of General Counsel 18 through the Commission, and it contains the terms 19 that we were directed to include during our closed 20 attorney-client session.

The second consent order is a counteroffer to that consent order by Mr. Kirby. And I'm here to answer any questions that you may have on our terms, and I believe counsel is here to speak regarding their counteroffer.

Page 17 1 Thank you, Ms. Valentine. VICE CHAIR BROWN: 2 And my understanding also is Mr. Kirby is on the line, too, if we have questions of him. But I'm 3 going to have Mr. T.J. Morton come up here and 4 5 address the Commission. MR. MORTON: Good morning, members of the 6 7 Commission. Thank you for the opportunity. T.J. Morton with The Lockwood Law Firm on behalf of 8 9 Mr. Kirby. As mentioned by Ms. Valentine, you have 10 two consent orders before you. Mr. Kirby has 11 accepted both. 12 The first is the one drafted by Ms. Valentine which contains the terms that the Commission 13 requested at the January closed meeting. 14 We made 15 some proposed revisions to those terms. In truth, 16 they were my recommendations to Mr. Kirby. 17 He's happy with the terms that the Commission 18 provided. As his attorney, I felt obligated to 19 point out some concerns that I had with the terms. 20 And in an abundance of caution, I didn't feel like 21 I would be doing my job if I just said go ahead and 22 sign this. 23 And so I'll go kind of through my thought 24 process with those. 25 Please do. VICE CHAIR BROWN:

1 MR. MORTON: Thank you. So the first one is I 2 made a change to -- there is a provision that says 3 if he doesn't pay his fine on time or if he doesn't 4 fulfill his suspension, then he immediately loses 5 his license, and he has no opportunity to dispute 6 that.

7 My concern is, again, it's an abundance of 8 caution. I think this is very unlikely, but if a 9 mistake was made with respect to when he paid the 10 fine. So he pays it timely. It gets stamped a day 11 Under the terms in the initial version, he late. 12 wouldn't have the opportunity to dispute that.

And so he would lose his license, even if he did, in fact, fulfilled the terms of the consent order. So my concern was if that were to occur, he would lose his license. I at least wanted to preserve the opportunity to dispute that.

18 If he doesn't pay the fine, which I know he 19 will, but if he just didn't pay the fine and tried 20 to use that as a way to avoid getting his license 21 revoked, I don't think anyone's going to make that 22 argument, right.

Like this is just there to prevent an error and to allow him to keep his license and in good faith dispute that if there is an error. Again, I 1 think it's unlikely.

The other provision I changed, and this one was a little more concerning to me was basically if he gets arrested at any point in the next, I want to say it's five years I think he's going to be on probation, something like that. So it's a good amount of time.

8 If he's arrested or charged with an 9 administrative violation related to theft, he would 10 lose his license and not have any opportunity to 11 dispute that. Totally understand the purpose for 12 that.

And we're in agreement that if he is, in fact, you know, arrested, he shouldn't be working during that period of time. My concern is if, again, being a lawyer and just trying to protect his rights.

If someone in a cardroom were to find out 18 19 about this provision and they make some sort of 20 false allegation against him, a player who is upset 21 with him as a dealer for whatever reason and they 22 falsely allege that he did something and he ends up 23 getting arrested and then charges are dismissed because they realize it wasn't true, well, he loses 24 25 his license, and he can no longer work just because

Page 20 that guy made that allegations. 1 2 So under the terms that we provided, he would be suspended in that situation until the resolution 3 of that proceeding. If, in fact, those charges get 4 5 dropped, dismissed, he goes to trial and he is found not quilty, the suspension would be lifted. 6 7 He would keep his license. 8 But if he pleads no contest, if he pleads 9 quilty, if he is found quilty with respect to an 10 administrative complaint, if he enters into a 11 settlement agreement with the Commission, he would lose his license in that situation. 12 So the only way the suspension would be lifted 13 and he would keep his license is if he is, in fact, 14 15 determined to be not responsible or not guilty, 16 whatever the term would be. So that's why that was 17 included. Again, these are done in an abundance of 18 19 caution by me on his behalf. He's accepted both 20 consent orders. He's fully happy to accept yours. 21 I'm just doing my due diligence as an attorney thinking ahead what could be some of the downfalls 22 23 with the language. That was why we made those

24 changes.

25

And so, again, Mr. Kirby is very thankful for

Page 21 the counteroffer and the opportunity to continue 1 2 with the negotiations and hopeful that we can put 3 this to bed one way or the other. 4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Thank you, 5 Mr. Morton. Commissioners, are there any questions? 6 7 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yes, I have, I quess, one 8 question or comment. I understand your caution, in 9 terms of the due process and so forth. I get that, 10 and I understand your reasoning behind it. 11 One of my concerns would be, like you said, if the case is disposed of, he gets arrested and the 12 case is disposed of that he would be able to keep 13 his license. But we know that the case can be 14 15 disposed of in a lot of ways that don't indicate 16 necessarily that he wasn't guilty. 17 It's nolle prossed for some reason by a prosecutor because of a zillion different reasons 18 19 he may or she may have. The reason for the arrest 20 part of this is to remove that danger, that issue, 21 that concern. 22 If he's arrested, then does he keep his job? 23 Does he get suspended? Do we have to wait to see what the courts end up doing two years down the 24 25 line or that type of thing?

Page 22 So I think my concern is that it's a little 1 2 too broad. That if it gets dismissed for any 3 reason, then he can automatically come back and get So I have a little concern with that. 4 his license. Again, I understand your reasoning, protecting 5 your client in terms of the due process and all 6 I think it makes it much broader than I had 7 that. 8 anticipated, so I have concerns with that. 9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mr. Morton. 10 MR. MORTON: Thank you. Understood. I would 11 point out that he would be suspended during this 12 entire process. Charges are dropped for various 13 reasons. I'm not a criminal attorney, so I don't understand all the nuances of that. 14 15 But, you know, I think -- I don't know how to 16 kind of thread that needle with language. I think 17 the same concern occurs when you have applicants 18 for licenses who have been arrested multiple times 19 and charges were dropped. 20 And they're not disgualified because the 21 charges were dropped, and it could have been for 22 various reasons. I understand the concern. Т tried to do the best I could and protect him with 23 24 that. 25 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I understand that. Ι

Page 23 1 appreciate that. Thank you. 2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 3 Commissioners, any other questions of 4 Mr. Morton? 5 Thank you for your testimony here. MR. MORTON: Thank you. 6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, are there 7 8 any questions of Mr. Kirby, who is on the phone? 9 Commissioner Drago, would you like to make a 10 motion? 11 I would like to COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yes. 12 move that we -- what's the language we need to put on this? 13 14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Either agree to consent 15 order one or consent order two. 16 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Agree to consent order one, original order, the Gaming Commission's order, 17 18 original order. 19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second? 20 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll second that motion. 21 22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there any discussion? My only discussion is I think the fact that 23 Mr. Kirby is willing to accept either consent 24 25 order, it would make me inclined to support the

Page 24 1 motion. 2 So I was fine with either, with the proposed 3 language in the second one. But given that the 4 individual is willing to accept the first one, I 5 will support the motion. 6 So with that, all those in favor, say aye. 7 (Multiple ayes.) 8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We are moving 9 on to 4.2. 10 MS. ALVARADO: 4.2 is South Florida Racing 11 Association, L.L.C., 2024-028202. In this case, 12 you were provided with an administrative complaint alleging that the respondent violated Rule 13 75-11.022(3) by failing to ensure the imprest trays 14 15 were stored in a secured area. Specifically here, the Commission 16 17 investigators observed a float cart containing 18 imprest trays that were left unsecured on the poker 19 room floor. After being notified of this, they 20 fired the employee. 21 This was the employee's second offense. The 22 respondent has no prior violations of this rule. 23 Here, you were provided with a settlement and consent order which contained a fine of \$250. 24 25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Ms. Alvarado,

Page 25 it's my understanding that we have the individual 1 2 available on the phone? 3 MS. ALVARADO: Yes. I think it's a general 4 manager is on the phone as well. 5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Do you know if they would 6 like to speak? MS. ALVARADO: He said if there was any 7 8 questions, he was available for questions. 9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 10 Commissioners, any questions? 11 COMMISSIONER REPP: No. 12 COMMISSIONER D'AOUILA: No. 13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can we get a motion to 14 approve the consent order as presented. 15 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make a motion to 16 approve the consent order. 17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second? 18 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll second. 19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say 20 aye. 21 (Multiple ayes.) 2.2 Thank you. We are moving VICE CHAIR BROWN: 23 on to 4.3. MS. ALVARADO: 4.3 is Devin Rochford, 24 25 2024-040400. In this case, you were provided with

	Dama 26
1	Page 26 a three-count administrative complaint alleging
2	violations of 75-11.004(8)(a) by failing to clear
3	his hands when cash, chips, or tokens were
4	exchanged with a player or provided to a play; a
5	violation of Rule 75-11.004(4)(a) by failing to tap
6	the tip on the imprest tray when accepting a tip
7	while dealing at a table; and Rule 75-11.024(2)(c)
8	by failing to take a flat fee rake immediately
9	after the winner is declared for a round, a hand,
10	or game on six occasions on July 14, 2024.
11	The respondent has no prior violations of any
12	of these rules. Here, you were provided with a
13	settlement and consent order with \$150 fine, so \$50
14	per count.
15	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado.
16	Commissioners, any questions on this? Can we
17	get a motion to approve the stipulation and consent
18	order.
19	COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: So moved.
20	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?
21	COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.
22	VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say
23	aye.
24	(Multiple ayes.)
25	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We are moving

Page 27 1 on to 4.4. 2 MS. ALVARADO: 4.4 is 2024-061325, Bestbet 3 Orange Park. In this case, you were provided with a filed administrative complaint alleging a 4 violation of 75-11.015(1) by failing to secure the 5 6 lock on an imprest tray to ensure that all chips 7 and tokens not in play are locked in a secured location. 8 9 Here, the Commission investigators observed an 10 unsecured impress tray which contained about 1,200 11 chips at a table, and it was loose enough that they 12 could remove the top of it. They spoke to the staff, and they immediately 13 fixed the problem and implemented a plan to 14 15 properly seal the lids. They do have one prior violation from 2020 which had a \$250 fine. 16 And here the respondent has signed a consent order with 17 18 a \$500 penalty. 19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you for the overview, 20 too. 21 Commissioners, any questions on this item? All right. Can we get a motion to approve the 22 23 stipulation and consent order. COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I make a motion to 24 25 approve the stipulation and consent order.

-	Page 28
1	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?
2	COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.
3	VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say
4	aye.
5	(Multiple ayes.)
6	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And we are
7	going to move right now to discussion of
8	recommended orders. We have a new attorney
9	presenting before us today.
10	Welcome. We'll be friendly. Item No. 5.1.
11	MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 5.1 is Case No.
12	2023-064914. For the record, Justin Hundersmarck.
13	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Spelling your last name for
14	the court reporter.
15	MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Sure. It is
16	H-u-n-d-e-r-s-m-a-r-c-k.
17	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.
18	MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Christopher Van Hassel
19	submitted an application for a pari-mutuel wagering
20	professional individual occupational license.
21	Following review of the application, the Commission
22	issued a letter of license denial notifying
23	petitioner of its intent to deny the application
24	based on petitioner's felony conviction.
25	Petitioner requested an informal hearing,
l .	

Page 29 which held on December 10, 2024. On January 31, 1 2 2025, the hearing officer recommended denying 3 petitioner's application. The Division recommends the Commission adopt 4 the hearing officer's recommended order and deny 5 petitioner's application. 6 7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 8 Commissioners, are there any thoughts on this 9 item? If not, can we get a motion to approve the 10 hearing order's recommended order? 11 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Can you just go through 12 the charges on this one, the criminal history that we're dealing with here? 13 14 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Sure. His disqualifying 15 offense was a 2020 criminal attempt. It was a 16 criminal trespass, break into structure. This was a felony in Pennsylvania. There were also two 17 misdemeanor convictions. 18 19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Drago, any 20 follow-up? COMMISSIONER DRAGO: The misdemeanor 21 conviction was in 2016, that was the DOC charge? 22 23 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Disorderly conduct, yes. 24 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Thank you. 25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila.

1	Page 30
1	COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Did I read correctly
2	also that the fines were not paid?
3	MR. HUNDERSMARCK: That's correct. There are
4	about \$26,500 outstanding. Most of it was from the
5	criminal trespass, the insurance money.
б	COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And was there
7	restitution involved here?
8	MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Yes. That was included,
9	yes.
10	COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: That figure remains
11	unpaid?
12	MR. HUNDERSMARCK: That's correct.
13	COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Thank you.
14	VICE CHAIR BROWN: And the applicant was
15	applying to be a jockey; is that correct?
16	MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Yes.
17	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any comments
18	or thoughts on this? If not, again, the hearing
19	officer is making a recommended order to deny the
20	license?
21	MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Yes.
22	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, can we get a
23	motion?
24	COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll make a motion.
25	VICE CHAIR BROWN: And just to the clarify,

Page 31 it's to adopt the hearing officer's --1 2 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: To adopt the staff 3 recommendation, yes. VICE CHAIR BROWN: 4 Thank you. Is there a 5 second? COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I will second that 6 7 motion. 8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those 9 in favor, say aye. 10 (Multiple ayes.) 11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We are moving 12 on to 5.2. MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 5.2 is Case No. 2024-00944, 13 Michael J. Newnum submitted an application for a 14 15 cardroom employee occupational license. Following 16 review of the application submitted by petitioner, the Commission issued a letter of license denial 17 18 notifying petitioner of its intent to deny the 19 application based on petitioner's misdemeanor 20 conviction involving larceny. 21 Petitioner requested an informal hearing, 22 which was held on December 17, 2024. On January 23 31, 2025, the hearing officer recommended denying petitioner's application. 24 25 The Division recommends the Commission adopt

Page 32 1 the hearing officer's recommended order and deny 2 petitioner's application. 3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. You said it's larceny, but the actual Missouri felony is 4 5 receiving stolen property. 6 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: That's correct. 7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 8 Commissioners, any questions on the fact 9 pattern behind here? Seeing none, can we get a 10 motion to approve the recommended order by the 11 hearing officer. COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I make a motion to 12 13 approve the recommended order by the hearing officer. 14 15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second? 16 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second. 17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say 18 aye. 19 (Multiple ayes.) 20 All right. VICE CHAIR BROWN: 5.3. For 21 clarification, we do have Ms. Christie Smith. 22 Would she like to speak after you present the item? 23 I'm not sure. MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Is she here? 24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: She's on the phone? 25 MS. PARKER: Yes.

Page 33 1 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Okay. Do you 2 know if she would like to speak after? Only if you have questions, 3 MS. PARKER: No. she's available. 4 5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Parker. 6 All right. Mr. Hundersmarck. 7 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 5.3 is Case No. 2024-032775. Christie L. Smith submitted an 8 9 application for a pari-mutuel wagering professional 10 individual occupational license. 11 On review of the application submitted by 12 petitioner, the Commission issued a letter license denial notifying petitioner of its intent to deny 13 the application based on petitioner's three felony 14 15 convictions. 16 Petitioner requested an informal hearing, which was held on December 17, 2024. On January 17 18 31, 2025, the hearing officer recommended granting 19 petitioner's application. 20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 21 Commissioners, are there any questions on the 22 recommended order to grant the licensee? Seeing 23 none, can we get a motion to approve the hearing officer's recommended order and issue a license? 24 25 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll make a motion to

Page 34 approve the hearing officer's recommended motion. 1 2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All right. Is there a 3 second? COMMISSIONER REPP: Second. 4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there any discussion on 5 this? And I know there's a lot of information in 6 7 this file, so take your time. If not, all those in 8 favor, say aye. 9 Aye. 10 Commissioners. 11 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Aye. 12 COMMISSIONER REPP: Ave. 13 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Aye. 14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Motion passes 15 unanimously. We are moving on to 5.4. MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 5.4 is Case No. 16 17 2024-046235. Edward Jung Wong submitted an 18 application for a slot machine/cardroom/pari-mutuel 19 combination occupational license. 20 Following review of the application submitted 21 by petitioner, the Commission issued a letter of license denial notifying petitioner of its intent 22 23 to deny the application based on petitioner's felony conviction. 24 25 Petitioner requested an informal hearing,

Page 35 which was held on December 10, 2024. On January 1 2 31, 2025, the hearing officer recommended denying 3 petitioner's application. The Division recommends the Commission adopt the hearing officer's 4 5 recommended order and deny petitioner's 6 application. 7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 8 Mr. Hundersmarck, this particular felony went back 9 to -- it's quite old. 10 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 1999. 11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Are there any other criminal offenses since that time? I didn't see 12 any in the file. 13 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: No felonies. He has a 2008 14 15 misdemeanor for a marijuana possession 20 grams or 16 less out of Broward County. He pled no contest, and adjudication was withheld. He received six 17 18 months probation. 19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Was the applicant forthcoming in his application disclosing 20 21 this information? 2.2 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: He absolutely was. Tn 23 fact, he overstated it and called something that 24 was a misdemeanor a felony. 25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

Page 36 1 Commissioners, any thoughts on this item? 2 I was a little surprised the hearing officer denied -- is recommending denying it, given the 3 amount of time that has lapsed and the fact that he 4 was forthright on his application and he has not 5 committed any disqualifying offenses. 6 7 And the actual position that he's applying for 8 is? 9 Poker dealer at Dania MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 10 Entertainment Center. 11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 12 Commissioner D'Aquila. 13 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: One question. Were there not some misdemeanors also on this or just 14 15 those two; correct? 16 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: So three misdemeanor 17 arrests after the disqualify offense. There was a 18 2007 conviction for driving under the influence, a 2009 conviction for driving under the influence, 19 and a 2020 arrest for driving under the influence 20 21 that was reduced to a reckless driving charge. 22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 23 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Are those disqualifying offenses? 24 25 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: No.

Page 37 1 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 2 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: That was my question. 3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any thoughts 4 on this item? 5 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'd like to make a motion 6 to approve the staff recommendation to adopt the 7 hearing officer's recommended order and deny the 8 petitioner's application. 9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second on that? 10 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second. 11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I am not going to support the motion because I do believe this person has 12 rehabilitated himself, based on his record and his 13 forthrightness as well, so I will be dissenting. 14 15 Any other discussion? All those in favor, say 16 aye? 17 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Aye. COMMISSIONER DRAGO: 18 Aye. 19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Nay. 20 All right. We are going to move on to Item 21 No. 6.1 through 6.2. MS. ALVARADO: Item No. 6.1 is Garrett 22 23 Anderson, 2024-062658. Here, the applicant applied 24 for a cardroom employee occupational license. Upon 25 review of the application, it was discovered that

	Page 38
1	he had two disqualifying offenses of evading or
2	attempting to allude high speed and fleeing or
3	attempting to allude high speed, both out of
4	Volusia County from September 15, 2022.
5	A waiver interview was conducted on November
6	22, 2024 and is documented in the meeting
7	materials. Here, the applicant answered yes to
8	being convicted on his original application. He
9	did list one.
10	But seeing as though they're relatively
11	similar, I think he was attempting to probably I
12	can't speak for him. But I assume he was
13	attempting to probably list both on there, since
14	they're from the same date.
15	He did have a previously denied license from
16	last February of 2024 where he provided the two
17	witness statements that were in this packet as
18	well. Here, the Commission can decide whether they
19	would like to grant the waiver and, if not, issue a
20	letter of license denial.
21	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado.
22	And the position that he's applying for is
23	cardroom?
24	MS. ALVARADO: Yes, at Orange City.
25	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any comments

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Page 39 1 or questions or this? COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Just one question. 2 The 3 fleeing, was that a felony fleeing? 4 MS. ALVARADO: Yes, both are felonies. Also I 5 didn't mention that since that denial in February, he has paid his court costs, and his probation was 6 7 terminated in September of last year. 8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila. 9 If there are no questions, can we get a motion 10 on this item. 11 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'm going to make a motion 12 to deny the waiver. 13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a 14 second? 15 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll second. 16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those 17 in favor, say aye. 18 (Multiple ayes.) 19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All right. We are moving 20 on to 6.2. 21 MS. ALVARADO: Item No. 6.2 is Jessica Chavis, 2024-063690. Here, the applicant applied for a 22 23 cardroom employee occupational license. Upon review of her application, it was discovered that 24 25 she had two disgualifying offenses of petty theft

Page 40 out of Duval County from 2013 and larceny petty 1 2 theft out of Clay County from 2020. She also has unpaid court costs and fees in 3 the amount of \$403 in one of these cases and about 4 \$389 in the other case. On the original 5 application, she did answer yes to having been 6 7 convicted of a disqualifying offense. 8 She's applying to be a chip runner at Bestbet Jacksonville. A waiver interview was conducted on 9 10 December 13th, and it is documented in the meeting 11 materials. So here the Commission can decide 12 whether they'd like to grant the waiver or issue a letter of license denial in this case. 13 14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And my 15 understanding is that Ms. Chavis is on the phone 16 right now and available for questions. 17 So, Commissioners, if you have questions of staff or Ms. Chavis, now is the time. 18 Given the actual 19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: 20 underlining crime that she was arrested for, I 21 would have to agree that the waiver be denied. 22 Can I get a motion. 23 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll make a motion to 24 deny. 25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?

Page 41 1 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second. 2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say 3 aye. 4 (Multiple ayes.) VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We are moving 5 6 on to 7.1 through 7.2. 7 MS. ALVARADO: 7.1 is 2024-069186, Shayla 8 Howard. The Division received a completed 9 application from Ms. Howard on November 22, 2024. 10 She is seeking a slot machine/cardroom/pari-mutuel 11 combination occupational license. 12 Upon review of her application, it was discovered that she was convicted of a felony 13 offense of possession of cocaine in Broward County 14 15 from August 1, 2005. She did not disclose this on 16 her original application. 17 She is looking to work in food service at PPI. Here, the Division would ask that the Commission 18 authorize the issuance of a letter of license 19 20 denial in this case. 21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 22 Commissioners, any questions on this? If not, 23 can we get a motion to approve or to issue a letter of notice of license denial, intent to license 24 25 denial -- pardon me -- or grant the license, either

Page 42 1 one. 2 COMMISSIONER REPP: I have a question. 3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Sure. Commissioner Repp. COMMISSIONER REPP: What is the date on the 4 5 last criminal activity? 6 MS. ALVARADO: Are you asking specifically 7 about her like the disgualifying conviction? 8 COMMISSIONER REPP: Yes, the last 9 disqualifying. 10 MS. ALVARADO: Sorry. August 1, 2005. Okay. 11 COMMISSIONER REPP: 2005? 12 MS. ALVARADO: Yes. COMMISSIONER REPP: And what is the last 13 encounter with law enforcement? 14 15 I just wasn't sure because I MS. ALVARADO: 16 looked at so many. But, no, that is the last thing 17 that we have. 2004 was her last arrest, and then this was conviction in 2005. 18 19 COMMISSIONER REPP: And there's nothing on the 20 record since then? 21 MS. ALVARADO: No. VICE CHAIR BROWN: Have all of her court fees 2.2 23 and costs been paid for? 24 MS. ALVARADO: Yes. 25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And probation is expired?

Page 43 1 MS. ALVARADO: Yes. 2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: This is another one with voluminous materials, so please bear with us. 3 Ms. Alvarado, she previously had a license in 4 5 Florida? 6 MS. ALVARADO: In 2007 to 2008, yes. 7 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: And why doesn't she have 8 one now? 9 She hadn't applied after that. MS. ALVARADO: 10 The statute did change in 2009 to allow for denial based on crimes where adjudication was withheld, so 11 12 that's what happened here. Her crime was adjudication withheld. It wouldn't have been 13 disqualifying prior when she applied. 14 15 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I see. 16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any thoughts 17 or comments? Are we ready for a motion? 18 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Just a comment, I quess. 19 It's been a very long time since this offense. From what we know, there seems to be an indication 20 21 in the materials that I'm looking at that there's room to believe that she's been rehabilitated and 22 23 stayed out of trouble. There isn't any particular reason to believe 24 25 that she's going to enter into a life of crime

Page 44 again at this point after, what, 21 years or so, so 1 2 I think we need to consider that. I think the rehabilitation part of all this is 3 4 very important as we try to protect the public, but also try to ensure that people get a fair shake and 5 have an opportunity to earn a living where they 6 7 don't appear to be any anger to the organization or 8 to the public, the people of Florida, just my 9 comment. 10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Drago, thank 11 You know I fully support those comments, too, you. and the facts of this matter, too. 12 Commissioners, any thoughts? 13 Commissioner D'Aquila. 14 15 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: No. I concur with 16 Commissioner Drago's comments. The only reason I 17 paused, but I'm looking at the time here, is it's a 18 cashier position and one of the charges was credit 19 card dealing. 20 That was dropped. MS. ALVARADO: 21 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: That was dropped? 22 MS. ALVARADO: Uh-huh. 23 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I just want to 24 clarify. 25 Yes, that was. MS. ALVARADO:

Page 45 1 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Thank you. With that 2 dropped, then I concur with Commissioner Drago's 3 assessment. 4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Repp, any 5 thoughts, comments? 6 COMMISSIONER REPP: No. 7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can we get a motion on this item to move forward and issue her license. 8 9 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'd like to make that 10 motion. 11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a 12 second? Second. 13 COMMISSIONER REPP: 14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say 15 aye. 16 (Multiple ayes.) 17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: We are moving on to 7.2. 18 MS. ALVARADO: 7.2 is 2024-071349, Robert Oneal Mitchell. The Division received a completed 19 application for Mr. Mitchell on December 11, 2024 20 21 for a slot machine/cardroom/pari-mutuel combination 22 occupational license. 23 After review of the application, it was discovered that he was convicted of carrying a 24 25 concealed weapon out of Miami-Dade County on April

Page 46 1 4, 2018. He is applying to be a security officer 2 at Casino Miami. He did not disclose this on his original 3 application. Therefore, the Division would ask 4 that the Commission authorize the issuance of a 5 letter of license denial in this case. 6 7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners. 8 9 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: What is the weapon that 10 he was concealing? 11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: It looks like the charge 12 says carry, so I'm assuming --13 MS. ALVARADO: We don't have much information on that. I don't have the arrest report. 14 I just 15 have a document. It seems like he also had drug 16 paraphernalia with him. It says a firearm, but I 17 don't have much more. COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Is it firearm? 18 19 MS. ALVARADO: Yes, concealed firearm. That's 20 all the information I have. 21 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Because it just says CCW. It doesn't say what weapon it is. 22 23 It says concealed firearm. MS. ALVARADO: Commissioners, thoughts on 24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: 25 this? I'm a little on the fence on this one.

Page 47 1 COMMISSIONER D'AOUILA: (Inaudible.) But 2 conceal carry, he was guilty because he did not have a conceal carry permit at the time? 3 MS. ALVARADO: I assume so. 4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Which was the law at 5 6 the time, unlike the law today? 7 MS. ALVARADO: Right. 8 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: In the state of Florida. 9 10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Very good point. 11 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And there's nothing in here indicating that he was brandishing a weapon or 12 13 threatening use. We have very minimal 14 MS. ALVARADO: 15 Like I said, I don't have like an information. 16 arrest report document with any details, but that's 17 what I have is what you guys have presented in 18 front of you. 19 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Let me clarify. I've 20 been through everything twice here, but I don't see 21 any other charges historically and subsequently or prior to this. 22 23 This was all. No. MS. ALVARADO: 24 This is in Miami-Dade? COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: 25 MS. ALVARADO: Yes.

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Page 48 1 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, 2 Commissioner D'Aquila. I just wish he would have disclosed it and 3 been forthright on the application. As you noted, 4 5 Ms. Alvarado, there is very little information regarding the arrest itself and the facts of the 6 7 matter. 8 MS. ALVARADO: Right. 9 Commissioner D'Aquila. VICE CHAIR BROWN: 10 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll just follow up to 11 your comment, Commissioner. But I think we see a 12 lot of confusion considering the change in law that we once had a law of having a permit for a 13 concealed carry, and we no longer do, I believe. 14 15 So there might -- I want to say there could be 16 some confusion there as well when looking at it by 17 a layman thinking that maybe I was waived now, you 18 know, et cetera. 19 Just thinking in the realm of possibilities, and I'm only thinking along that path because of 20 21 there being no other convictions historical or 22 subsequent. 23 MS. ALVARADO: Right. 24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Appreciate that. 25 Commissioner Drago.

Page 49 I'd like to see more 1 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: 2 information on this. Can we table this, or how can 3 we -- is there something we can do in order to delay this? 4 5 MS. ALVARADO: I think the 90 days for this 6 one is going to be on the 11th. I don't know when 7 the March meeting is scheduled for. 8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I think it's earlier, the 9 March meeting. 10 So we would pass the 90 days. MS. ALVARADO: 11 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: March meeting is March 12 6th. 13 MS. ALVARADO: So, yes, we would pass the 90 I think that's the reason I put this one on 14 davs. 15 this meeting to ensure we could hear it obviously 16 before the deadline. 17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Drago, any 18 comment? 19 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So the 90 days is when? 20 MS. ALVARADO: It would be March 11th, which 21 would be past the next meeting. We would pass the 90 days. 22 23 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: So it would be okay? MS. ALVARADO: It's not okay to extend it. 24 25 Sorry if that's not clear, yes. No, it's not okay

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Page 50 to extend it. We'd pass the 90-day deadline, 1 2 unless we held a special meeting in order to hear this one on the 10th or sometime. 3 (Multiple speakers.) 4 MS. ALVARADO: Oh, wait. I'm sorry. I'm 5 wrong. Yes, you're right, it can be. I'm sorry. 6 7 Yes, you're right. Yes, it can be heard at the 8 next meeting. I don't know math. Yes. 9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: You were confusing me. 10 MS. ALVARADO: I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Yes, we 11 can. We can. 12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, are you open to tabling this item to get more information? 13 14 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I am, yes. 15 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I am. 16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Ms. Alvarado, we're going to table it. And just if you can reach out to the 17 18 applicant and get more -- or even the Miami-Dade --19 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Incident report if we can 20 get that, yes. 21 MS. ALVARADO: Okay. I'll to that. 22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. All right. We That will conclude the portion of 23 are moving on. our administrative issues. 24 We are moving on to Executive Director update. Thank you. 25

1	Page 51 MR. MARSHMAN: Good morning. Just in terms of
2	a roadmap of the update today, as I normally do, I
3	would like to invite Director Herold to provide an
4	update for what Division in Gaming Enforcement has
5	been doing since last we spoke, then give some
6	updates about the upcoming May meeting, an update
7	on the cashless rulemaking, an update on
, 8	legislative affairs that have been ongoing, and
9	then recognizing certain employees that have been
10	singled out for their exemplary service to the
11	Commission.
12	So with your permission, Madam Chair, I would
13	like to invite Director Herold to the podium.
14	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.
15	Director Herold.
16	MR. HEROLD: Good morning. Carl Herold, for
17	the record. Thank you, Vice Chair and
18	Commissioners. This past month again for the
19	Gaming Control Commission, Division of Gaming
20	Enforcement, another fantastic month for us.
21	Some of the stats that I would like to share
22	with each of you is that for January, the
23	investigators touched 50 different investigations
24	again doing a great deal of work. We closed ten
25	illegal casinos with a total of 23 persons arrested
	_

1 in a total of 71 charges.

In that, the big operation for January was an operation called Fools Treasure that took place in multiple counties across the state, and we partnered with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, with Broward County Sheriff's Office, St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office, and with Zephyrhills where one of the other locations were.

9 Probably the most significant impact of this 10 operation was that in Broward, we were able to stop 11 the operations of the distributorship that was 12 supplying these machines for other illegal casinos.

And so the reason that I want to kind of stand behind that and wave the flag for it is because as we move up the ladder, these investigations have started small, and we've moving up the ladder to more and more substantial investigations.

Hitting the distributorship probably has the single greatest impact on what we're attempting to do here because if the illegal casinos cannot get illegal machines, it's difficult for them to run their illegal operations. And so we're very, very happy about getting this distributorship.

24 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Excuse me. Can you25 explain what that means, distributorship?

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VICE CHAIR BROWN: And the penalties
 associated with that.

MR. HEROLD: Well, the distributorship simply means these are the locations where these bad actors that have these illegal casinos go to get their machines. They're getting their machines from a variety of different locations.

8 Some are very organized, as this one was, very 9 put together. You'll see we're posting a video 10 later today up on the Gaming Commission website. 11 And in that, it has some video and some still 12 footage of the inside of this distributorship.

13 It was very nice. They had conveyor belts 14 moving the machines through as they prepared them 15 for distribution where they took them into a lab 16 where they programmed them. And, of course, they 17 were using illegal software that had been pirated 18 from legitimate sources, but they were installing 19 them on these machines.

And then they were supplying these machines to we don't know exactly how many, but probably 30 or more locations in the South Florida area. So the importance of it is these are the locations that our illegal casinos across the state are getting these resources to run their operations. 1 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: You're saying that there 2 is a group or a people that are large enough to be 3 able to distribute all these machines to various 4 locations? They're not all independent, and it 5 appears that a lot of these are being funneled from 6 the same place?

7 MR. HEROLD: Yes. The investigations we've 8 done find that all of these locations -- and when 9 we're talking about locations, the illegal casinos 10 across the state. They have to have somebody to 11 supply those machines to them, supply the service 12 when they go down.

Typically, these individuals or these
distributorships also have some sort of business
arrangement with the illegal casinos, and they come
by and collect the money out of them.

17 So this is significant because it interrupts 18 their operations at every level, the ability to get 19 those machines -- them being the illegal casinos --20 the ability for them to be maintained and repaired 21 whenever they're broken, and then the collection of 22 the money.

And then ultimately the distributorship is also typically involved in sharing out that money that they've collected with these locations.

1	Page 55
1	COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Thank you.
2	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Repp.
3	COMMISSIONER REPP: As far as these
4	distributorships, are they dealing in are they
5	building the machines there? Are they coming in
6	with parts? Is it coming from somewhere? Are
7	these coming from outside of Florida?
8	VICE CHAIR BROWN: Microphone.
9	COMMISSIONER REPP: Sorry. So are we having
10	whole machines coming to this distributorship from
11	somewhere, or are we having parts and they're being
12	assembled here in Florida?
13	MR. HEROLD: So our understanding of
14	this and there doesn't seem to be one blueprint
15	that fits all operations in the way that it's run
16	since that there's no accepted business plan for
17	that.
18	But in this particular operation, they seem to
19	have been getting cabinets from someplace. We're
20	not exactly sure. And then they were installing
21	parts and then installing software in that location
22	and then delivering the machines to whoever they
23	partnered with.
24	COMMISSIONER REPP: And are these they're
25	here in Florida doing the are they providing any

Page 56 machines to otherwise legal casinos, or are these 1 2 strictly illegal machines going to illegal casinos? 3 MR. HEROLD: That's a great question, and I'm going to answer it very high level without giving 4 away too much investigative information. And what 5 I will say is that in all of our work up to this 6 7 point, there are no legitimate resources or, you 8 know, the folks that are supplying the machines to 9 all our regulated facilities. 10 Or our legitimate businesses, they are not 11 involved in any of this type of activity. They 12 have too much to lose to be in this, and these are all illegal actors, you know, trying to find ways 13 around it and stay below the radar. 14 15 COMMISSIONER REPP: Thank you. 16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila. 17 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: So this is not just a 18 distributorship. This is an assembly operation and 19 a service business? 20 MR. HEROLD: It was very broad in all the 21 things that they did. COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And I include in there 22 23 they're in the parts business as well? 24 MR. HEROLD: Yes. Yes. 25 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And is it too early to

Page 57 1 say, I mean, there are both income tax, sales tax 2 issues here. MR. HEROLD: That would be a little out of my 3 4 swim lane, so to speak, but I'm certain that there 5 are folks looking at that. Thank you. 6 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: 7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And as you noted, this is very significant. We've been 8 9 talking about these distributorships that are out 10 This is a major undertaking and milestone. there. 11 We're excited to see the video. 12 Can you go over the criminal charges that were associated with it? 13 MR. HEROLD: I don't have that at hand. 14 But T 15 will tell you that we had RICO charges. There was 16 money laundering and some other felonies, but I don't have that right here. 17 18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Additional crime, though? 19 MR. HEROLD: Yes. Absolutely. I would like 20 to add on to what Commissioner D'Aquila asked, 21 which is did they have parts. I will tell you that 22 we seized over 1,000 machines from this location. 23 That was only half of the space needed to stop 24 this operation because nearly 50 percent of the 25 space that was needed to seize all this equipment

Page 58 1 was parts and other things. 2 They had shelving that was three levels high stacked full of all types of parts and other 3 things, so they were definitely prepared to repair 4 5 and assemble. 6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 7 MR. HEROLD: Thank you. And I would like to add because there was some conversation last month 8 9 about warehouse space. We were able to secure a 10 warehouse of 7,400 square feet in preparation for 11 this operation. 12 And after all the machines from -- there were also three other illegal casinos that were 13 associated with this that were all taken down at 14 15 the same time. 16 But that particular warehouse after we took everything out of the distributorship, it's 85 17 18 percent full now in one operation, the very first 19 operation. 20 And to that issue about talking about warehouses, we now have 11 warehouses that the 21 22 Gaming Commission does totaling about 35,000 square 23 feet, and only 28 percent of our warehouse is full. The rest of it remains -- contains machines and 24 25 evidence and other types of things like that.

Page 59 1 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Repp. 2 COMMISSIONER REPP: Has there been any further 3 conversation or efforts into keeping five, six machines and doing a photograph catalog as best 4 5 evidence for the rest of it, as opposed to holding on to every single machine we seize? Have we made 6 7 any traction or efforts in that area?

8 MR. HEROLD: That would be a little bit out of 9 my area of expertise, but I do know that that 10 conversation continues. But I don't have an update 11 on that.

12 The other thing that I would like to talk 13 about is I did mention that we got a video up about 14 this particular operation. But I do want to kind 15 of applaud the team, the Gaming Enforcement side 16 because this was a whole team operation in that we 17 had analysts here in Tallahassee.

We had the chief of our intelligence and 18 19 analytical side. Everybody responded to the four 20 locations that were part of this operation. And it 21 was really quite encouraging to see everybody 22 working together doing their investigative work and 23 also responding to intake all this evidence. I will tell you from the distributorship, it 24 25 took 12 truck tractors to move all that stuff to

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1 the warehouse. Great deal of work, and I want to
2 applaud the team for their fantastic teamwork
3 together.

4 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: You mentioned on the 5 sheet that there was a kilo of cocaine seized?

6 MR. HEROLD: That's in the next operation. I 7 want to only talk superficially on this because the 8 press release hasn't gone out. But I will just say 9 that we were involved in another operation in South 10 Florida, and I hope to be able to share more with 11 you the next time around.

But much to what we've said many, many times, these bad actors do not limit theirselves to one particular activity. And in this particular case, we assisted several law enforcement agencies in South Florida on an illegal gambling operation that involved dog fighting.

We rescued 55 dogs from horrendous conditions, five weapons, and 1 kilogram of cocaine. So this is another one of these operations that touches a bunch of different areas as far as criminality is concerned.

23 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Was the cocaine in these 24 illegal casinos?

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MR. HEROLD: This was a straight up illegal

Page 61 1 dog fighting operation. 2 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So the cocaine came from 3 that? MR. HEROLD: Yes. 4 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: The dog fighting case? 5 MR. HEROLD: Yes, along with the five weapons. 6 7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Were there individual 8 betting on the --9 That's how we got involved MR. HEROLD: Yes. 10 in it. Ultimately, they raised these animals to bet on them. Very distressing. Very distressing. 11 12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I really commend you for that investigation and for being so successful in 13 14 rescuinq. 15 MR. HEROLD: Yes. I'll have more information 16 for you next month, I hope. Changing into 17 something a little more pleasant, we hired our 18 accreditation manager this past month. Very 19 thankful to have that. Her name is LaTonya Banks. 20 LaTonya, there she is. 21 As you can tell, she's still smiling. She hasn't seen all the work that I have for her. But 22 23 anyway, we're super excited to have her. We were able to hire her away from Highway Safety and Motor 24 25 Vehicles, a/k/a FHP.

Page 62 1 I continue to get a reputation of stealing 2 good folks from other agencies, so we're very thankful for that. 3 4 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Are we going to be 5 starting the accreditation process? 6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yes. She's already started 7 reviewing the policies, and it's going to be 8 multi-layer type of function. Right now, we're 9 trying to get her some training, and we have her 10 visiting other law enforcement agencies on a kind 11 of collaboration with them to see how they manage 12 this. 13 We also have to purchase some software related to the accreditation process. It's going to take a 14 15 little bit of time to get her ramped up to be able 16 to do all that stuff, but this is the first step on 17 that. 18 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Great. 19 MR. HEROLD: We've got a new agent in South Florida starting on Monday, and that will bring us 20 21 up to capacity. And then we have a new agent in central Florida starting on Monday. 22 23 South Florida should be within the next couple And then we're going to interview for the 24 weeks. 25 single vacancy here in Tallahassee probably in the

Page 63 1 next couple weeks. 2 That's all very exciting because that will 3 bring us up to full capacity. And in that regard, we are readvertising for two cyber analysts that we 4 5 have here in North Florida. 6 And then we're interviewing for an 7 administrative aid in central Florida. And once those positions are filled, I will be full up. 8 So 9 it's very exciting news, very exciting news. 10 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Great job. 11 MR. HEROLD: Thank you. I'm very proud of the 12 team and the sacrifices that they've made and just the teamwork altogether. It's been phenomenal. 13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Director Herold, when we're 14 15 down in South Florida for our main meeting, is 16 there an opportunity for us to visit some of these 17 warehouse spaces? 18 MR. HEROLD: Absolutely. Yes. Yes. And when 19 you see the video, I would ask you to compare the inside of this distributorship and the resources 20 21 they have and see what we're battling against. 22 Thank you very much. Thank you, Director Herold. 23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: 24 Director Marshman. 25 Before we talk about the main MR. MARSHMAN:

Page 64 meeting, I did just want to point out that our next 1 2 meeting is March 6th. That will be across the hall 3 in the larger room. And then we have another meeting on April 10th. Again, that will be across 4 5 the hall in the larger room. 6 That leads to the May meeting that's currently 7 scheduled for May 13th. We are trying to locate 8 the same accommodations and meeting spaces we had 9 last year, which I believe is the Marriott Hotel at 10 the Fort Lauderdale airport area. 11 That's obviously a lot closer to many of our license holders in the slot machine area. And that 12 leads me to my next point, which is an update on 13 cashless rulemaking. I've discussed this 14 15 individually with you all. 16 But I think it's fair to say in the public 17 that my goal is to release the language in the 18 quarter one of 2025, so we're still on track to 19 meet that. 20 What I ultimately recommend is that we publish 21 a notice of workshop and attach the draft language to it sooner rather than later and then schedule 22 23 the workshop on or around that May 13th meeting in South Florida. 24 25 The people that we most impacted by that rule

Page 65 will be much closer to us at the Fort Lauderdale 1 2 Airport than they will here in Tallahassee. So I 3 feel like that's appropriate, so long as you all agree with that time line. 4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners? 5 Can we get a motion then to authorize staff to 6 7 publish notice of workshop for the cashless wagering, Commissioners. 8 9 Commissioner Repp. 10 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make that motion. 11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second? 12 COMMISSIONER D'AOUILA: I'll second that 13 motion. 14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say 15 aye. 16 (Multiple ayes.) 17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 18 MR. MARSHMAN: And just to clarify on that, since we are still trying to locate the exact 19 20 meeting space and trying to get the times, do I have your permission and your delegation to set a 21 22 specific time for the meeting of the workshop, 23 including on the 13th, but perhaps the day after on the 14th if we can't make all the days, just so I 24 25 don't have to come back to you again?

Page 66 1 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Repp. 2 MR. MARSHMAN: So I have a little flexibility on the date, in other words. 3 4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Are you amenable to that in 5 your motion? COMMISSIONER REPP: I will make that motion. 6 7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All right. Is there a 8 second? 9 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second. 10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say 11 aye. 12 (Multiple ayes.) 13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 14 MR. MARSHMAN: Thank you. Next is more of an 15 update for legislative affairs. First and 16 foremost, staff wants to express its appreciation for Governor DeSantis and his recommended budget. 17 18 It sees more than \$3 million added to support 19 Carl's team and the Division of Gaming 20 Enforcement's efforts. That's additional staff, 21 additional investigative tools, and additional 22 warehouse space. 23 I don't think we want to be in the business of renting out every available warehouse in the state. 24 25 But unless something gives, we're going to be

Page 67 pretty busy on that front. But again, we 1 2 appreciate Governor DeSantis and his leadership on 3 that point. Next, just as a short overview of what we've 4 5 been doing, in case people haven't been following 6 along, we're done two public presentations so far, 7 one in the House, and in the Senate. The first one was in the House in the 8 Industries and Professional Activities subcommittee 9 with Chair Giallombardo. That was a panel 10 11 discussion on January 15th. 12 I want to thank again the speakers that appear

12 I want to thank again the speakers that appear 13 alongside me. They were from law enforcement 14 across the state and state attorney's offices from 15 across the state.

16 I think they provided excellent feedback and 17 answers to questions that the panel had to explore 18 the issues that all law enforcement faces in the 19 state, not just Director Herold and his team.

The next one was on February 4th. That was in the Senate in the Regulated Industries Committee with Chair Bradley. That was a presentation that I did about primarily illegal slot machines casinos, which focused a lot of Fools Treasure.

So again, I encourage you to watch the video

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Page 68 1 and anyone listening to watch the video we post, 2 just so you can see how well organized this 3 operation was. And you'll to remind yourself as I have to 4 5 remind myself that that these are the criminals' warehouse. That's the criminals' forklift. 6 That's 7 the criminals' break room, not ours. So something 8 to take a look at. 9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I know we all have looked 10 at it and appreciate the amount of time you and 11 your staff are also putting into these 12 presentations. Katie Young deserves a lot of 13 MR. MARSHMAN: credit for that. She's been an excellent hire. 14 15 And that video is mostly her work and Carl's 16 excellent voiceover and script. 17 He's a star, and they both VICE CHAIR BROWN: 18 are. 19 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Katie did well on that, 20 in spite of Carl. 21 MR. MARSHMAN: I agree with that. We do have ongoing discussions and appearances with the House 22 23 State Budget Administration Subcommittee. I would like to appreciate the meeting that we had or 24 25 express staff's appreciation of the meeting we've

Page 69 already had with Representatives Yarkosky and Owen. 1 2 Those were assigned to be our pen pals more or less to try to do a deep dive on the Commission. 3 And they obviously were interested in what we had 4 5 to say. 6 They were receptive. And they want to support 7 what the Commission is trying to do, both in the regulated space and in law enforcement with Carl's 8 9 We will appear in front of that budget team. 10 subcommittee next Thursday the next time. 11 And just before I shift to the employee of the month, I would be remiss if I did not thank all of 12 the people that are helping me go downtown 13 seemingly every week nowadays and talk about the 14 15 Commission. 16 Henry Mahler obviously deserves a lot of the 17 credit for assisting me. He is our legislative affairs director. 18 19 Lisa Mustain is going with me to the capitol as well, so it Christine Hutton, our budget 20 21 officer. There are other people, though, that are not making the trek, but they are equally 22 23 responsible for our excellent presentations, people like Cheryl Buteen, Rena Gilliam, Henry Davis, and 24 25 many more people that are supporting everything the

Page 70 Commission is doing this session. 1 2 So I just want to take a moment to express my 3 personal thanks to all of them for trying to make 4 the Commission look at good as possible during 5 these committee weeks. 6 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Can we have them stand 7 up. 8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can we have them stand up, 9 please, because there's been a lot of work, and we 10 just want to recognize -- if you could, please 11 stand up. 12 MR. MARSHMAN: I know Henry is here. 13 Thank you all for the work VICE CHAIR BROWN: 14 you're doing. 15 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Thank you. 16 MR. MARSHMAN: And with that, I would like to 17 recognize some other employees from across the 18 Commission that have been providing exemplary 19 service. 20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: If they're in the audience, 21 can they stand up at the end. 2.2 MR. MARSHMAN: Of course. 23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. First is from the Division of 24 MR. MARSHMAN: 25 Administration, and that's Ms. Jasmine Hopkins.

She's a human resource analyst and the
 administration's employee of the month for
 February.

She consistently demonstrates an exceptional work ethic and attitude that contributes greatly to FGCC's success receiving many shout outs from employees she has assisted. Jasmine is dedicated to exceptional customer service always with a smile and helpful demeanor.

10 She approaches her tasks with professionalism 11 and a positive can-do attitude. Her teamwork and 12 commitment to supporting her colleagues makes her 13 an absolute pleasure to work with. Jasmine 14 exemplifies what it means to be an outstand human 15 resource analyst.

VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

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MR. MARSHMAN: Next is from information technology. IT's employee of the month is Frank Virella. Frank is actually out of town. He's in South Florida. He's the information technologies employee of the month.

As the team lead of the help desk in
Fort Lauderdale, Frank consistently demonstrates
outstanding leadership and commitment to his role.
His exceptional troubleshooting skills and tireless

work ethic set him apart. 1 2 He always goes the extra mile to resolve issues promptly and effectively. Frank is not only 3 reliable in handling his responsibilities, but also 4 5 willing to take on additional tasks to ensure the 6 team's success. 7 As a leader, he's a great mentor to the Fort Lauderdale IT team fostering a collaborative 8 9 and supportive environment where knowledge is

10 shared and growth is encouraged.

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11 His genuine care for both his colleagues and his clients and customers make him an invaluable 12 member of the team, and his dedication is truly 13 inspiring. So I hope Frank is watching, and here's 14 15 the appreciation.

> VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Frank.

Next is from Director Herold's 17 MR. MARSHMAN: 18 shop in Gaming Enforcement. Gaming Enforcement's 19 employee of the month is Olivia Williams. Olivia 20 is recognized for outstanding dedication, tireless 21 work ethic, and unwavering commitment to the 22 success of our agency.

23 Olivia exemplifies the qualities of a true 24 team player, always eager to assist her colleagues. 25 She goes above and beyond to ensure that every

Page 73 task, no matter how big or small, is handled with 1 2 precision and care. She also tells me where Carl is hiding. 3 4 Whether she's supporting her peers or streamlining 5 daily operations, Olivia approaches her work with a positive attitude and a genuine desire to make the 6 7 workplace better for everyone. Her exceptional attention to detail and 8 9 proactive approach ensures that the office remains 10 efficient and organized, creating an environment 11 where the entire team can thrive. 12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Olivia. MR. MARSHMAN: Next from the Commission and 13 OGC silo is Melba Apellaniz. She's OGC's employee 14 15 I'm going to take a little bit of of the month. 16 credit for her because I hired her back when I was 17 general counsel when we stole her from the 18 Department of Health. 19 And actually a former employee of the month, 20 Brandy Humphries, applied for the same position, 21 and we managed to find another place for her. So we were really lucky to get both of them. 22 23 Melba has been the clerk of the Commission for She's been one of the first 24 more than two years.

25 hires in OGC that wasn't already working in the

1 Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering.

Page 74

In her role, she is responsive, helpful, meticulous and always willing to go above and beyond. She takes great care to ensure that documents filed with the clerk's office are timely recorded and processed, even if it means staying late or coming in early.

8 Melba's professionalism and can-do attitude is 9 a boon to the Commission and to members of the 10 public.

I I've got two more. Next from the Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering. It's Kelly Costello. Kelly exemplifies FGCC's core values through her unwavering dedication, professionalism and helpfulness.

16 While our team was short staffed, Kelly 17 consistently rose to the challenge performing the 18 responsibilities of two positions with exceptional 19 efficiency and without complaint for several months 20 and continues to perform other tasks within the 21 unit that are not her specific responsibility, but 22 to ensure that the unit continues to operate 23 smoothly and that work tasks are completed timely 24 until we have full staff.

She played an instrumental role in developing

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Page 75 new auditing procedures and checklists, and has helped train all new staff within the unit associated with auditing.

Her ability to excel in all roles has far
surpassed expectations and reflects her
extraordinary work ethic and commitment to the
organization.

8 Last but not least is Jorge Cabezas. He was 9 nominated by Glenda Ricks in the field office. 10 Jorge has worked for the Division of Pari-Mutuel 11 Wagering's operation unit for almost 25 years. 12 Over the years, he has served as an OPS greyhound racing and Jai Alai judge, an OPS veterinarian 13 assistant, and is currently employed as an OPS 14 15 chief veterinarian assistant responsible for 16 specimen collection and documentation involving 17 racing thoroughbreds at the FGCC detention barn.

Jorge has supplement staffing in our Gulfsteam licensing office where he assists thoroughbred owners, trainers, stables, and backside workers with their licensing needs.

Jorge has developed significant industry core competence and demonstrated a high degree of initiative, customer service, exceptional work ethic, and consistently exceeds performance metrics

Page 76 1 set for his various positions. 2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Congratulations, Jorge. And with that, that concludes 3 MR. MARSHMAN: 4 my update. But I'm available, as always, to answer any questions you may have today or in the future. 5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, are there 6 7 any questions of Mr. Marshman? Thank you for the 8 update. 9 Ms. Valentine. 10 MS. VALENTINE: For Agenda Item No. 10, the 11 Office of the General Counsel seeks advice from the commission in a closed meeting concerning 12 litigation styled Tampa Bay Downs, Inc. versus 13 Florida Gaming Control Commission, FGCC Case No. 14 15 2022-024540. 16 This advice relates to litigation strategy and 17 settlement negotiations and may therefore be 18 discussed in private pursuant to Sections 16.716 and 19 286.011(8). 20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank vou. Ms. Valentine, 21 just for clarification, public comment on all matters outside of this will be conducted after the 2.2 23 session; is that correct? MS. VALENTINE: If that's what you would like 24 25 to do, yes.

Page 77 VICE CHAIR BROWN: 1 Is there an opportunity --2 I think it would be fair for those that are in attendance to do public commencement first before 3 we get to Item No. 10. 4 MS. VALENTINE: Yes. 5 6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: So is there anybody from 7 the public that would like to address the 8 Commission on any matter today? Going once. Going twice. 9 10 Ms. Valentine, are you completed with your 11 whole speil for Item No. 10. 12 MS. VALENTINE: Yes. 13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I have to go through a litany of required language here. So in connection 14 15 with the performance of the Commission's regulatory 16 duties, it's necessary for the Commission to hear 17 information that is exempt or confidential. 18 Specifically, Commission counsel will be discussing litigation strategy and settlement 19 20 negotiations with the commissioners related to 21 litigation styled Tampa Bay Downs, Inc. versus 22 Florida Gaming Control Commission, Case No. 23 2022-024540. 24 This closed meeting that will be conducted 25 shortly is scheduled for approximately 30 minutes.

1	Page 78 Those in attendance will be Vice Chair, Julie
2	Brown; Commissioner Chuck Drago; Commissioner Tina
3	Repp; Commissioner John D'Aquila; Acting Executive
4	Director, Ross Marshman; Division Director, Joe
5	Dillmore; General Counsel, Elina Valentine; Deputy
6	General Counsel, Marc Taupier; Chief Attorney,
7	Emily Alvarado; Chief Attorney, Rene Harkins; and
8	Senior Attorneys Justin Hundersmarck and Shireen
9	Anbardan; Brandy Humphries; Dixie Parker; and
10	certified court reporter, Iris Cooper.
11	In accordance with Section 16.716 and 286.011(8)
12	subsection 8C Florida statutes, the closed meeting,
13	including the necessity for closure and the
14	specific reasons for such necessity will be
15	recorded by the courter reporter.
16	No portion of the closed meeting will be off
17	the record. The court reporter's notes will be
18	fully transcribed and filed with the clerk of the
19	Commission. The transcript will be made public
20	upon conclusion of the litigation.
21	For the record, the time is now 10:53 a.m.
22	I'm going to ask the Florida Channel to discontinue
23	the live feed for approximately 30 minutes so that
24	the Commission may conduct the closed meeting.
25	With that, thank you all. We're not officially

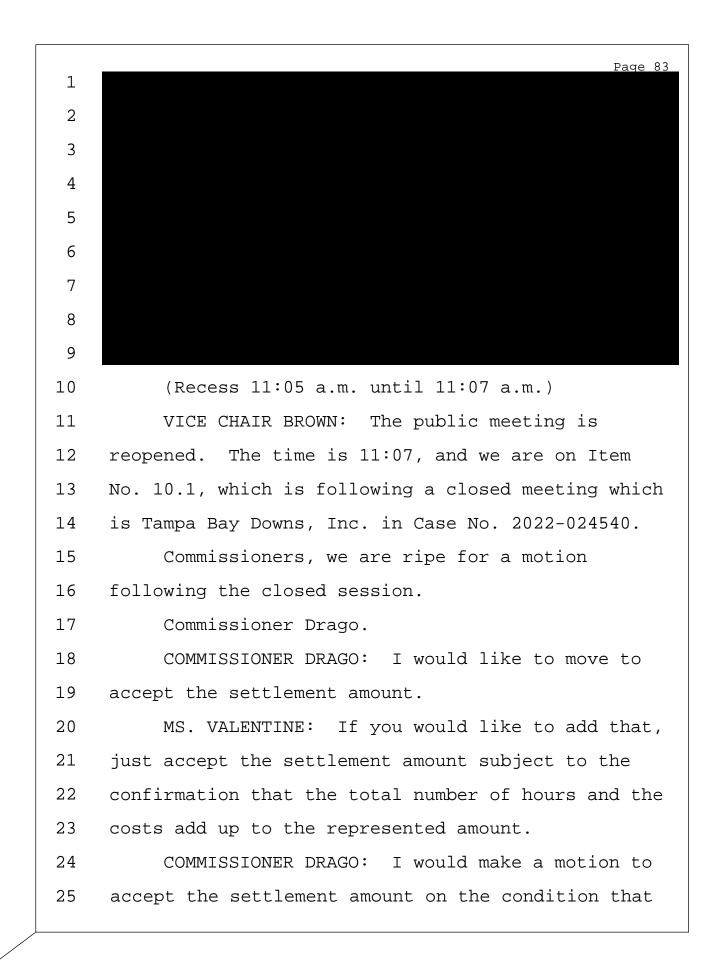
### Pursuant to Sections 16.716 and 286.011(8), Florida Statues. This portion of the transcript is confidential and exempt.

1	Page 79 adjourned, but thank you for allowing us to be in
2	the closed meeting.
3	(Recess 10:53 a.m. until 10:59 a.m.)
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Page 84 total number of hours and billing associated 1 2 with those hours is accurate. Is there a second? 3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: COMMISSIONER REPP: Second. 4 5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say 6 aye. 7 (Multiple ayes.) Thank you. Commissioners, 8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: 9 are there any other matters that need to be 10 addressed today? All right. This meeting is 11 hereby adjourned. Thank you. 12 (Proceedings concluded at 11:08 a.m.) 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 2.2 23 24 25

1	Page 85 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	
3	STATE OF FLORIDA
4	COUNTY OF LEON
5	
6	I, I. IRIS COOPER, do hereby certify that I
7	was authorized to and did stenographically report
8	the foregoing proceeding, and that the transcript
9	is a true and complete record of my stenographic
10	notes.
11	
12	Dated this 26th day of November, 2024.
13	D. Mris Cooper
14	C. Chris Cooper
15	I. Iris Cooper Stenographic Reporter
16	Notary Public, State of Florida My Commission No. 1366674
17	Expires: February 7, 2028
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19	Job No.: 373300
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# 2. Discussion of Default Final Orders

#### **MEMORANDUM**

To:	The Florida Gaming Control Commission
From:	Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering
Through:	Justin Hundersmarck, Senior Attorney
Re:	FGCC v. Jacauline Bennett,
	Case No. 2023-063772, Default Final Order
Date:	March 26, 2025

#### Executive Summary

The Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering seeks the permanent exclusion of Jacauline Bennett ("Respondent") from all pari-mutuel facilities in the state of Florida. Respondent failed to respond to the administrative complaint and thereby waived her right to request a hearing contesting this matter. The Division requests that the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter a final order permanently excluding Respondent from all pari-mutuel facilities in the state of Florida.

#### Background

On August 13th and 14th, 2023, Respondent was working as a Designated Player for Knighted Gaming at Orange City Racing & Card Club. Respondent was excluded on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 until August 17, 2059.<sup>1</sup> The reason for this exclusion is included as Exhibit 1 of the administrative complaint.<sup>2</sup>

Based on Respondent's exclusion from Orange City Racing & Card Club, the Division filed an administrative complaint on May 20, 2024, seeking her exclusion from all pari-mutuel facilities in the state of Florida. The election of rights accompanying the administrative complaint made it clear that the Respondent had 21 days<sup>3</sup> to file a written response to the administrative complaint. The Respondent was served on February 6, 2025. Respondent had until February 27, 2025 to respond, and did not do so.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Orange City Racing & Card Club is operated by a permitholder authorized to conduct pari-mutuel wagering and cardroom operations in the state of Florida.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pari-mutuel permitholders have the right to exclude patrons. §§ 550.0251(6); Fla. Stat

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Fla. Admin. Code R. 28-106.111(4) ("Any person who receives written notice of an agency decision and who fails to file a written request for a hearing within 21 days waives the right to request a hearing on such matters.")

### Analysis

Florida law allows for the exclusion of Respondent from all pari-mutuel facilities in the state.

Section 550.0251(6), Florida Statutes, provides that "[t]he Commission may exclude from any pari-mutuel facility within this state any person who has been ejected from a pari-mutuel facility in this state."

Therefore, Respondent's exclusion from Orange City Racing & Card Club, a parimutuel facility in this state, subjects her to permanent exclusion from all pari-mutuel facilities in this state.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: The Division recommends that the Commission enter a final order permanently excluding the Respondent, Jacauline Bennett, from all parimutuel facilities in the state of Florida.

	FILED
FLORIDA GA	MING CONTROL COMMISSION
Date:	5/20/2024
File Number:	

BY: MELBA L. APELLANIZ CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

FGCC Case No.: 2023-063772

#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

# FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

JACAULINE BENNETT,

Respondent.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), files this Administrative Complaint against Jacauline Bennett ("Respondent"), and alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating pari-mutuel wagering and cardroom operations pursuant to chapters 550 and 849, Florida Statutes.

2. At all times material hereto, Respondent's address was reported as 105 Manatee Crossing, Apt 203 Daytona Beach, Florida 32119.

3. At all times material hereto, West Volusia Racing, Inc. d/b/a Orange City Racing and Card Club was a facility operated by a permitholder authorized by the Commission to conduct pari-mutuel wagering and cardroom operations in the state of Florida.

4. On or about August 13 and August 14, 2024, Respondent was working as a designated player at Orange City Racing and Card Club.

5. On or about August 17, 2023, Respondent was excluded from Orange City Racing and Card Club until August 17, 2059.

- 6. Respondent was excluded for the reasons alleged in Exhibit 1.
- 7. Section 550.0251(6), Florida Statutes, provides in relevant part:

In addition to the power to exclude certain persons from any parimutuel facility in this state, the commission may exclude any person from any and all pari-mutuel facilities in this state for conduct that would constitute, if the person were a licensee, a violation of this chapter or the rules of the commission. <u>The commission may exclude from any pari-mutuel facility within this state any person</u> who has been ejected from a pari-mutuel facility in this state or who has been excluded from any pari-mutuel facility in another state by the governmental department, agency, commission, or authority exercising regulatory jurisdiction over pari-mutuel facilities in such other state.

(Emphasis added).

8. Based on the foregoing, Respondent is subject to exclusion from all licensed pari-

mutuel wagering facilities in the state of Florida under section 550.0251(6), Florida Statutes, based

on her ejection from Orange City Racing and Card Club on or about August 17, 2023.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter an Order excluding Respondent from all licensed pari-mutuel wagering facilities in the state of Florida, in accordance with section 550.0251(6), along with any other remedy provided by chapter 550, Florida Statutes, and/or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Administrative Complaint for FGCC Case Number 2023-063772 is signed this 16th day of May 2024.

/s/Emily A. Alvarado

Emily A. Alvarado Deputy Chief Attorney Florida Bar Number: 1025200 Florida Gaming Control Commission Office of the General Counsel Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering 4070 Esplanade Way, Suite 250 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2202 Telephone: (850) 794-8066 Facsimile: +1 (850) 536-8709 Primary: Emily.Alvarado@flagaming.gov Secondary: Ebonie.Lanier@flgaming.gov

#### NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REQUEST A HEARING

Pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, you have the right to request a hearing to challenge the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint. If you choose to request a hearing, you will have the right to be represented by counsel, or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses, and to have subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum issued on your behalf.

Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint must conform to rule 28-106.2015, Florida Administrative Code. Pursuant to rule 28-106.111, Florida Administrative Code, you must request a hearing within 21 days from receipt of this Notice, or you will waive your right to request a hearing.

Mediation under section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.

ALERT: WINTER STORMS IN THE MIDWEST THROUGH THE NORTHEAST U.S. MAY DELAY FIN ...

# **USPS Tracking**<sup>®</sup>

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### 70062150000568479028

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Your item was delivered to an individual at the address at 1:20 pm on February 6, 2025 in DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32114.

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Delivered Delivered, Left with Individual DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32114

February 6, 2025, 1:20 pm

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Product Information	$\checkmark$

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FAQs >

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FAQs



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Region	CR - Centra Region	al	Recei	ived <b>11/08/</b>	2023		Related		Disp	osition	
Reference	550.0251; 7	5-11.005	(4)				Inspection				
Entered	11/08/2023		Entered	d By <b>cstub</b> l	bs1		Costs				
Summary	Florida Gar 13-14, 2023	ming Cor 8, Jacauli	Powers and ntrol Commis ne BENNET ployee of Kn	ssion : On <i>l</i> Γ, a Design	August ated		Гime Trackin	g	Auto	Assign	
company that employ designated players to play at Florida Cardrooms) was caught stealing chips while playing at Orange City Racing and Card Club											
Updated	01/09/2024	16:46:52		By icamp	bell		Work Notes		Print	Report	
		Change	S	ave	(	ЭК	Can	cel		Back	



Louis Trombetta, Executive Director

Ron DeSantis, Governor

### **OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS**

### **INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

Office:	Region:	Date	of Complaint:	Case Number:				
PMW	CENTRAL		EMBER 8, 2023	2023 06 3772				
Respondent:			mplainant:					
	ULINE ROSSING, APT. 203 H, FLORIDA 32119	OF 14	DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS 1400 WEST COMMERCIAL BOULEVARD, SUITE 165 FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33309					
	# and Type:		Profession:	Report Date:				
	/ 1098		NATED PLAYER	December 14, 2023				
	Period of Investigation 22, 2023 – Decembe			Type of Report: FINAL				
		· · ·	da Caming Control Co	mmission. —The commission shall				
				the rules adopted pursuant thereto,				
were a licensee, a v mutuel facility within been excluded from authority exercising any person who has mutuel facilities in t adverse to the public	(6) In addition to the power to exclude certain persons from any pari-mutuel facility in this state, the commission may exclude any person from any and all pari-mutuel facilities in this state for conduct that would constitute, if the person were a licensee, a violation of this chapter or the rules of the commission. The commission may exclude from any pari-mutuel facility within this state any person who has been ejected from a pari-mutuel facility in this state or who has been excluded from any pari-mutuel facility in another state by the governmental department, agency, commission, or authority exercising regulatory jurisdiction over pari-mutuel facilities in such other state. The commission may authorize any person who has been ejected from pari-mutuel facilities in this state or another state to attend the pari-mutuel facilities in this state upon a finding that the attendance of such person at pari-mutuel facilities would not be adverse to the public interest or to the integrity of the sport or industry; however, this subsection shall not be construed to abrogate the common-law right of a pari-mutuel permitholder to exclude absolutely a patron in this state.							
<b>75-11.005 (4) Prohibitions: (4) No person shall, either directly or indirectly:</b> (b) Engage in any act, practice, or course of operation that would constitute a fraud or deceit upon any participant in a game or the cardroom operator. (c) Engage in any act, practice, or course of operation with the intent of cheating any participant or the cardroom operator.								
<b>Synopsis</b> : On August 14, 2023, I received information from Orange City Racing & Card Club, Surveillance Director, Miguel Melendez that Jacauline <b>BENNETT</b> , a Designated Player employed by "Knighted Gaming," (a company that provides Designated Players at Orange City Racing & Card Club) was observed stealing chips while playing at her assigned poker tables on August 13 & 14, 2023.								
Related Case:								
Investigator / Date	<b>;</b>		Investigator Supervisor / Date					
Isl Lee Ann R			15/ Peul Te	1 hand my				
Lee Ann Rounds /	December 14, 2023			on / December 14, 2023				

Chief of Investigations / Date

Bradford D. Jones January 9, 2024 7

#### CONTINUATION

Investigative Activity:

On August 14, 2023, while at Daytona Beach Racing & Card Club, I received information from Surveillance Director Miguel Melendez that Jacauline **BENNETT**, a Designated Player employed by "Knighted Gaming," (a company that provides designated players at Orange City Racing & Card Club) was observed stealing chips while playing at her assigned poker tables on August 13 & 14, 2023. Melendez explained that Knighted Gaming management requested a review of **BENNETT** to determine the cause of a \$500.00 variance. Melendez said upon completion of their review, they discovered that **BENNETT** had stolen approximately \$2,400.00 in chips.

A review of the surveillance video and Surveillance Report revealed the following:

#### On August 13, 2023:

- **10:10 PM, at table #14; BENNETT** is observed removing one \$100 black chip from a rack and two \$1 blue chips from the table. **BENNETT** replaces the one \$100 black chip from the rack with the two \$1 blue chips, while "palming<sup>1</sup>" and subsequently dropping the one \$100 black chip into her right coat sleeve. Total amount taken: \$100.
- **10:58 PM, at table #14; BENNETT** is observed removing five \$100 black chips from a rack. After returning three of the \$100 black chips to the rack, **BENNETT** palms and dropped two \$100 black chips into her right coat sleeve. Total amount taken: \$200.
- 11:03 PM, at table #14; BENNETT is observed removing six \$100 black chips from a rack. BENNETT then palms three \$100 black chips and return the other three \$100 black chips along with three \$2 yellow chips to the rack. BENNETT then pushing the three \$100 black chips she was palming into her right coat sleeve. Total amount taken: \$300.
- **11:14 PM, at table #14; BENNETT** is observed removing two \$100 black chips, one \$1 blue chip and one \$2 yellow chip from a rack, she then places the one \$1 blue chip and the one \$2 yellow chip into the rack in place of the two \$100 black chips. **BENNETT** then laid her hand on the table and pushed them down her right coat sleeve with her right finger. Total amount taken: \$200.

#### On August 14, 2023:

- **12:44 AM at table #7**; **BENNETT** takes a stack of six \$100 black chips from in front of her and palms all but one \$100 black chip, she then puts the five \$100 black chips in her right coat sleeve. She returns the one \$100 black chip to the rack. Total amount taken: \$500.
- **1:56 AM at table #9; BENNETT** stacks approximately ten \$100 black chips in front of her. Upon moving a stack of #2 yellow chips, she then picks up the stack of ten \$100 black chips and palms them in her hand. She takes three of the \$100 black chips from her hand and returns them along with a one \$2 yellow chip to the rack. The other seven \$100 black chips that she still has in her hand, she drops down her right coat sleeve. Total amount taken: \$700.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hiding a chip in the palm of one's hand as part of a trick or stealing a chip in a way that will not be noticed.

#### CONTINUATION

• **2:19 AM, at table #9**; The dealer exchanges two \$100 black chips for forty \$5 red chips with **BENNETT**. **BENNETT** then palms the two \$100 black chips then takes another two, \$100 black chips from the rack, palms them and then drops all four \$100 black chips down her coat sleeve. Total amount taken: \$400.

On August 17, 2023, at approximately 2:20 PM, I interviewed Surveillance Operator Austin Willis (PMW License #13483196). He stated that he was asked to review surveillance footage of **BENNETT** to resolve a variance matter. During his review of August 13 & August 14, from 10:10 PM to 2:19 AM, he observed **BENNETT** on multiple occasions, stealing chips from her chip holder and slipping the chips down her coat sleeve.

On August 17, 2023, at approximately 4:15 PM, I interviewed Tony Dipio, Operations Supervisor with Knighted Gaming. He referred me to the Operations Manager, Craig Campbell, who had questioned **BENNETT** regarding the thefts. Dipio stated that to the best of his knowledge, **BENNETT** had admitted to taking \$500 in chips and that she would return them at some point.

On August 23, 2023, at approximately 4:10 PM, while at Orange City Racing & Card Club, I interviewed the Operations Manager for Knighted Gaming, Craig Campbell. He stated that after learning that **BENNETT** was stealing chips, he and Operations Supervisor John Baird questioned **BENNETT**. He said **BENNETT** admitted to only taking \$500 in poker chips and that she had not yet exchanged them for cash. He said she further told him that she would return the chips but that she had not done so. Campbell stated that **BENNETT's** employment with Knighted Gaming was terminated, and a Police Report (case 23-02189) was filed with the Orange City Police Department (OCPD). He said the matter was under investigation by Orange City Police and provided me with OCPD Detective B. Dagley's contact information. Campbell advised that Knighted Gaming intends to prosecute **BENNETT** for a third-degree felony after learning that she stole approximately \$2,400.00.

On December 8, 2023, at approximately 10:00 AM, I spoke with OCPD Detective Brie Dagley. She informed me that she would be sending this case to the State Attorney's Office. She also provided me with the initial Police Report attached herein as **EXHIBIT #5.** 

A search of the Comprehensive Case Information System (CCIS) revealed that as of this date, **BENNETT** has not been arrested/charged in connection with the theft at Orange City<sup>2</sup>.

**Conclusion**: Based on my investigation and all information received, **BENNETT** is in violation of Florida Statute 550.0251 (6) and F.A.C. 75-11.005 (4) which she committed while working as an employee of Knighted Gaming.

**Status**: Case closed by Investigations; forwarded to Legal for review.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As per CCIS, BENNETT was arrested on October 19, 2023 for a Domestic Violence Misdemeanor Battery. That matter has been disposed via a Pre-Trial Diversion Agreement.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### EXHIBITS:

1.	Surveillance Report	1-3
2.	OCPD Surveillance Request	1-1
3.	Orange City Racing and Card Club License	.1-1
4.	Surveillance Video	1- 12
5.	Police Reoprt	1-2

2023-00318



Daytona Beach Kennel Club & Poker Room **ORANGE CITY RACING & CARD CLUB** 822-4 SAXON BLVD **ORANGE CITY, FL, 32763** 

#### CASE REPORT

Reported by: AUSTIN WILLIS

Incident Types Label		Offender		Incident Disposition
FRAUD / THEFT		BENNET	T,	
		JACAUL	INE (PATRON)	
Report Disposition	Method of Reporting			
THEFT	PHONE			
Report Recorder	Manager/Supervisor On D	uty	Manager/Supervis	or Notified
AUSTIN WILLIS 13483196			YES	
Incident Occurred Date	Incident Occurred End Dat	te	Incident Discover	ed / Called In
08/13/2023 at 2210	08/14/2023 at 0219		08/14/2023 at 024	0
Location		Specific Location		
POKER ROOM		OC		
Report Synopsis/Overview				

ON AUGUST 14, 2023 AT 02:40 HRS THE DESIGNATED BANKER KNIGHTED SUPERVISOR MR. CRAIG CAMPBELL REQUESTED A REVIEW OF TABLE #9 DESIGNATED PLAYER MRS. JACAULINE BENNETT, TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE OF A \$ 500 VARIANCE OF 5X\$100 BLACK CHIPS.

	Cc	ontact # 1	(PATRON)		
Full Name					
JACAULINE BENNE	ТТ				
Age	Date of Birth	Gender		Race	
		FEMALE		B - BLACK	
Height	Weight	Hair Color		Eye Color	
509	210	BLK - BLACK	K	BRO - BROWN	
Department				Title	
				DESIGNATED PLAYER	
Notes					
NOT EMPLOYED BY	OCRCC.				
			Addre	sses	
Address :					
ON-FILE					
			Theft		
Subject's Name:		Officer Witn	ess	Reta	il Theft?
				NO	
<u>Narrative text</u>					
ON AUGUST 14, 202	23 AT 02:40 HRS THE [	DESIGNATED E	BANKER KN	IGHTED SUPERVISOR MR.	CRAIG CAMPBELL
		<b>Prepared By:</b>			Submitted Date
	AUSTIN WII		TIN WILLIS)		08/17/2023 1634
	Signature			Reviewee	d By/Date
				MIGUEL MELENDEZ	08/18/2023 1428
				•	
		Da	ge 1 of 3		

#### 2023-00318

REQUESTED A REVIEW OF TABLE #9 DESIGNATED PLAYER MRS. JACAULINE BENNETT, TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE OF A \$500 VARIANCE OF 5X\$100 IN BLACK CHIPS.

A REVIEW REVEALED THAT;

ON AUGUST 13, 2023

#### THEFT A

AT 22:10 HRS AT TABLE #14 MRS. JACAULINE BENNET WAS OBSERVED REMOVING A 1x\$100 BLACK CHIP FROM A RACK, AND 2x\$1 BLUE CHIPS FROM THE TABLE, WHILE HOVERING OVER THE RACK, MRS. BENNETT REPLACES THE 1x\$100 BLACK CHIP FROM THE RACK WITH THE 2x\$1 IN BLUE CHIPS, WHILE PALMING AND SUBSEQUENTLY DROPPING THE 1x\$100 BLACK CHIP INTO HER RIGHT SLEEVE, AND LIFTING HER RIGHT ARM TO SECURE THE CHIP IN THE SLEEVE. STEALING \$100 IN TOTAL.

#### THEFT B

AT 22:58 HRS AT TABLE #14 MRS. BENNET WAS OBSERVED REMOVING 5x\$100 BLACK CHIPS FROM A RACK OF 20, AND FIDGETS WITH THEM ON THE TABLE. UPON RETURNING 3x\$100 BLACK CHIPS TO THE RACK, MRS. BENNETT THEN PALMS AND DROPS 2x\$100 BLACK CHIPS INTO HER RIGHT SLEEVE, RAISING HER RIGHT ARM SHORTLY AFTER TO DROP THE CHIPS TO THE ELBOW. STEALING \$200 IN TOTAL.

#### THEFT C

AT 23:03 HRS AT TABLE #14 MRS. BENNET WAS OBSERVED REMOVING 6x\$100 BLACK CHIPS FROM A RACK, FIDGETS WITH THEM ON THE TABLE, PALMS 3x\$100 BLACK CHIPS, AND RETURNS 3x\$100 BLACK CHIPS AND 3x\$2 YELLOW CHIPS TO THE RACK. MRS. BENNETT WAS THEN OBSERVED PUSHING THE CHIPS FURTHER INTO HER RIGHT SLEEVE AND RAISES HER RIGHT ARM TO DROP THE CHIPS DOWN TO HER ELBOW. STEALING \$300 IN TOTAL

#### THEFT D

AT 23:14 HRS AT TABLE #14 MRS. BENNETT WAS OBSERVED REMOVING 2x\$100 BLACK CHIPS, 1x\$1 BLUE CHIP AND 1x\$2 YELLOW CHIP FROM A RACK, THEN PLACES THE 1x\$1 BLUE CHIP AND 1x\$2 YELLOW CHIPS INTO THE RACK IN PLACE OF THE 2x\$100 BLACK CHIPS. MRS. BENNETT WAS THEN OBSERVED LAYING HER HAND ONTO THE TABLE AND PUSHING THE BLACK CHIPS DOWN RIGHT SLEEVE WITH RIGHT FINGERS, THEN FLIPS CARDS AND RAISES RIGHT ARM TO DROP THE CHIPS FURTHER DOWN THE SLEEVE TO HER ELBOW. STEALING \$200 IN TOTAL.

AT 23:37 HRS MRS.BENNET WAS OBSERVED	LEAVING THE TABLE FOR	THE RESTROOM, A	AND RETURNING TO THE
POKER ROOM.			

AT 23:32 HRS MRS.BENNET WAS OBSERVED WALKING TO HER VEHICLE, AND RETURNING TO THE POKER ROOM.

NEXT PAGE DETAILS OCCURRENCES INTO THE NEXT CALENDAR DAY.

Prepared By: AUSTIN WILLIS (AUSTIN WILL	IS) 08/17/2023 1634				
Signature	Reviewed By/Date				
	MIGUEL MELENDEZ 08/18/2023 1428				

CONTINUEING INTO AUGUST 14, 2023:

#### THEFT E

AT 00:44 HRS AT TABLE #7 MRS. BENNET WAS OBSERVED PLACING A STACK OF 20x\$2 YELLOW CHIPS IN A RACK, REMOVING 1x\$2 YELLOW CHIP AND ADDING IT TO A PRE-EXISTING STACK. MRS. BENNETT THEN TAKES A STACK OF 6x\$100 BLACK CHIPS FROM IN FRONT OF HER AND PALMS ALL BUT ONE 1X\$100 BLACK CHIP INTO HER SLEEVE , AND RETURNING A 1x\$100 BLACK CHIP TO THE RACK. MRS. BENNETT THEN RAISES HER ARM SHORTLY AFTER TO DROP THE CHIPS DOWN TO HER ELBOW. STEALING \$500 IN TOTAL.

AT 01:33 HRS MRS.BENNET WAS OBSERVED EXITING THE POKER FLOOR WALKING TO HER VEHICLE AND RETURNS.

#### THEFT F

AT 01:55 HRS AT TABLE #9 MRS. BENNET WAS OBSERVED STACKING APPROXIMATELY 10x\$100 BLACK CHIPS IN FRONT OF HER, AND MOVES A STACK OF \$2 YELLOW CHIPS IN FRONT OF HER. MRS. BENNETT THEN PICKS UP THE STACK OF 10x\$100 BLACK CHIPS AND BEFORE USING THE SAME HAND TO BET FROM THE STACK OF \$2 YELLOW CHIPS, MRS. BENNETT RETURNS APPROXIMATELY 3x\$100 BLACK CHIPS FROM HER SLEEVE BACK INTO THE RACK, WITH A 1x\$2 YELLOW CHIP AND CLEARS HER HANDS SHORTLY AFTER RAISING HER ARM TO DROP THE CHIPS DOWN TO HER ELBOW. SHORTLY AFTER. STEALING \$700 IN TOTAL.

THEFT G

AT 02:19 HRS AT TABLE #9 THE TABLE DEALER WAS OBSERVED EXCHANGING 2x\$100 BLACK CHIPS FOR 40X\$5 IN RED CHIPS WITH MRS. BENNETT WHO AFTER HANDING OVER THE 40x\$5 RED CHIPS TO THE DEALER THEN TAKES THE 2x\$100 BLACK CHIPS AND PALMS THEM, AND THEN RAISES HER ARM SHORTLY AFTER TO DROP THE CHIPS DOWN TO HER ELBOW. STEALING \$400 IN TOTAL.

AT 02:24 HRS MRS.BENNETT WAS OBSERVED LEAVING THE CARD ROOM FOR THE BATHROOM, AND RETURNING.

AT 03:34 HRS MRS.BENNETT WAS OBSERVED EXITING THE FACILITY TO HER VEHICLE.

THE THEFTS OBSERVED OF 24x\$100 IN BLACK CHIPS ARE \$2,400.00 IN TOTAL.

Prepared By: AUSTIN WILLIS (AUSTIN WILL	LIS) Submitted Date 08/17/2023 1634
Signature	<b>Reviewed By/Date</b>
	MIGUEL MELENDEZ 08/18/2023 1428



Chief of Police Wayne M. Miller Fax (386) 775-5481 www.orangecityfl.gov

August 24, 2023

Re: Criminal Investigation (23-02189)

To Whom It May Concern,

The Orange City Police Department is conducting an investigation for a crime that occurred on your property. It is my understanding that there may be video surveillance footage that could be of significant evidentiary value in your possession. We humbly request permission from your company to obtain the video surveillance footage needed.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any further questions or would like to contact me, please do not hesitate to do so.

Sincerely,

21157

Detective B. DAGLEY Orange City Police Dept 207 N Holly Avenue Orange City Fl 32763 Office: 386-851-7560



DIFAEN

# CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

ORANGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT 207 NORTH HOLLY AVENUE ORANGE CITY, FLORIDA 32763 WWW.ORANGECITY.GOV

MERGENCY	91
VESTIGATION	(386) 851-7560
DMINISTRATION	(386) 775-9999
SPATCH	(386) 736-5999
X	(386) 775-5489
AIL:	BDAGLEY@ORANGECITYFL.GOV

								FAQ   Help	Sign Out
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Get Adobe Reader.

Exhibit 3 Page 1/1

# **Orange City Police Department**

## - Incident Report -

	ASE No.: O 230002189																		
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EVENT	ommonplace Name C Inci en Loca ion 822 SAXON BL RACING AND C						D UNIT 2, Building ORANGE CITY Orange City C FL C 3					Zip o e 32763 0		oun y 0 Volusia		Zone OC02 C			
ы	Offense No. 1																		
	Felony/Mis emear Felony C	10	U R/NIB 812.014	RS o e 2c1 <b>C</b>		esc ip 812.014		RC - GRAN	ID THEF	-T 750 LI	ESS THA	N 5K DC	DLS C				A emp e Complet	/ omple ed	е
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	Las Name BENNETT C JACAULINE C				Mi le N D				en Name Nickname C				African /	African American <b>C</b>		C E hnici y Non-Hispanic			
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#### **MEMORANDUM**

To:	The Florida Gaming Control Commission
From:	Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering
Through:	Justin Hundersmarck, Senior Attorney
Re:	FGCC v. Tyler Levi Brown,
	Case No. 2023-067629, Default Final Order
Date:	March 26, 2025

#### Executive Summary

The Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("the Division") served the Respondent, Tyler Levi Brown ("Respondent") with an administrative complaint seeking to revoke his cardroom employee occupational license and exclude him from all parimutuel facilities in the state of Florida. Respondent did not timely respond to the administrative complaint and thereby waived his right to request a hearing contesting this matter. The Division requests that the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter a final order revoking Respondent's cardroom employee occupational license and permanently excluding Respondent from all pari-mutuel facilities in the state of Florida.

#### Background

On or about September 28, October 5, and October 10, 2023, Respondent was working as a chip runner at Pensacola Greyhound Racing and was observed by surveillance falsifying promotional payout documentation. Respondent was terminated on October 11, 2023.<sup>1</sup>

The Division filed an administrative complaint on July 18, 2024, seeking the revocation of Respondent's cardroom employee occupational license and his permanent exclusion from all pari-mutuel facilities in the state of Florid. The election of rights accompanying the administrative complaint made it clear that the Respondent had 21 days<sup>2</sup> to file a written response to the administrative complaint. The Respondent was served on February 13, 2025. Respondent had until March 6, 2025 to respond, and did not do so.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pensacola Greyhound Racing is operated by a permitholder authorized to conduct pari-mutuel wagering and cardroom operations in the state of Florida.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Fla. Admin. Code R. 28-106.111(4) ("Any person who receives written notice of an agency decision and who fails to file a written request for a hearing within 21 days waives the right to request a hearing on such matters.")

#### Analysis

Florida law allows for the exclusion of Respondent from all pari-mutuel facilities in the state.

Section 550.0251(6), Florida Statutes, provides that "[t]he Commission may exclude from any pari-mutuel facility within this state any person who has been ejected from a pari-mutuel facility in this state for conduct that would constitute, if the person were a licensee, a violation of this chapter or the rules of the commission."

Rule 75-11.005(4), Florida Administrative Code, provides in relevant part that "[n]o person shall, either directly or indirectly [...] [e]mploy or attempt to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud any participant in a game or the cardroom operator.

Section 849.086(14)(a), Florida Statutes, provides that:

The commission may deny a license or the renewal thereof, or may suspend or revoke any license, when the applicant has: violated or failed to comply with the provisions of this section or any rules adopted pursuant thereto; knowingly caused, aided, abetted, or conspired with another to cause any person to violate this section or any rules adopted pursuant thereto; or obtained a license or permit by fraud, misrepresentation, or concealment; or if the holder of such license or permit is no longer eligible under this section.

Respondent's violation of rule 75-11.005(4), subjects him to revocation or suspension of his cardroom employee occupational license and to exclusion from all pari-mutuel facilities in the state.

Respondent failed to file a timely response to the Division's administrative complaint and has thus waived his right to request a hearing on the matter.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: The Division recommends that the Commission enter a final order permanently excluding the Respondent, Tyler Levi Brown, from all parimutuel facilities in the state of Florida, and revoking his cardroom employee occupational license.

FLORIDA GA	FILED MING CONTROL COMMISSION
Date: File Number:	7/18/2024
	MELBA L. APELLANIZ RK OF THE COMMISSION

FGCC Case No.: 2023-067629

#### STATE OF FLORIDA L FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

## FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

TYLER LEVI BROWN,

Respondent.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), files this Administrative Complaint against Tyler Levi Brown ("Respondent"), and alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating pari-mutuel wagering and cardroom operations pursuant to chapters 550 and 849, Florida Statutes.

2. At all times material hereto, Respondent held a Cardroom Employee Occupational License, number 13701444, issued by Petitioner pursuant to section 849.086(6), Florida Statutes.

3. At all times material hereto, Pensacola Greyhound Racing, LLP d/b/a Pensacola Greyhound Racing was a facility operated by a permitholder authorized to conduct pari-mutuel wagering and cardroom operations in the state of Florida.

4. At all times material hereto, Respondent was employed as a Chip Runner at Pensacola Greyhound Racing.

5. On or about September 28, October 5, and October 10, 2023, Respondent was observed by Pensacola Greyhound Racing surveillance falsifying promotional payout documentation.

6. On or about October 11, 2023, Respondent's employment with Pensacola Greyhound Racing was terminated.

#### <u>COUNT I</u>

7. Petitioner realleges and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs one through six as if set forth fully herein.

8. Rule 75-11.005(4)(a), Florida Administrative Code, states that "[n]o person shall, either directly or indirectly . . . [e]mploy or attempt to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud any participant in a game or the cardroom operator."

9. Section 849.086(14)(a), Florida Statutes, provides that:

The commission may deny a license or the renewal thereof, or may suspend or revoke any license, when the applicant has: violated or failed to comply with the provisions of this section or any rules adopted pursuant thereto; knowingly caused, aided, abetted, or conspired with another to cause any person to violate this section or any rules adopted pursuant thereto; or obtained a license or permit by fraud, misrepresentation, or concealment; or if the holder of such license or permit is no longer eligible under this section.

10. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated rule 75-11.005(4), Florida Administrative Code, by employing a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud the cardroom operator and is therefore subject to suspension or revocation of his occuptional license persuant to section 849.086(14)(a), Florida Statutes.

#### COUNT II

11. Petitioner realleges and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs one through ten as if set forth fully herein.

12. Section 550.0251(6), Florida Statutes, provides in relevant part:

In addition to the power to exclude certain persons from any parimutuel facility in this state, <u>the commission may exclude any person</u> from any and all pari-mutuel facilities in this state for conduct that would constitute, if the person were a licensee, a violation of this <u>chapter or the rules of the commission</u>. The commission may exclude from any pari-mutuel facility within this state any person who has been ejected from a pari-mutuel facility in this state or who has been excluded from any pari-mutuel facility in another state by the governmental department, agency, commission, or authority exercising regulatory jurisdiction over pari-mutuel facilities in such other state.

(Emphasis added).

13. Based on the foregoing, Respondent is subject to exclusion from all licensed pari-

mutuel wagering facilities in the state of Florida based on his violation of rule 75-11.005(4),

Florida Administrative Code.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter an Order revoking Respondent's Cardroom Employee Occupational License, number 13701444, and excluding Respondent from all licensed pari-mutuel wagering facilities in the state of Florida, along with any other remedy provided by chapters 550 and 849, Florida Statutes, and/or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Administrative Complaint for FGCC Case Number 2023-067629 is signed this 18th day of July 2024.

/s/ Shireen Anbardan

Shireen Anbardan Senior Attorney FBN: 1054561 Florida Gaming Control Commission Office of the General Counsel Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering 4070 Esplanade Way, Suite 250 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2202 Telephone: (850) 794-8079 Facsimile: (850) 536-8709 Primary: Shireen.Anbardan@flgaming.gov Secondary: Ebonie.Lanier@flgaming.gov

#### NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REQUEST A HEARING

Pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, you have the right to request a hearing to challenge the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint. If you choose to request a hearing, you will have the right to be represented by counsel, or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses, and to have subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum issued on your behalf.

Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint must conform to rule 28-106.2015, Florida Administrative Code. Pursuant to rule 28-106.111, Florida Administrative Code, you must request a hearing within 21 days from receipt of this Notice, or you will waive your right to request a hearing.

Mediation under section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.

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Louis Trombetta, Executive Director

Ron DeSantis, Governor

#### **OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS**

INVESTIGATIVE REPO	)RT
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Office: <b>PMW</b>	Region: NORTHERN		Complaint: er 30, 2023	Case Number: <b>2023 06 7629</b>
Respondent:			Complainant:	
BROWN, TYLEF 5401 ROWE TR PACE, FLORIDA	AIL		OFFICE OF INVE 1400 W. COMME	RI-MUTUEL WAGERING STIGATIONS RCIAL BLVD. SUITE 165 .E, FLORIDA 33309
(850) 525-2694				
	# and Type: <b>444 / 1012</b>	Chip I	ession: <b>Runner</b>	Report Date: February 14, 2024
Novemb	Period of Investigation er 30, 2023 – Februar			Type of Report: FINAL
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				<b>GREYHOUND</b> poker room, was or up a theft committed by another
employee.				-
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Investigator / Dat /s/	-	/:	nvestigator Superv C. Peul À	In hang
CW Taylor / Feb		(	C. Derek Washingto	on / February 27, 2024
Chief of Investiga	J-			

#### CONTINUATION

During a routine inspection of the **PENSACOLA GREYHOUND** poker room on October 25, 2023, Les DAVIDSON (Lic. #8725331-1012-2024), the Cardroom Manager, informed me that on September 28, 2023, Kristopher D. **BOHLMAN**, a Cardroom Host, was caught on surveillance video taking \$2,000 cash from a rolling vault (RV) at the cardroom podium and putting it in his pocket. DAVIDSON stated that **BOHLMAN** was fired and banned from the facility for 90 days pending further investigation.

Further investigation by the facility revealed that **BOHLMAN** had stolen money on several other occasions and had enlisted the help of other Cardroom employees to falsify paperwork and assist with the cover up of the theft. As a result, two other employees, Zoe N. BRYANT (Lic. #13607661-1012-2026), a Chip Runner, and Tyler L. **BROWN** (Lic. #13701444-1012-2026), also a Chip Runner, were terminated and banned from the facility for falsifying documentation to cover up **BOHLMAN's** theft.

On December 13, 2023, I received video evidence from the **PENSACOLA GREYHOUND** poker room which shows **BROWN** falsifying his promotional paperwork for September 28, 2023, **(EXHIBIT #1 - #5).** 

A review of the surveillance video evidence showed the following:

#### September 28, 2023:

- <u>9:32 PM:</u> BROWN is seen filling in his promotional paperwork at the podium with BOHLMAN present.
- <u>9:32:30 PM</u>: **BROWN** is seen filling in his promotional paperwork at the podium with **BOHLMAN** present.
- <u>9:33:08 PM:</u> BROWN is seen "scribbling" in the signature area of the promotional paperwork, which is a column left of center of the page.
- <u>9:33:48 PM</u>: BROWN is seen depositing a tip into a tip box on the podium and then continues to fill in promotional paperwork until the video ends.

On January 29, 2024, I received additional videos from the **PENSACOLA GREYHOUND** poker room involving **BROWN** filling out the promotional paperwork for October 5, 2023.

A review of the surveillance video evidence showed the following:

#### October 5, 2023:

• <u>8:17:27 PM – 8:18:29 PM</u>: BROWN is seen approaching the podium and then seen working on the promotional paperwork until the video ends.

#### CONTINUATION

**BROWN'S** involvement appears to be falsifying the documentation to cover up the theft as he is seen on the videos filling in the promotional payout sheets, which all bear his signature and license number. These payout sheets are to be filled out by the Chip Runner, who signs it for the payout they make.

This Investigator was informed by Gerald Alcott, Director of Operations at **PENSACOLA GREYHOUND**, that **BROWN** was interviewed by HR personnel regarding the incidents. He denied any involvement in the theft and claimed he was only following instructions from his brother and supervisor, **BOHLMAN**. However, when questioned about falsely signing customer signatures, he admitted to "scribbling" in the signature section of the paperwork and falsifying the customer information. Due to his dishonesty and failure to follow company procedures, he was terminated immediately and banned for 90 days pending further investigation **(EXHIBIT #6).** 

On February 8, 2024, I received a notarized incident report from the **PENSACOLA GREYHOUND** Poker Room Security Manager, April Goodale. The report attested to all the incidents of theft and fraudulent entries on promotional paperwork committed by **BOHLMAN**, **BRYANT**, and **BROWN** (22 incidents on 3 different dates totaling \$3,825.00) that could be identified using surveillance video (**EXHIBIT #7**).

**Conclusion**: Based on all the information and evidence developed in this investigation, **BROWN** violated F.A.C. **Rule 75-11.005(4)** by falsifying promotional jackpot payout paperwork to conceal the theft of facility funds committed another cardroom employee.

Case Status: Investigation case closed, and case forwarded to Legal for further review.

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10/24/2023

Tyler Brown

5104 Rowe Trl.

Pace, FL. 32571

This letter is to inform you of an involuntary exclusion that has been placed against you from returning to Pensacola Greyhound Track & Poker Room or any of the PCI Gaming properties listed below:

- Wind Creek Casino and Resort Atmore
- Wind Creek Casino and Hotel Wetumpka
- Wind Creek Casino Montgomery
- Mobile Greyhound Racing
- Creek Entertainment Gretna

Your exclusion ban will begin <u>10/24/2023</u> and end on <u>1/24/24</u>.

If you are found on any of the properties listed above during the expulsion period, you will be advised of the remaining length of the expulsion and asked to leave the property.

Failing to leave the property in a prompt manner will be considered trespassing and local sheriff deputies will be notified.

Attempts to violate the expulsion will be reported to management and could result in a recommendation for permanent expulsion.

Respectfully,

GERALD ALCOTT Director of Operations

EXHIBIT #6

Pensacola Greyhound Racing, LLP • 951 Dog Track Road • Pensacola, FL. 32506



## **Incident Report**

Please be as brief and as concise as possible utilizing all information obtained from witnesses and poker room staff. Please include "Who", "What", "When", "Where", "How/Why", the "End Results".

I, April Goodale, PGR's Assistant Security Manager observed through surveillance footage of three separate dates multiple employees falsifying promotional payout documentation at the host podium. The employees were Kristopher Bohlman, Tyler Brown, and Zoe Bryant.

On 9/28/23 I verified that the following payouts were not made to the guests at the following tables:

Table 9 Seat 9 at 7:11P for \$200, Table 5 Seat 8 at 7:59P for \$50, Table 6 Seat 3 at 8:57P for \$150, Table 14 Seat 1 at 9:03P for \$150, Table 5 Seat 6 at 9:05P for \$150, Table 7 Seat 6 at 9:33P for \$275, Table 15 Seat 2 at 10:11P \$150, Table 12 Seat 2 at 10:23P for \$150, Table 14 seat 1 at 10:42P for \$275, Table 7 Seat 8 at 11:30P for \$150, and Table 13 Seat 2 at 11:49P for \$150.

On 10/5/23 I verified that the following payouts were not made to the guests at the following tables:

Table 15 Seat 3 at 7:14P for \$150, Table 13 Seat 9 at 7:36P for \$150, Table 5 Seat 1 at 8:14P for \$275, Table 11 Seat 8 at 8:48P \$150, Table 12 Seat 9 at 9:23P for \$150, Table 6 Seat 6 at 9:45P \$150, Table 14 Seat 9 at 10:17P for \$275, Table 11 Seat 5 at 10:45P for \$275, Table 7 Seat 8 at 11:10P for \$150, And Table 7 Seat 1 at 11:53P for \$150.

On 10/10/23 I verified that the following payout was not made to the guest at the following table:

Table 5 Seat 7 at 10:28P for \$100.

During all these times listed no payout was made to any of the guests listed, however, you could see either Kristopher Bohlman, Tyler Brown, or Zoe Bryant behind the Host Podium filling out the promotional payout paperwork including the signature areas.

SHEILA KENNEY Notary Public - State of Florida Commission # HH 307569 My Comm. Expires Sep 12, 2026	SHEILA KENNi Notary Public - State c' Commission # HH 30 My Comm. Expires Sre Bonded through National	
Fonded through National Notary Assn.		EXHIBIT #7 PAGE 1/6
Printed Name: <u>April Goodale</u> Signature	1000 Date: 2/8/24	
Revised 2/26/15 Pensacola Greyhound Racing, LLP	• 951 Dog Track Road • Pensa	cola, FL. 32506

t	Day / Date:	Thursday, September 28, 2023	Full House or B	letter P	romo	Hand	Tourn Entry	Hold'em	Omaha	
	Time AM or PM	Players Signature	Tal	ble #	Seat #			Chip Amount	Chip Amount	
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ſ	Day / Date:	Thursday, September 28, 2023	Full House or Better F	omor	Hand	Tourn Entry	Hold'em	Omaha	
	Time AM or PM	Players Signature	Table #	Seat #			Chip Amount	Chip Amount	
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EXHIBIT #7 PAGE 3/6

D	ay / Date:	Thursday, October 5, 2023	Full House or Bet	ler P	romo	Hand	Tourn Entry	Hold'em	Omaha	
	Time AM o(PM)	Players Signature	Table	#	Seat #			Chip Amount	Chip Amount	
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ŧ)	10:410		7	1	FH		50 -	-
6	10.42 p		15	9	FH		50	
6	10:420		13	6	FH		50 -	-
7	16:430		5	1	FH		50	
8	(0:45 p	DA.		5	SF		275	
9	10:50 p		1.3	7	FH		50 -	-
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15	11:21 p	-	11	7	FH		50	
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EXHIBIT #8

#### **MEMORANDUM**

To:	The Florida Gaming Control Commission
From:	Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering
Through:	Justin Hundersmarck, Senior Attorney
Re:	FGCC v. Misael Orlando Marquez Fajardo,
	Case No. 2024-017221, Default Final Order
Date:	March 26, 2025

#### Executive Summary

The Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering seeks the permanent exclusion of Misael Orlando Marquez Fajardo ("Respondent") from all pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the state of Florida. Respondent failed to respond to the administrative complaint and thereby waived his right to request a hearing contesting this matter. The Division requests that the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter a final order permanently excluding Respondent from all pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the state of Florida.

#### Background

On January 29, 2024, and February 10, 2024, Respondent was a patron of Casino Miami, LLC.<sup>1</sup> On March 8, 2024, Respondent was permanently excluded from Casino Miami, LLC.<sup>2</sup> The reason for the exclusion is included as Exhibit 1 of the administrative complaint.<sup>3</sup>

Based on Respondent's exclusion from Casino Miami LLC, the Division filed an administrative complaint on January 29, 2025, seeking his exclusion from all parimutual facilities and slot machine facilities in the state of Florida. The election of rights accompanying the administrative complaint made it clear that the Respondent had 21 days<sup>3</sup> to file a written response to the administrative complaint. The Respondent was served on February 3, 2025. Respondent had until February 24, 2025 to respond, and did not do so.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Casino Miami, LLC is operated by a permitholder authorized to conduct pari-mutuel wagering, slot facilities, and cardroom operations in the state of Florida.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pari-mutuel permitholders and slot machine licensees have the right to exclude patrons. §§ 550.0251(6); 551.112, Fla. Stat..

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Fla. Admin. Code R. 28-106.111(4) ("Any person who receives written notice of an agency decision and who fails to file a written request for a hearing within 21 days waives the right to request a hearing on such matters.")

#### Analysis

Florida law allows for the exclusion of Respondent from all pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the state.

Section 550.0251(6), Florida Statutes, provides that "[t]he Commission may exclude from any pari-mutuel facility within this state any person who has been ejected from a pari-mutuel facility in this state [...]"

Further, section 551.112 provides that "[t]he commission may exclude from any facility of a slot machine licensee any person who has been ejected from a facility of a slot machine licensee in this state [...]"

Therefore, Respondent's exclusion from Casino Miami, LLC, a pari-mutuel and slot machine facility in this state, subjects him to permanent exclusion from all parimutuel facilities in this state.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: The Division recommends that the Commission enter a final order permanently excluding the Respondent, Misael Orlando Marquez Fajardo from all pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the state of Florida.

	FILED	
FLORIDA GA	MING CONTROL COMM	IISSION
Date:	1/29/2025	
File Number:		

BY: MELBA L. APELLANIZ CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

FGCC Case No.: 2024-017221

# STATE OF FLORIDA LORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

## FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

MISAEL ORLANDO MARQUEZ FAJARDO,

Respondent.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), files this Administrative Complaint against Misael Orlando Marquez Fajardo ("Respondent"), and alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating pari-mutuel, slot machine, and cardroom operations pursuant to chapters 550, 551, and 849, Florida Statutes.

2. At all times material hereto, Respondent's address was reported as 14957 Southwest 59th Street Miami, Florida 33193.

3. At all times material hereto, Casino Miami, LLC was a facility operated by a permitholder authorized by the Commission to conduct pari-mutuel wagering, cardroom operations, and slot operations in the state of Florida.

4. On or about January 29, 2024, and February 10, 2024, Respondent was a patron of Casino Miami, LLC.

 On or about March 8, 2024, Respondent was permanently excluded from Casino Miami, LLC.

- 6. Respondent was permanently excluded for the reasons alleged in Exhibit 1.
- 7. Section 550.0251(6), Florida Statutes, provides in relevant part:

In addition to the power to exclude certain persons from any parimutuel facility in this state, the commission may exclude any person from any and all pari-mutuel facilities in this state for conduct that would constitute, if the person were a licensee, a violation of this chapter or the rules of the commission. <u>The commission may exclude from any pari-mutuel facility within this state any person</u> who has been ejected from a pari-mutuel facility in this state or who has been excluded from any pari-mutuel facility in another state by the governmental department, agency, commission, or authority exercising regulatory jurisdiction over pari-mutuel facilities in such other state.

(Emphasis added).

8. Section 551.112, Florida Statutes, provides:

In addition to the power to exclude certain persons from any facility of a slot machine licensee in this state, the commission may exclude any person from any facility of a slot machine licensee in this state for conduct that would constitute, if the person were a licensee, a violation of this chapter or the rules of the commission. <u>The commission may exclude from any facility of a slot machine licensee any person who has been ejected from a facility of a slot machine licensee in this state or who has been excluded from any facility of a slot machine licensee or gaming facility in another state by the governmental department, agency, commission, or authority exercising regulatory jurisdiction over the gaming in such other state. This section does not abrogate the common law right of a slot machine licensee to exclude a patron absolutely in this state.</u>

(Emphasis added).

9. Based on the foregoing, Respondent is subject to exclusion from all licensed pari-

mutuel wagering facilities and any facility of a slot machine licensee in the state of Florida under

sections 550.0251(6) and 551.112, Florida Statutes based on his exclusion from Casino Miami,

LLC on or about March 8, 2024.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter an Order excluding Respondent from all licensed pari-mutuel wagering facilities and any facility of a slot machine licensee in the state of Florida, in accordance with sections 550.0251(6) and 551.112, along with any other remedy provided by chapters 550 and 551, Florida Statutes, and/or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Administrative Complaint for FGCC Case Number 2024-017221 is signed this 14th day of January 2025.

### /s/Emily A. Alvarado

Emily A. Alvarado Chief Attorney FBN: 1025200 Florida Gaming Control Commission Office of the General Counsel Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering 4070 Esplanade Way, Suite 250 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2202 Telephone: (850) 794-8066 Facsimile: +1 (850) 536-8709 Primary: Emily.Alvarado@flgaming.gov Secondary: Ebonie.Lanier@flgaming.gov

#### NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REQUEST A HEARING

Pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, you have the right to request a hearing to challenge the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint. If you choose to request a hearing, you will have the right to be represented by counsel, or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses, and to have subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum issued on your behalf.

Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint must conform to rule 28-106.2015, Florida Administrative Code. Pursuant to rule 28-106.111, Florida Administrative Code, you must request a hearing within 21 days from receipt of this Notice, or you will waive your right to request a hearing.

Mediation under section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.



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	273 - CASINO MI ACTIVITIES; Pow Gaming Control February 15, 202 Casino Miami Vi of Casino Miami informed me tha Company Knigh the cardroom inf involving the use along will possil to win large amo involved the intr January 29, 2024 Poker Superviso patrons MARQU played at a Desig play, MARQUEZ footage using ar cellular phone w which meant tha marked cards. O footage captured Miguel Cervera I marked cards to during so, MARQ	vers and duties Commission; P 44, this investiga ce President an Daniel Licciard t the Designate ted Gaming LLC formed him of il e of electronic co by marked card ounts of money. oduction of the 4, by Casino Mia ors Esteban Mac EZ FAJARDO a gnated Table #1 FAJARDO is can the device was n electronic dev thich emitted a the device was n February 10, 2 d Dual Rate Pok Martinez introdu	of the Flor rohibitions ator met wi d General I i. Mr. Liccia d Player Ca C., that he u legal activi devices beil s to allow y The schen marked ca ami Dual Ra chado. On t nd Yoan Ar 5. During th aptured on ice similar ultraviolet I s reading th 2024, video ter Supervis ucing a set atter Table #	s- On th Manager ardi ard uses in ty ng used patrons ne rds on ate hat day, rguelles heir video to a ight he sors of					

	Arguelles again began to play. Video footage again captured the two men utilizing both a key fab and an electronic device similar to a cellular phone that reads marked cards. MARQUEZ FAJARDO won \$4,600.00 on January 29, 2024, and \$14,000.00 on February 10, 2024. During the time he was playing he gave on two occasions chips totaling \$2,500.00 to a female that was with him. The female was identified as Laura Beatriz Laboredo. MARQUEZ FAJARDO was excluded by the facility for his actions March 8, 2024.							
Undated	10/29/2024 11:55:25	By cstubbs1						

Get Adobe Reader.



Louis Trombetta, Executive Director

Ron DeSantis, Governor

#### **OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS**

#### INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Office: PMW	Region: SOUTHERN		Complaint: 22, 2024	Case Number: 2024 01 7221			
Respondent: MARQUEZ FAJARDO 14957 SW 59TH ST. MIAMI FLORIDA, 331	93		Complainant: DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS 1400 W. COMMERCIAL BLVD. SUITE 165 FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33309				
	# and Type: - 1098		ession: tron	Report Date: May 30, 2024			
March	Period of Investigation:	2024		Type of Report:			
March 22, 2024, through May 30, 2024       Final         Alleged Violation: 849.086       Cardrooms authorized.—         (12) Prohibited Activities.—       (c) No electronic or mechanical devices, except mechanical card shufflers, may be used to conduct any authorized game in a cardroom.         (d) No cards, game components, or game implements may be used in playing an authorized game unless such has been furnished or provided to the players by the cardroom operator         550.0251 Powers and duties of the Florida Gaming Control Commission. —       (6) In addition to the power to exclude certain persons from any pari-mutuel facility in this state, the commission may exclude any person from any and all pari-mutuel facilities in this state for conduct that would constitute, if the person were a licensee, a violation of this chapter or the rules of the commission. The commission may exclude from any pari-mutuel facility within this state any person who has been ejected from a pari-mutuel facility in another state by the governmental department, agency, commission, or authority exercising regulatory jurisdiction over pari-mutuel facilities in such other state. The commission may authorize any person who has been ejected from pari-mutuel facilities in state or another state to attend the pari-mutuel facilities in this state upon a finding that the attendance of such person at pari-mutuel facilities would not be adverse to the public interest or to the integrity of the sport or industry; however, this subsection shall not be construed to abrogate the common-law right of a pari-mutuel permitholder to exclude absolutely a patron in this state.         75-11.005 Prohibitions.       (4) No person shall, either directly or indirectly:         (a) Employ or attempt to employ any device, scheme							
Licciardi informed me that the Designated Player Card Company Knighted Gaming LLC., that he uses in the cardroom informed him of illegal activity involving the use of electronic devices along with possible marked cards to allow patrons to win large amounts of money. The scheme involved the introduction of the suspected marked cards on January 29, 2024, by Casino Miami Dual Rate Poker Supervisor Esteban Machado. On that day, patrons MARQUEZ FAJARDO and Yoan Arguelles played at a Designated Table #15. During their play, MARQUEZ FAJARDO is captured on video footage using an electronic device similar in appearance to a cellular phone which emitted an ultraviolet light which is believed to be an indicator that the device was reading the marked cards. On February 10, 2024, video footage captured Dual Rate Poker Supervisor Miguel Cervera Martinez introducing a set of marked cards to Designated Plater Table #15. After during so, MARQUEZ FAJARDO and Yoan Arguelles again began to play. Video footage again captured the two men utilizing both a key fob and an electronic device similar in appearance to a cellular phone that reads marked cards. MARQUEZ FAJARDO won \$4,600.00 on January 29, 2024, and \$14,000.00 on February 10, 2024. During the time he was playing he gave on two occasions chips totaling \$2,500.00 to a female that was with him. The female was identified as Laura Beatriz Laboredo. MARQUEZ FAJARDO was excluded by the facility							
for his actions March 8, 2 Related Case(s): 202	4 01 7221 & 2024 01 7214						
Investigator / Date Raul Suau / May 30, 2024 Investigator Supervisor / Date Julio Minaya / October 16, 2024							
Chief of Investigations / Date Bradford D. Jones / October 22, 2024							

#### CONTINUATION

On February 15, 2024, I met with Casino Miami Vice President and General Manager Daniel Licciardi, at his request regarding numerous incidents involving cheating at the Designated Poker table games operated by Knighted Gaming LLC. According to Licciardi, Knighted Gaming suspected that marked poker cards were being introduced to the tables and that an electronic device was being used by patrons to win large amounts of monies. Licciardi went on to say that review of video footage of January 14 into the 15<sup>th</sup> captured Casino Miami Dual Rate Supervisor Esteban Machado introducing two decks of marked cards to the table which facilitated the involved parties to cheat using electronic devices similar in appearance to a cellular phone. (Exhibit #1)

As a follow-up to the above information, on February 19, 2024, I met with Liccardi at which time he informed me that there was another Casino Miami Dual Rate Supervisor involved in the scheme. He identified Miguel Cervera Martinez as being captured on video footage on February 10, 2024, introducing two decks of marked cards to Designated Poker Table #15.

The point of contact was the President and CEO of Knighted Gaming LLC., Roy Choi, who provided the above information to Liccardi which was acquired by Choi's employees while acting as Designated Players at table #15, on the night of February 10, 2024.

Among the individuals identified by the employees of Knighted Gaming LLC., were two individuals; Yoan Arguelles Leon (Case #2024 01 7188) and **MARQUEZ FAJARDO**. Both individuals visited Casino Miami on January 29, 2024, and on February 10, 2024. Their purpose in visiting the facility was to play Designated Player games that had been compromised by the introduction of marked cards introduced by one of two Dual Rate Supervisors. The first, employee identified Esteban Machado, (Case #2024-01-0529), introduced marked cards on January 14, 23 and 29<sup>th</sup> of 2024. The second employee is Miguel Cervera Martinez who introduced marked cards onto Designated Player table #15 on February 10, 2024. Pictures taken at the table by Knighted Gaming employees are attached as **Exhibit #9**.

On January 29, 2024, at 6:30 P.M., Machado walks up to Designated Player table #15, and removes the cards that were being used at the time and replaces them with two decks of suspected marked cards that were inside of a black box with no sticker label on it. He then takes the cards that he removed and goes over to table #13, shuffles them and places them inside the same black card holder box that he took the suspected marked cards from. Once at the Poker Supervisor Podium, he removes the cards that he took from table #15 and places them inside another black box card holder which was labeled with a white expiration date sticker on it and stores them in the bottom drawer of the podium. At 6:44 P.M., Arguelles Leon enters the poker room and proceeds to sit at table #15. He then gets up and walks to table #9 where he engages Poker Supervisor Machado in conversation. Arguelles Leon then returns to table #15 and buys \$200.00 worth of chips from the dealer and sits in the middle seat of the table (directly in front of the dealer) and begins to play. At 6:47 P.M., Arguelles Leon gets up from the table and walked away, leaving his poker chips behind. He then proceeds to the back of the poker room where he approaches Machado and again engages him in conversation. **(Exhibit #6)** 

At 7:16 P.M., Arguelles Leon returns to table #15 and is joined by Misael **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** who goes to the rear of the poker room and takes a chair from poker table #13 and places it in the middle position of poker table #15. Arguelles Leon moves over to a spot closest to the Designated Player giving up his position to **MARQUEZ FAJARDO**. **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** immediately places a device similar in appearance to a cellular phone that eventually is seen on video footage emitting a purple light indicative of device capable of reading marked cards. This Investigator found that devices similar to the device in question are available for sale at <u>www.markedcardsusa.com</u>, which is an online store that sells poker cards and devices used to cheat. As a result of Machado's actions, on this day, Arguelles Leon won a total of \$4,000.00 and Marquez Fajardo won \$4,600.00. **(Exhibit #7)** 

This device has been used by other individuals involved in this scheme and has been observed through video footage emitting an ultraviolet light which is believed to be an indication that the device is reading the cards in front of it. Devices of this type are currently being sold on the website <u>www.markedcardsusa.com</u> which is an online store that sells marked poker cards and devices used to cheat. On this date, January 29, 2024, **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** won \$4,600.00 which he cashed out at the main poker cage. There is no Poker Multiple Transaction Log containing this transaction due to an omission of the poker cage cashier working when the chips were cashed in. **(Exhibit #7)** 

On February 10, 2024, **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** once again visited Casino Miami. He once again sat in the middle seat at Designated Player table #15. This time however, he was accompanied by a female identified as Laura Beatriz Laborde.<sup>1</sup> Laborde sat next to him for a good part of the night. She would periodically leave to go play on the slot machines but would return after a short time. Independent video review by this investigator revealed the following:

- 6:19:27 P.M., Dual Rate Poker Supervisor Miguel Cervera Martinez enters the restroom located within the Pari-Mutuel William Hill section of the gaming floor. (Exhibit #4, Page 1)
- 6:20:24 P.M., and 6:20:38 P.M, Cervera Martinez exits the restroom holding a small box which appears to be a poker card deck holder. He then walks to the cardroom podium and places the box containing the marked cards inside the podium drawer. (Exhibit #4, Pages 2 thru 4)
- 6:31:30 P.M., Patron Yoan Arguelles Leon walks to the podium and engages Cervera Martinez in conversation. (Exhibit #4, Pages 5 & 6)
- 6:34:15 P.M., Cervera Martinez retrieves the box containing the marked cards from the podium drawer and walks to Designated table #15 and opens the table and introduces the now confirmed marked cards that he retrieved from the restroom. After doing so, the only patron at the table is Yoan Arguelles Leon. (Exhibit #4, Pages 7 & 8)
- 6:54 P.M., Misael Orlando MARQUEZ FAJARDO arrives in the poker room in the company of Laura Beatriz Laborde. He sits at table #15 and places a vehicle key fob that is [now] a known device that can read marked cards on the table. He later utilizes another device similar in appearance to a cellular phone that can also be used to read marked cards. Both devices were captured on surveillance footage emitting an ultraviolet light that when activated lets the user know that it is reading the marked cards. Devices of this type are sold on a website that is known as www.markedcardsusa.com.<sup>2</sup> Note: Case #2024 01 7214 has been opened against Laura Beatriz Laborde for her participation in the scheme. (Exhibit #4, Pages 10 thru 16 & 20 thru 21)

For the most part, while sitting next to **MARQUEZ FAJARDO**, Laborde was a spectator. Until she was observed on video footage at 10:36 P.M., receiving a rack of \$25.00 chips, green in color totaling \$2,500.00 from **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** and cashing them at the Poker Cage. She then walks back to table #15 and gives **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** the money. A second occurrence takes place at 10:53 P.M. Again, **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** gives her a rack of \$25.00 chips, green in color totaling \$2,500.00. This time however, she proceeds to the supervisors' podium where Dual Rate Supervisor Misleidys Valdes Lazo<sup>3</sup> cashes them out for her. **(Exhibit # 4, Pages 18 thru 19 & Pages 35 thru 43)** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Currently under investigation by PMW Investigations under Case #2024-01-7214.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> On 02/10/2023 MARQUEZ FAJARDO used these devices. He was also captured on video footage using ear pods. The ear pods are used in conjunction with either device so that the audible sounds made from the devices are not heard by everyone else, only by the person using them to cheat.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Although Dual Rate Supervisor Misleidys Valdes Lazo relieved Cervera Martinez, she was not involved in the scheme.

**MARQUEZ FAJARDO** continues playing at table # 15 until 11:20 P.M., when the Dual Rate Supervisor Mileidys Valdes Lazo is approached by one of the Designated Player company's employees and both can be seen on video footage having a conversation. Subsequently after their conversation ended, Valdes Lazo can be seen removing the marked cards that Cervera Martinez had introduced to table #15 and replacing them with two new decks of cards. The marked deck of cards was isolated and eventually turned over to Vice President Daniel Licciardi. The deck was subsequently secured as evidence by this Investigator.

After the cards were removed from play, both Arguelles and **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** proceeded to cash out their chips. Arguelles Leon cashed out \$1,700.00 and **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** cashed out a total of \$9,000.00. Both were cashed out by Misleidys Valdes Lazo at the supervisors' podium. She did not inform the poker cage of either transaction therefore, a Poker Multiple Transaction Log could not be created for each transaction. Including the monies that Laborde cashed for **MARQUEZ FAJARDO**, his total for the evening was \$14,000.00.<sup>4</sup> Arguelles Leon cashed out a total of \$3,750.00 for the night. However, he previously cashed out \$2,050.00 earlier that evening prior to meeting with Cervera Martinez in the parking lot.

On February 28, 2024, Cervera Martinez was interviewed by the undersigned Investigator and Investigative Supervisor Julio Minaya. At first, Cervera Martinez denied having any knowledge involving the use of marked cards or the introduction of said devices. However, when confronted with evidence (video footage) of him entering the restroom located in the William Hill Sports Book section of the gaming floor next to the cardroom and shortly thereafter, being observed exiting while holding a small box which may have contained the marked cards, Cervera Martinez appeared surprised that evidence existed, became visibly nervous and remained silent for some time. He then stated that he received a text message from a person whom he did not know. The text message offered him \$2,000.00<sup>5</sup> to introduce marked cards to a Designated Player game. He said he did so because of personal financial problems he was facing.

Cervera Martinez went on to say that on the day he introduced the cards, February 10, 2024, he received another text message from the same phone number that had originally texted him, instructing him to enter the restroom located in the William Hill Sports Book section and to retrieve the cards that were left for him. He says that when he entered the restroom and retrieved the cards, he opened them and looked at them but saw no visible markings on the cards. He says that after walking out of the restroom with the cards in hand, he walked over to Designated Player table #15, opened the table, and introduced the same cards that he had retrieved from the restroom to the table game.<sup>6</sup>

When asked how he was paid, Cervera Martinez stated that the money was placed through the window of his private vehicle which was parked in the employee parking lot. However, when confronted with the fact that he did not drive to work on the date in question but was dropped off by a van and later after his shift was over, he was picked up by a White Mecedes Benz, Cervera Martinez admitted to lying to this investigator regarding where and how he had gotten paid. He then stated that he entered the White Mercedes Benz and was driven to the very end of the parking lot used by patrons to park their vehicles and there he met a Black SUV,<sup>7</sup> at which time one of the occupants who was also a player at the same table where he had introduced the contraband cards, gave him an envelope containing \$2,000.00.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Of the \$14,000.00, Marquez Fajardo cashed out \$9,000.00 and Laborde cashed out \$5,000.00, on his behalf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Cervera Martinez stated in a separate interview with Gaming Enforcement that he received \$1,500.00 in compensation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Video review shows that Cevera Martinez did not immediately open the table game until he was approached by Yoan ARGUELLES LEON.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Upon video review, the SUV was observed as being white in color, and not black as Cervera Martinez had stated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> YOAN ARGUELLES LEON was identified as one of the players at the table. He was wearing a medium blue jean jacket when identified as a player via video review. At 10:24 P.M., he is observed walking out of the poker room and towards the main entrance of the casino after cashing out chip's worth approximately \$2,050.00, this amount was verified via video review. At approximately 10:34 P.M., a White Cadillac SUV is observed parked along the East side cement wall of the facility's main parking lot a short time later, the White Mercedes Benz that Cervera Martinez was in parked

On April 16, 2024, the undersigned Investigator along with Investigative Supervisor Julio Minaya visited Casino Miami and took possession of 64 decks of Copaq cards. These cards were vouchered and placed into evidence. Because these cards were in circulation during the same time that the marked cards were being used, they were taken for future testing once a device similar to the one that was used by the suspects can be obtained. The cards are being preserved to confirm that all cards in circulation at the time of the cheating activity are available for examination. These cards would have been destroyed by the facility once their expiration date arrived. Also taken into evidence were damaged cards that were removed from play during that same period. **(Exhibit #8)** 

As a result of Ernesto Machado and Miguel Cervera Martinez's actions, **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** was able to defraud Knighted Gaming LLC., of \$18,600.00 between January 29, 2024, and February 10, 2024. As a result of **MARQUEZ FAJARDO'S** participation in this scheme, he was permanently excluded by the facility on March 8, 2024. (Exhibit #2)

Case closed by Investigations and forwarded to Legal for review and possible state-wide exclusion from all Florida PMW facilities and cardrooms.

next to the White Cadillac SUV at which time based on Cervera Martinez's statement the exchange of monies was made. The individual driving the Cadillac SUV drives away and comes into view of camera 986 where the individual driving is a male wearing clothing similar in color to what ARGUELLES LEON was seen wearing at the Poker table earlier. An Accurint check was conducted on ARGUELLES LEON, revealing ARGUELLES LEON as the owner of a White Cadillac SUV the same type of vehicle that the individual was driving.

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MiAMi

Casino Miami Jai-Alai - 3500 NW 37th Ave. Miami, FL 33142 (305) 633-6400 - casinomiamijaialai.com

#### CMJ-000013356 - MGMT Request Poker Review or Coverage Report - Reported 02/15/2024 13:56

Author: Adrian Gordon 11117304

Report Number: CMJ-000013356

End Time: 02/16/2024 07:59

Start Time: 02/15/2024 13:56

Report Group: Surveillance Reports

Report Type: MGMT Request Poker Review or Coverage Report

Note: Vice President Of Human Resources and State Compliance, Beatriz Perez requested a video review for 01/14/2024 and 01/22/2024 in the poker room in reference to unusual activities involving Poker Room Supervisor, Esteban Machado at Poker Table # 016 Location / Origin: Information-Employee Activities

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patron playing w...

patron playing w...

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			esteban placing	NO
	esteban rubbing	runs finger alon		
Narrative				

On 02/13/2024 at 16:28 hours, Vice President Of Human Resources & State Compliance, Beatriz Perez requested a video review for 01/14/2024 and 01/22/2024 in the poker room in reference to unusual activities involving Poker Supervisor, Esteban Machado at poker table #016.

NOTE: The dates requested are as listed below, and was advised to review 01/14 and 01/22, and will further advise if to continue with the additional requested dates.

1/14 - 9pm - table 16

1/22 (into 1/23) 1230am - table 16

1/29 - 9pm - table 15

2/10 - 10p - table 15

A Video review revealed the following information on 01-14-2024:

1. At 17:18:30 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban reaching into his right jacket pocket and placing a box / boxes containing playing card into the poker podium drawer where other playing cards were stored.

2. At 20:43:30 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban removing the unlabeled box containing playing card out of the drawer.

3. From 20:45:00 to 20:49:15 hours on camera #916, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban switching poker game "Alligator Jokers Wild" to "Alligator High Stakes Hold'em" on poker table #16 and giving poker dealer cards from the unlabeled box.

4. At 21:36:42 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban removing the unlabeled box containing playing card out of the drawer.

5. From 23:40:15 to 23:40:42 hours on camera #916, Surveillance observed Poker Supervisor, Esteban fanning out poker cards on poker table #16 and then rubbing 1 card on the table multiple times, then proceeded to run his finger along the edge of the card.

6. From 00:56:00 to 00:57:00 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban removing box / boxes containing playing cards from poker podium drawer and placing it into his jacket pocket.

A Video review revealed the following information on 01-22-2024:

1. From 17:31:55 to 17:32:25 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Poker Supervisor, Esteban Machado giving an unknown male patron wearing a white tee shirt, an unknown amount of money from his wallet. (multiple \$100.00 bills were observed).

NOTE:At 17:38:10 hours on camera #913, Surveillance observed the unknown male patron sitting at poker table #13, proceeded to buy poker chips and play at the table

2. From 23:44:00 to 23:45:35 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Poker Supervisor, Esteban Machado reaching into his jacket pocket and placing an un-labeled poker card box / boxes into the drawer.

3. At 00:08:06 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Mr. Machado removing the un-labeled poker cards box and proceeded to poker table #016.

4. At 00:08:30 hours on camera #916 & 823, Surveillance observed Poker Supervisor, Esteban Machado giving the unlabeled poker card box to Poker Dealer, Leandro Aguilera at table #16. Mr. Aguilera then proceeded to deal at the table.

5. At 00:28:35 hours on camera #916 & 823 Poker Dealer, Jose Martinez took over table #16. Shortly thereafter a conversation between the DP employee and Esteban was observed in reference to the current game.

6. At 01:06:22 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Poker Supervisor, Esteban Machado packing away the unlabeled poker card box / boxes and placing it into his jacket pocket.

7. At 01:31:50 hours on camera #806, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban removing box / boxes containing playing cards and placing it into his jacket pocket.

A video review revealed the following information on 01-29-2024

01. At 17:51 Hours camera # 923, Poker Room Supervisor, Esteban Machado takes out of jacket and place unmarked box into drawer

02. At 18:30 Hours on camera # 915, # 923 and # 805, Poker Room Supervisor, Esteban Machado takes unmarked box of cards out of drawer and place them at table 15, that already has cards and then move the previous cards from table 15 to table 13 and runs them through the shuffle master and then after returns to podium and place them into a marked box.

03. At 00:18 Hours camera # 809 and # 923, Dealer return cards from poker table 15 to podium and Poker Room Supervisor, Esteban Machado places cards into unmarked box and into drawer.

01. At 18:20 Hours on camera # 802, # 923 and # 150, Poker Room Supervisor, Miguel H. Cervera Martinez - goes to William Hill Reputer ok Restroom with nothing in his hands and leaves the restroom with a box of unmarked cards in his terr hand and then placed it into the podium drawer.

02. From 18:34 to 18:37 Hours on camera # 915 and # 805. Poker Room Supervisor, Miguel H. Cervera

v4. At 23.34 to 23.36 hours on camera # 803 and # 915, Poker Room Supervisor, Misleldys values Lazo retrieves 2 decks of cards from poker table # 15, place them into the podium drawer and separated from other decks , later marked with a note

05. From 05:51 to 05:55 Hours on camera # 363, # 361 and # 322, Poker Room Supervisor, Misleidys Valdes

PAGE # 3

Lazo turned in the cards at the chip bank window

This report was written by Surveillance Assistant Manager, Adrian Gordon #11117304 This report was approved by Surveillance Director, William Hutcheson # 7874265.

Signature A

Date

Signature B

Date

## **Security Department**

MiAMi

Casino Miami Jai-Alai - 3500 NW 37th Ave. Miami, FL 33142 (305) 633-6400 - casinomiamijaialai.com

# CMJ-000002811 - Patron - Trespass Permanent - Reported 03/08/2024 14:21 Author: Jorge Callejas 13298951 Report Number: CMJ-000002811 Start Time: 03/08/2024 14:21 End Time: 03/08/2024 14:30 Report Group: Exclusion Reports Report Type: Patron - Trespass Permanent Note: Permanent Trespass Location / Origin: Casino Person Name: Misael Orlando Marquez Fajardo Alias: Race: Hispanic Gender: Male Miami, Fl. 33193 PC#. Faiardo.ipg Narrative

Signature A

Signature B

Date



## Florida Gaming Control Commission Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering Office of Investigations

## PROPERTY RECEIPT

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received a copy of this receipt.	the Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering.
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Signature	Signature – Impounding Investigator

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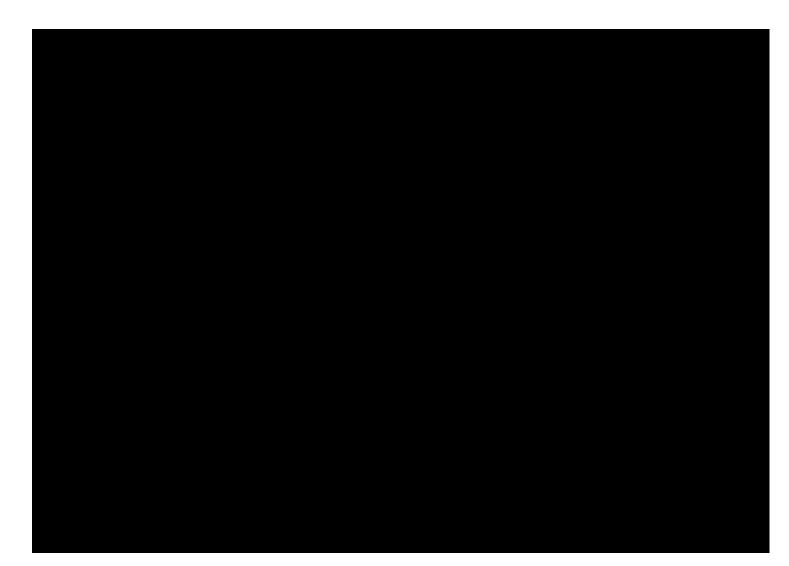
I hereby acknowledge the return to me, by the Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering, the above listed property.

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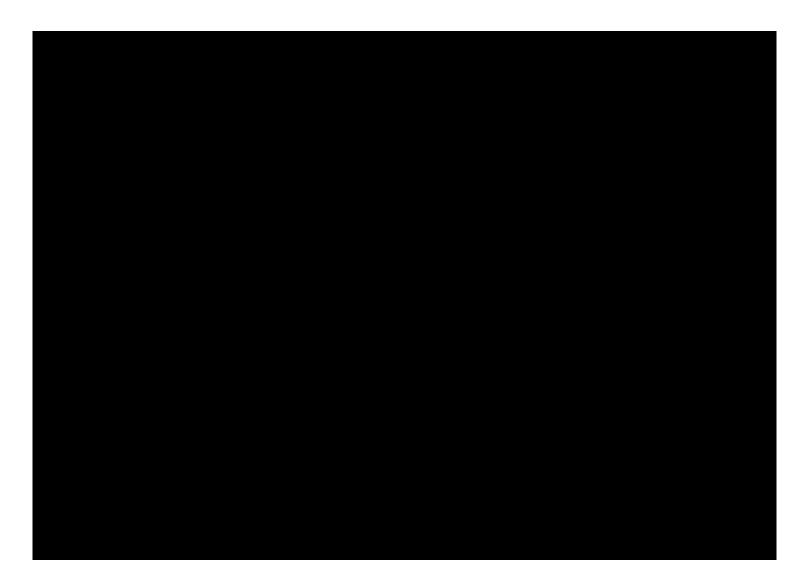
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Form FGCC 11-75 (Revised 07/22)		



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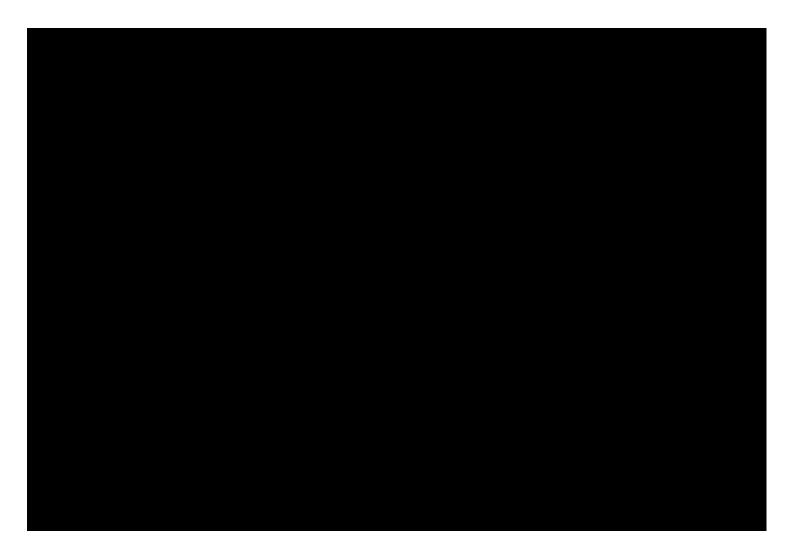








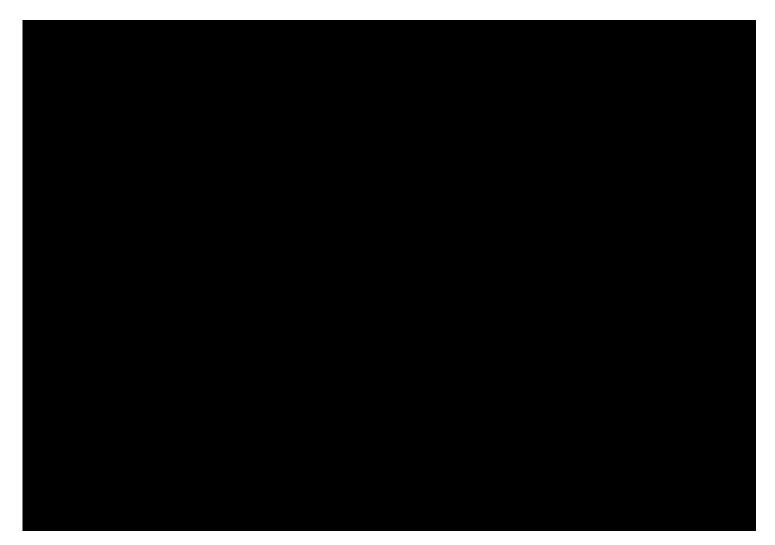




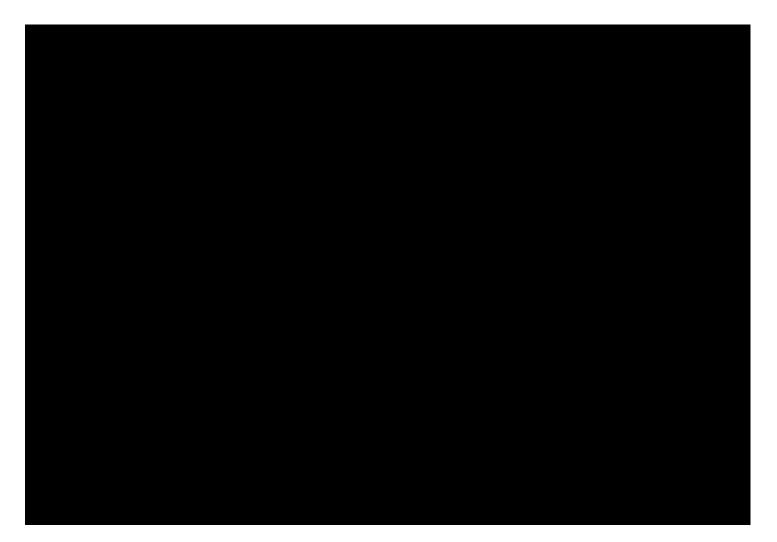




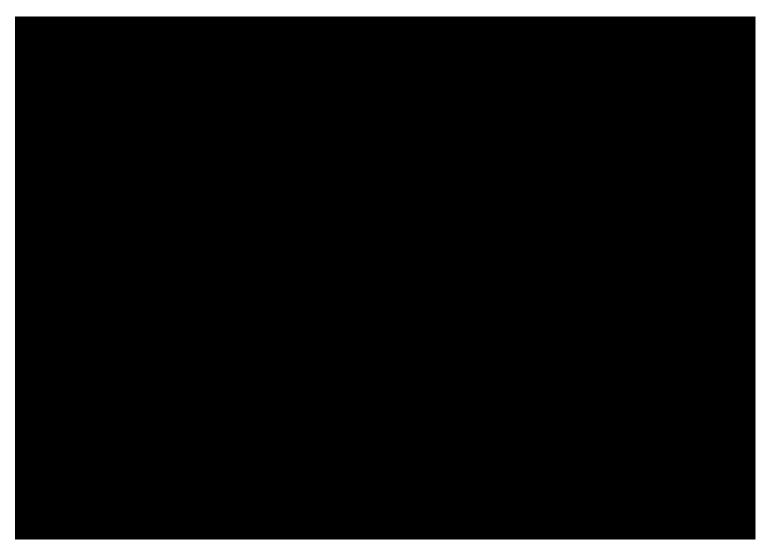




















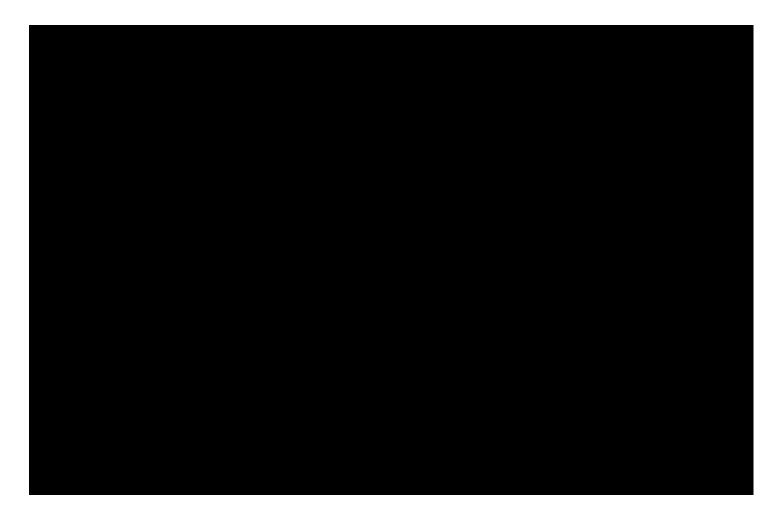








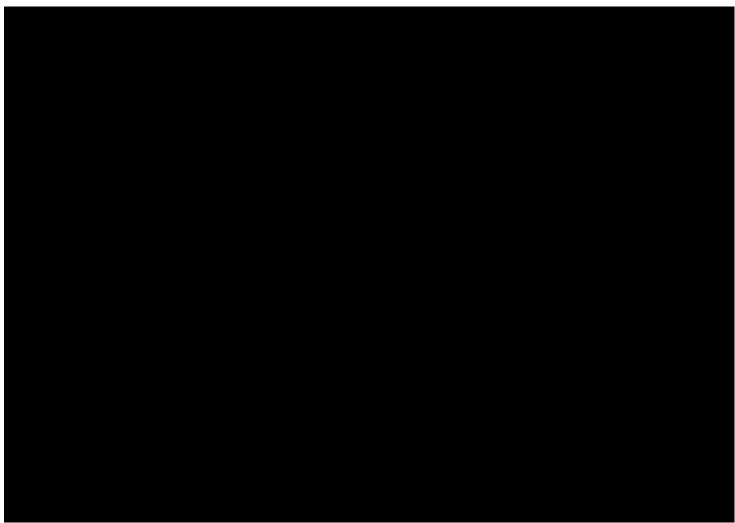




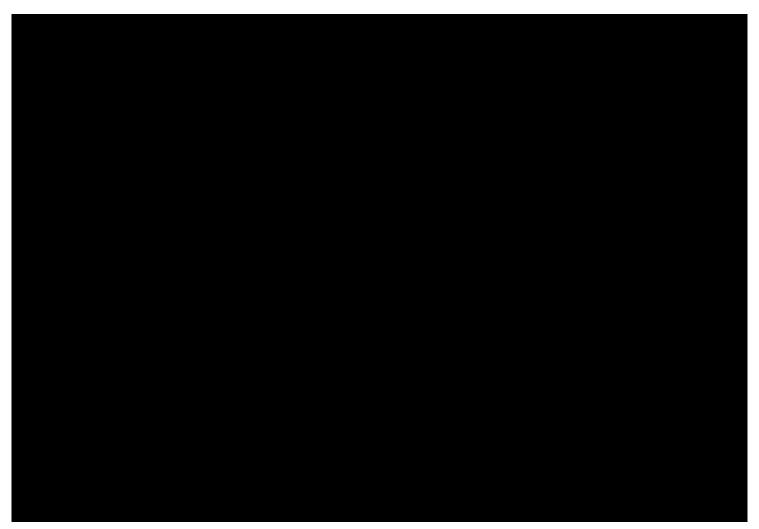






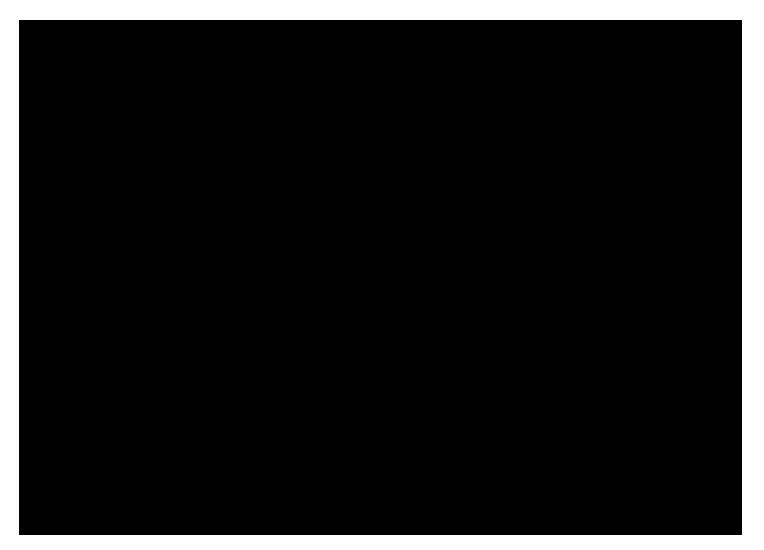




















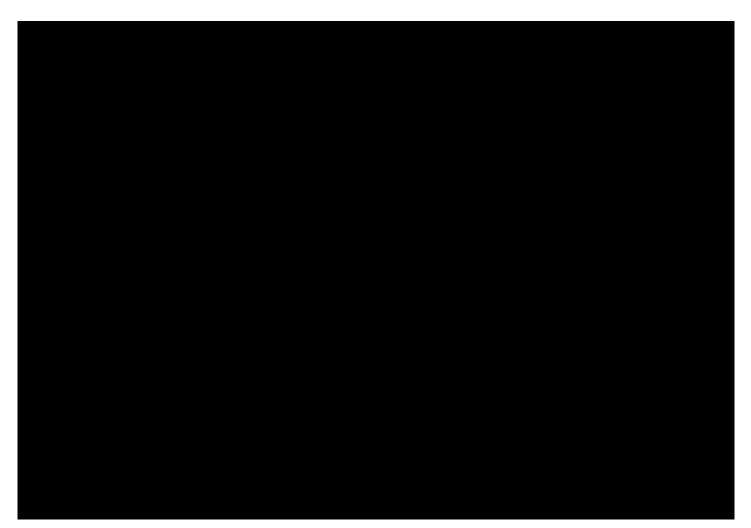


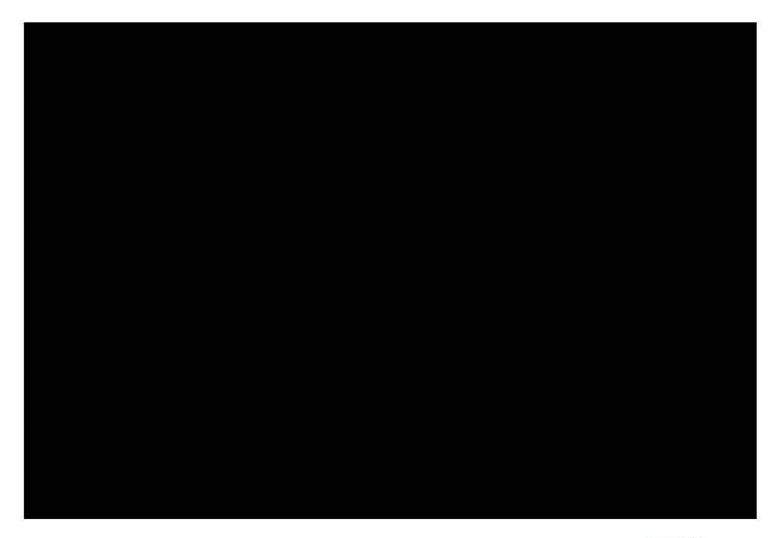












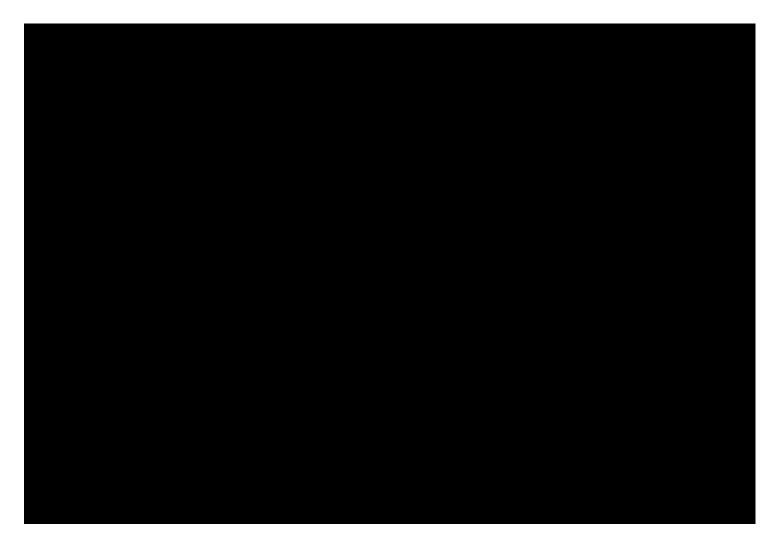




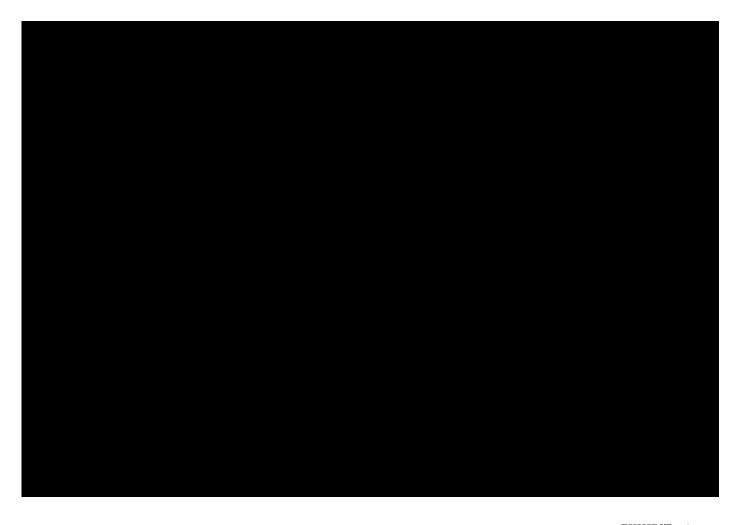














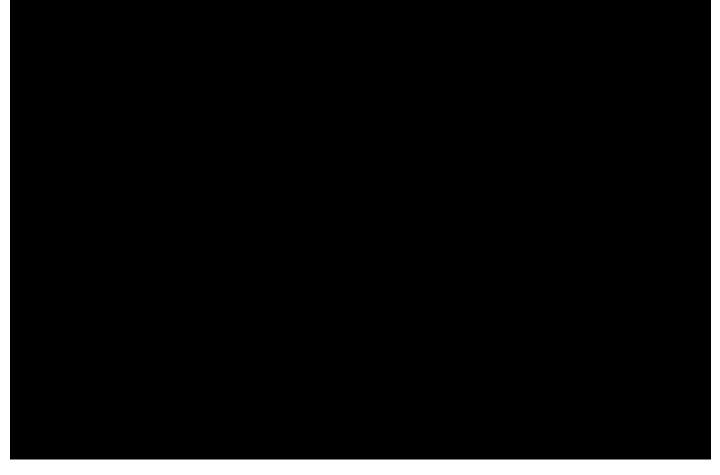








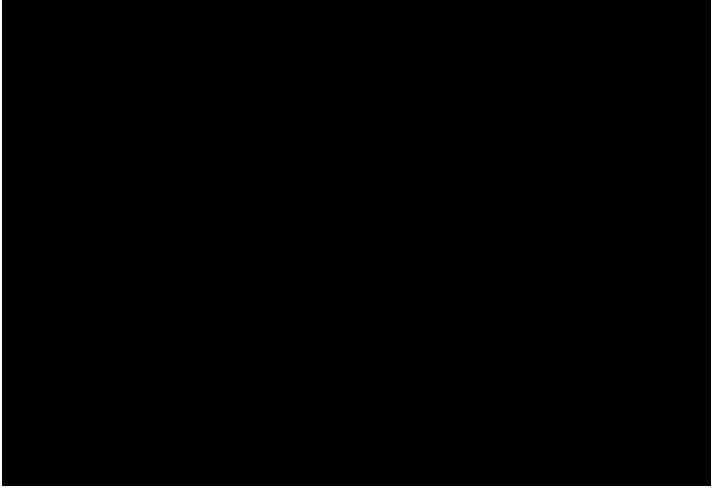




















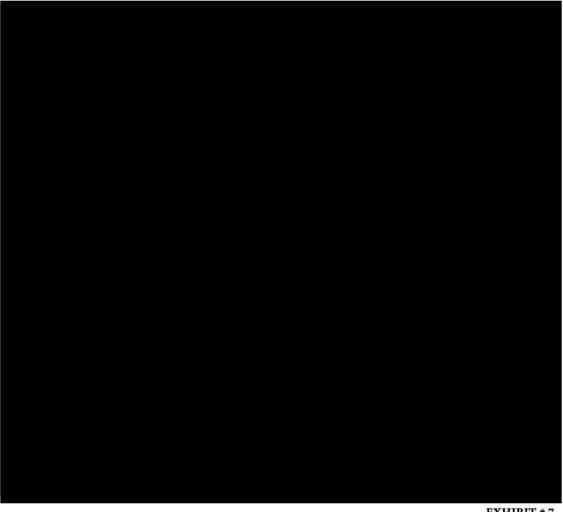


EXHIBIT # 7 PAGE # 1



EXHIBIT 7 PAGE # 2







## Florida Gaming Control Commission Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering Office of Investigations

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Form FGCC 11-75 (Revised 07/22)		EXHIBIT #8

PAGE #1



## Florida Gaming Control Commission **Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering Office of Investigations**

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Signature - Impounding Investigator

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Form EGCC 11-75 (Revised 07/22)		EXHIBIT # 8

**PAGE # 2** 

Form FGCC 11-75 (Revised 07/22)

## Julio Minaya

From: Sent: To: Subject: Raul Suau Tuesday, April 23, 2024 4:11 PM Julio Minaya FW: Cheating suspects

Thank you,



Raul Suau Investigations Specialist II Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering Office of Investigations 754-288-1011 Office 954-658-3663 Cell

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From: Daniel Licciardi <dlicciardi@playcasinomiami.com> Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:41 AM To: Raul Suau <Raul.Suau@flgaming.gov> Subject: ]FW: Cheating suspects

Good morning Raul, here are the names and photos. Thanks

From: Roy Choi <<u>rchoi@knighted.com</u>> Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 6:40 PM To: Daniel Licciardi <<u>dlicciardi@playcasinomiami.com</u>> Subject: Cheating suspects

Dan,

Here are the two suspects.

**Yoan Argelles** 





#### Misael Marquez





Roy Chol | Managing Partner p. 213.222.8589 | <u>rchoi@knighted.com</u> | <u>knighted.com</u>

\* KNIGHTED



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February 3, 2025, 3:44 pm

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Summary	273 - CASING ACTIVITIES; Gaming Con February 15, Casino Mian of Casino Mi informed me Company Kr the cardroor involving the along will po to win large involved the January 29, Poker Super patrons MAR played at a D play, MARQU footage usin cellular phor which mean marked card during so, M	Powers and atrol Commis, 2024, this in ni Vice Presi- iami Daniel L e that the De- nighted Gam n informed h e use of elec ossibly mark amounts of introduction 2024, by Cas visors Esteb RQUEZ FAJAR Designated T UEZ FAJAR g an electro ne which em t that the de- ls. On Febru tured Dual R era Martinez Is to Designa	I duties of asion; Pro- nvestigat dent and licciardi. signated ing LLC. him of ille tronic de ed cards money. 1 n of the n an Mach ARDO an able #15 DO is cap nic devic itted a ul vice was ary 10, 2 ate Poke introduc ated Plate	of the Floo ohibitions for met w General Mr. Licci Player C , that he egal activ evices be to allow The scher narked ca mi Dual R nado. On d Yoan A bouring to otured on ce similar ltraviolet reading to 024, video r Supervising a set er Table a	s- On ith Manager iardi ard uses in ity ing used patrons me ards on ate that day, rguelles their video to a light the o isors of #15. After						

	Arguelles again began to play. Video footage again captured the two men utilizing both a key fab and an electronic device similar to a cellular phone that reads marked cards. MARQUEZ FAJARDO won \$4,600.00 on January 29, 2024, and \$14,000.00 on February 10, 2024. During the time he was playing he gave on two occasions chips totaling \$2,500.00 to a female that was with him. The female was identified as Laura Beatriz Laboredo. MARQUEZ FAJARDO was excluded by the facility for his actions March 8, 2024.				
Updated	10/29/2024 11:55:25	By cstubbs1			
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Louis Trombetta, Executive Director

Ron DeSantis, Governor

### OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

#### INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Office: PMW	Region: SOUTHERN		Complaint: 22, 2024	Case Number: 2024 01 7221		
Respondent: MARQUEZ FAJARDO 14957 SW 59TH ST. MIAMI FLORIDA, 331	93		Complainant: DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS 1400 W. COMMERCIAL BLVD. SUITE 165 FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33309			
	# and Type: \ - 1098	1	ession: tron	Report Date: May 30, 2024		
Marc	Period of Investigation: h 22, 2024, through May 30	, 2024		Type of Report: Final		
<ul> <li>Alleged Violation: 849.086 Cardrooms authorized.—         <ul> <li>(12) Prohibited Activities.—</li> <li>(c) No electronic or mechanical devices, except mechanical card shufflers, may be used to conduct any authorized game in a cardroom.</li> <li>(d) No cards, game components, or game implements may be used in playing an authorized game unless such has been furnished or provided to players by the cardroom operator</li> </ul> </li> <li>550.0251 Powers and duties of the Florida Gaming Control Commission. –         <ul> <li>(6) In addition to the power to exclude certain persons from any pari-mutuel facility in this state, the commission may exclude any person from and all pari-mutuel facilities in this state for conduct that would constitute, if the person were a licensee, a violation of this chapter or the rules of commission. The commission may exclude from any pari-mutuel facility within this state any person who has been ejected from a pari-mutuel facility in another state by the governmental department, agency, commission authorize any person who has been excluded from any pari-mutuel facilities in such other state. The commission may authorize any person who has be ejected or excluded from pari-mutuel facilities in such other state. The commission may authorize any person who has be ejected or excluded from pari-mutuel facilities would not be adverse to the public interest or to the integrity of the sport or industry; however, subsection shall not be construed to abrogate the common-law right of a pari-mutuel permitholder to exclude absolutely a patron in this state.</li> </ul> </li></ul>						
<ul> <li>(b) Engage in any act, operator.</li> <li>Synopsis On February 1 Licciardi informed me tha involving the use of elect introduction of the suspe- patrons MARQUEZ FAJ</li> </ul>	er directly or indirectly: employ any device, scheme, o practice, or course of operation 5, 2024, this investigator met v at the Designated Player Card tronic devices along with possi- ected marked cards on Januar ARDO and Yoan Arguelles p	on that would constitute with Casino Miami Vice I Company Knighted Gan ible marked cards to allo ry 29, 2024, by Casino layed at a Designated	a fraud or deceit upon President and General Ma ning LLC., that he uses in ow patrons to win large a Miami Dual Rate Poker Table #15. During their	any participant in a game or the cardroom anager of Casino Miami Daniel Licciardi. Mr. the cardroom informed him of illegal activity mounts of money. The scheme involved the Supervisor Esteban Machado. On that day, play, MARQUEZ FAJARDO is captured on		
video footage using an electronic device similar in appearance to a cellular phone which emitted an ultraviolet light which is believed to be an indicator that the device was reading the marked cards. On February 10, 2024, video footage captured Dual Rate Poker Supervisor Miguel Cervera Martinez introducing a set of marked cards to Designated Plater Table #15. After during so, MARQUEZ FAJARDO and Yoan Arguelles again began to play. Video footage again captured the two men utilizing both a key fob and an electronic device similar in appearance to a cellular phone that reads marked cards. MARQUEZ FAJARDO won \$4,600.00 on January 29, 2024, and \$14,000.00 on February 10, 2024. During the time he was playing he gave on two occasions chips totaling \$2,500.00 to a female that was with him. The female was identified as Laura Beatriz Laboredo. MARQUEZ FAJARDO was excluded by the facility for his actions March 8, 2024.						
	4 01 7221 & 2024 01 7214			/ Data		
Investigator / Date Raul Suau / May 30	, 2024 Ranf	h	nvestigator Supervisor Julio Minaya / Octob	mp		
Chief of Investigations	/ Date			,		

On February 15, 2024, I met with Casino Miami Vice President and General Manager Daniel Licciardi, at his request regarding numerous incidents involving cheating at the Designated Poker table games operated by Knighted Gaming LLC. According to Licciardi, Knighted Gaming suspected that marked poker cards were being introduced to the tables and that an electronic device was being used by patrons to win large amounts of monies. Licciardi went on to say that review of video footage of January 14 into the 15<sup>th</sup> captured Casino Miami Dual Rate Supervisor Esteban Machado introducing two decks of marked cards to the table which facilitated the involved parties to cheat using electronic devices similar in appearance to a cellular phone. (Exhibit #1)

As a follow-up to the above information, on February 19, 2024, I met with Liccardi at which time he informed me that there was another Casino Miami Dual Rate Supervisor involved in the scheme. He identified Miguel Cervera Martinez as being captured on video footage on February 10, 2024, introducing two decks of marked cards to Designated Poker Table #15.

The point of contact was the President and CEO of Knighted Gaming LLC., Roy Choi, who provided the above information to Liccardi which was acquired by Choi's employees while acting as Designated Players at table #15, on the night of February 10, 2024.

Among the individuals identified by the employees of Knighted Gaming LLC., were two individuals; Yoan Arguelles Leon (Case #2024 01 7188) and **MARQUEZ FAJARDO**. Both individuals visited Casino Miami on January 29, 2024, and on February 10, 2024. Their purpose in visiting the facility was to play Designated Player games that had been compromised by the introduction of marked cards introduced by one of two Dual Rate Supervisors. The first, employee identified Esteban Machado, (Case #2024-01-0529), introduced marked cards on January 14, 23 and 29<sup>th</sup> of 2024. The second employee is Miguel Cervera Martinez who introduced marked cards onto Designated Player table #15 on February 10, 2024. Pictures taken at the table by Knighted Gaming employees are attached as **Exhibit #9**.

On January 29, 2024, at 6:30 P.M., Machado walks up to Designated Player table #15, and removes the cards that were being used at the time and replaces them with two decks of suspected marked cards that were inside of a black box with no sticker label on it. He then takes the cards that he removed and goes over to table #13, shuffles them and places them inside the same black card holder box that he took the suspected marked cards from. Once at the Poker Supervisor Podium, he removes the cards that he took from table #15 and places them inside another black box card holder which was labeled with a white expiration date sticker on it and stores them in the bottom drawer of the podium. At 6:44 P.M., Arguelles Leon enters the poker room and proceeds to sit at table #15. He then gets up and walks to table #9 where he engages Poker Supervisor Machado in conversation. Arguelles Leon then returns to table #15 and buys \$200.00 worth of chips from the dealer and sits in the middle seat of the table (directly in front of the dealer) and begins to play. At 6:47 P.M., Arguelles Leon gets up from the table and walked away, leaving his poker chips behind. He then proceeds to the back of the poker room where he approaches Machado and again engages him in conversation. **(Exhibit #6)** 

At 7:16 P.M., Arguelles Leon returns to table #15 and is joined by Misael MARQUEZ FAJARDO who goes to the rear of the poker room and takes a chair from poker table #13 and places it in the middle position of poker table #15. Arguelles Leon moves over to a spot closest to the Designated Player giving up his position to MARQUEZ FAJARDO. MARQUEZ FAJARDO immediately places a device similar in appearance to a cellular phone that eventually is seen on video footage emitting a purple light indicative of device capable of reading marked cards. This Investigator found that devices similar to the device in question are available for sale at <a href="http://www.markedcardsusa.com">www.markedcardsusa.com</a>, which is an online store that sells poker cards and devices used to cheat. As a result of Machado's actions, on this day, Arguelles Leon won a total of \$4,000.00 and Marquez Fajardo won \$4,600.00. (Exhibit #7)

This device has been used by other individuals involved in this scheme and has been observed through video footage emitting an ultraviolet light which is believed to be an indication that the device is reading the cards in front of it. Devices of this type are currently being sold on the website <u>www.markedcardsusa.com</u> which is an online store that sells marked poker cards and devices used to cheat. On this date, January 29, 2024, **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** won \$4,600.00 which he cashed out at the main poker cage. There is no Poker Multiple Transaction Log containing this transaction due to an omission of the poker cage cashier working when the chips were cashed in. (Exhibit #7)

On February 10, 2024, **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** once again visited Casino Miami. He once again sat in the middle seat at Designated Player table #15. This time however, he was accompanied by a female identified as Laura Beatriz Laborde.<sup>1</sup> Laborde sat next to him for a good part of the night. She would periodically leave to go play on the slot machines but would return after a short time. Independent video review by this investigator revealed the following:

- 6:19:27 P.M., Dual Rate Poker Supervisor Miguel Cervera Martinez enters the restroom located within the Pari-Mutuel William Hill section of the gaming floor. (Exhibit #4, Page 1)
- 6:20:24 P.M., and 6:20:38 P.M, Cervera Martinez exits the restroom holding a small box which appears to be a poker card deck holder. He then walks to the cardroom podium and places the box containing the marked cards inside the podium drawer. (Exhibit #4, Pages 2 thru 4)
- 6:31:30 P.M., Patron Yoan Arguelles Leon walks to the podium and engages Cervera Martinez in conversation. (Exhibit #4, Pages 5 & 6)
- 6:34:15 P.M., Cervera Martinez retrieves the box containing the marked cards from the podium drawer and walks to Designated table #15 and opens the table and introduces the now confirmed marked cards that he retrieved from the restroom. After doing so, the only patron at the table is Yoan Arguelles Leon. (Exhibit #4, Pages 7 & 8)
- 6:54 P.M., Misael Orlando MARQUEZ FAJARDO arrives in the poker room in the company of Laura Beatriz Laborde. He sits at table #15 and places a vehicle key fob that is [now] a known device that can read marked cards on the table. He later utilizes another device similar in appearance to a cellular phone that can also be used to read marked cards. Both devices were captured on surveillance footage emitting an ultraviolet light that when activated lets the user know that it is reading the marked cards. Devices of this type are sold on a website that is known as www.markedcardsusa.com.<sup>2</sup> Note: Case #2024 01 7214 has been opened against Laura Beatriz Laborde for her participation in the scheme. (Exhibit #4, Pages 10 thru 16 & 20 thru 21)

For the most part, while sitting next to MARQUEZ FAJARDO, Laborde was a spectator. Until she was observed on video footage at 10:36 P.M., receiving a rack of \$25.00 chips, green in color totaling \$2,500.00 from MARQUEZ FAJARDO and cashing them at the Poker Cage. She then walks back to table #15 and gives MARQUEZ FAJARDO the money. A second occurrence takes place at 10:53 P.M. Again, MARQUEZ FAJARDO gives her a rack of \$25.00 chips, green in color totaling \$2,500.00. This time however, she proceeds to the supervisors' podium where Dual Rate Supervisor Misleidys Valdes Lazo<sup>3</sup> cashes them out for her. (Exhibit # 4, Pages 18 thru 19 & Pages 35 thru 43)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Currently under investigation by PMW Investigations under Case #2024-01-7214.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> On 02/10/2023 MARQUEZ FAJARDO used these devices. He was also captured on video footage using ear pods. The ear pods are used in conjunction with either device so that the audible sounds made from the devices are not heard by everyone else, only by the person using them to cheat.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Although Dual Rate Supervisor Misleidys Valdes Lazo relieved Cervera Martinez, she was not involved in the scheme.

**MARQUEZ FAJARDO** continues playing at table # 15 until 11:20 P.M., when the Dual Rate Supervisor Mileidys Valdes Lazo is approached by one of the Designated Player company's employees and both can be seen on video footage having a conversation. Subsequently after their conversation ended, Valdes Lazo can be seen removing the marked cards that Cervera Martinez had introduced to table #15 and replacing them with two new decks of cards. The marked deck of cards was isolated and eventually turned over to Vice President Daniel Licciardi. The deck was subsequently secured as evidence by this Investigator.

After the cards were removed from play, both Arguelles and MARQUEZ FAJARDO proceeded to cash out their chips. Arguelles Leon cashed out \$1,700.00 and MARQUEZ FAJARDO cashed out a total of \$9,000.00. Both were cashed out by Misleidys Valdes Lazo at the supervisors' podium. She did not inform the poker cage of either transaction therefore, a Poker Multiple Transaction Log could not be created for each transaction. Including the monies that Laborde cashed for MARQUEZ FAJARDO, his total for the evening was \$14,000.00.<sup>4</sup> Arguelles Leon cashed out a total of \$3,750.00 for the night. However, he previously cashed out \$2,050.00 earlier that evening prior to meeting with Cervera Martinez in the parking lot.

On February 28, 2024, Cervera Martinez was interviewed by the undersigned Investigator and Investigative Supervisor Julio Minaya. At first, Cervera Martinez denied having any knowledge involving the use of marked cards or the introduction of said devices. However, when confronted with evidence (video footage) of him entering the restroom located in the William Hill Sports Book section of the gaming floor next to the cardroom and shortly thereafter, being observed exiting while holding a small box which may have contained the marked cards, Cervera Martinez appeared surprised that evidence existed, became visibly nervous and remained silent for some time. He then stated that he received a text message from a person whom he did not know. The text message offered him \$2,000.00<sup>5</sup> to introduce marked cards to a Designated Player game. He said he did so because of personal financial problems he was facing.

Cervera Martinez went on to say that on the day he introduced the cards, February 10, 2024, he received another text message from the same phone number that had originally texted him, instructing him to enter the restroom located in the William Hill Sports Book section and to retrieve the cards that were left for him. He says that when he entered the restroom and retrieved the cards, he opened them and looked at them but saw no visible markings on the cards. He says that after walking out of the restroom with the cards in hand, he walked over to Designated Player table #15, opened the table, and introduced the same cards that he had retrieved from the restroom to the table game.<sup>6</sup>

When asked how he was paid, Cervera Martinez stated that the money was placed through the window of his private vehicle which was parked in the employee parking lot. However, when confronted with the fact that he did not drive to work on the date in question but was dropped off by a van and later after his shift was over, he was picked up by a White Mecedes Benz, Cervera Martinez admitted to lying to this investigator regarding where and how he had gotten paid. He then stated that he entered the White Mercedes Benz and was driven to the very end of the parking lot used by patrons to park their vehicles and there he met a Black SUV,<sup>7</sup> at which time one of the occupants who was also a player at the same table where he had introduced the contraband cards, gave him an envelope containing \$2,000.00.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Of the \$14,000.00, Marquez Fajardo cashed out \$9,000.00 and Laborde cashed out \$5,000.00, on his behalf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Cervera Martinez stated in a separate interview with Gaming Enforcement that he received \$1,500.00 in compensation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Video review shows that Cevera Martinez did not immediately open the table game until he was approached by Yoan ARGUELLES LEON.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Upon video review, the SUV was observed as being white in color, and not black as Cervera Martinez had stated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> YOAN ARGUELLES LEON was identified as one of the players at the table. He was wearing a medium blue jean jacket when identified as a player via video review. At 10:24 P.M., he is observed walking out of the poker room and towards the main entrance of the casino after cashing out chip's worth approximately \$2,050.00, this amount was verified via video review. At approximately 10:34 P.M., a White Cadillac SUV is observed parked along the East side cement wall of the facility's main parking lot a short time later, the White Mercedes Benz that Cervera Martinez was in parked

On April 16, 2024, the undersigned Investigator along with Investigative Supervisor Julio Minaya visited Casino Miami and took possession of 64 decks of Copaq cards. These cards were vouchered and placed into evidence. Because these cards were in circulation during the same time that the marked cards were being used, they were taken for future testing once a device similar to the one that was used by the suspects can be obtained. The cards are being preserved to confirm that all cards in circulation at the time of the cheating activity are available for examination. These cards would have been destroyed by the facility once their expiration date arrived. Also taken into evidence were damaged cards that were removed from play during that same period. (Exhibit #8)

As a result of Ernesto Machado and Miguel Cervera Martinez's actions, **MARQUEZ FAJARDO** was able to defraud Knighted Gaming LLC., of \$18,600.00 between January 29, 2024, and February 10, 2024. As a result of **MARQUEZ FAJARDO'S** participation in this scheme, he was permanently excluded by the facility on March 8, 2024. (Exhibit #2)

Case closed by Investigations and forwarded to Legal for review and possible state-wide exclusion from all Florida PMW facilities and cardrooms.

next to the White Cadillac SUV at which time based on Cervera Martinez's statement the exchange of monies was made. The individual driving the Cadillac SUV drives away and comes into view of camera 986 where the individual driving is a male wearing clothing similar in color to what ARGUELLES LEON was seen wearing at the Poker table earlier. An Accurint check was conducted on ARGUELLES LEON, revealing ARGUELLES LEON as the owner of a White Cadillac SUV the same type of vehicle that the individual was driving.

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MIAMI

Casino Miami Jai-Alai - 3500 NW 37th Ave. Miami, FL 33142 (305) 633-6400 - casinomiamijaialai.com

#### CMJ-000013356 - MGMT Request Poker Review or Coverage Report - Reported 02/15/2024 13:56

Author: Adrian Gordon 11117304

Report Number: CMJ-000013356

End Time: 02/16/2024 07:59

Start Time: 02/15/2024 13:56

Report Group: Surveillance Reports

Report Type: MGMT Request Poker Review or Coverage Report

Note: Vice President Of Human Resources and State Compliance, Beatriz Perez requested a video review for 01/14/2024 and 01/22/2024 in the poker room in reference to unusual activities involving Poker Room Supervisor, Esteban Machado at Poker Table # 016 Location / Origin: Information-Employee Activities

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	esteban rubbing	runs finger alon		
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			11	1
	L			
Narrative				

On 02/13/2024 at 16:28 hours, Vice President Of Human Resources & State Compliance, Beatriz Perez requested a video review for 01/14/2024 and 01/22/2024 in the poker room in reference to unusual activities involving Poker Supervisor, Esteban Machado at poker table #016.

NOTE: The dates requested are as listed below, and was advised to review 01/14 and 01/22, and will further advise if to continue with the additional requested dates.

1/14 - 9pm - table 16

1/22 (into 1/23) 1230am - table 16

1/29 - 9pm - table 15

2/10 - 10p - table 15

A Video review revealed the following information on 01-14-2024:

1. At 17:18:30 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban reaching into his right jacket pocket and placing a box / boxes containing playing card into the poker podium drawer where other playing cards were stored.

2. At 20:43:30 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban removing the unlabeled box containing playing card out of the drawer.

3. From 20:45:00 to 20:49:15 hours on camera #916, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban switching poker game "Alligator Jokers Wild" to "Alligator High Stakes Hold'em" on poker table #16 and giving poker dealer cards from the unlabeled box.

4. At 21:36:42 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban removing the unlabeled box containing playing card out of the drawer.

5. From 23:40:15 to 23:40:42 hours on camera #916, Surveillance observed Poker Supervisor, Esteban fanning out poker cards on poker table #16 and then rubbing 1 card on the table multiple times, then proceeded to run his finger along the edge of the card.

6. From 00:56:00 to 00:57:00 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban removing box / boxes containing playing cards from poker podium drawer and placing it into his jacket pocket.

A Video review revealed the following information on 01-22-2024:

1. From 17:31:55 to 17:32:25 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Poker Supervisor, Esteban Machado giving an unknown male patron wearing a white tee shirt, an unknown amount of money from his wallet. (multiple \$100.00 bills were observed).

NOTE:At 17:38:10 hours on camera #913, Surveillance observed the unknown male patron sitting at poker table #13, proceeded to buy poker chips and play at the table

2. From 23:44:00 to 23:45:35 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Poker Supervisor, Esteban Machado reaching into his jacket pocket and placing an un-labeled poker card box / boxes into the drawer.

3. At 00:08:06 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Mr. Machado removing the un-labeled poker cards box and proceeded to poker table #016.

4. At 00:08:30 hours on camera #916 & 823, Surveillance observed Poker Supervisor, Esteban Machado giving the unlabeled poker card box to Poker Dealer, Leandro Aguilera at table #16. Mr. Aguilera then proceeded to deal at the table.

5. At 00:28:35 hours on camera #916 & 823 Poker Dealer, Jose Martinez took over table #16. Shortly thereafter a conversation between the DP employee and Esteban was observed in reference to the current game.

6. At 01:06:22 hours on camera #923, Surveillance observed Poker Supervisor, Esteban Machado packing away the unlabeled poker card box / boxes and placing it into his jacket pocket.

7. At 01:31:50 hours on camera #806, Surveillance observed Mr. Esteban removing box / boxes containing playing cards and placing it into his jacket pocket.

A video review revealed the following information on 01-29-2024

01. At 17:51 Hours camera # 923, Poker Room Supervisor, Esteban Machado takes out of jacket and place unmarked box into drawer

02. At 18:30 Hours on camera # 915, # 923 and # 805, Poker Room Supervisor, Esteban Machado takes unmarked box of cards out of drawer and place them at table 15, that already has cards and then move the previous cards from table 15 to table 13 and runs them through the shuffle master and then after returns to podium and place them into a marked box.

03. At 00:18 Hours camera # 809 and # 923, Dealer return cards from poker table 15 to podium and Poker Room Supervisor, Esteban Machado places cards into unmarked box and into drawer.

01. At 18:20 Hours on camera # 802, # 923 and # 150, Poker Room Supervisor, Miguel H. Cervera Martinez - goes to William Hill Reputer ok Restroom with nothing in his hands and leaves the restroom with a box of unmarked cards in his term and and then placed it into the podium drawer.

02. From 18:34 to 18:37 Hours on camera # 915 and # 805. Poker Room Supervisor, Miguel H. Cervera

04. At 23.34 to 23.36 hours on camera # 803 and # 915, Poker Room Supervisor, Misledys values Lazo retrieves 2 decks of cards from poker table # 15, place them into the podium drawer and separated from other decks , later marked with a note

05. From 05:51 to 05:55 Hours on camera # 363, # 361 and # 322, Poker Room Supervisor, Misleidys Valdes

Lazo turned in the cards at the chip bank window

This report was written by Surveillance Assistant Manager, Adrian Gordon #11117304 This report was approved by Surveillance Director, William Hutcheson # 7874265.

Signature A

Date

Signature B

Date

#### Security Department

MiAMi

Casino Miami Jai-Alai - 3500 NW 37th Ave. Miami, FL 33142 (305) 633-6400 - casinomiamijaialai.com

# CMJ-000002811 - Patron - Trespass Permanent - Reported 03/08/2024 14:21 Author: Jorge Callejas 13298951 Report Number: CMJ-000002811 Start Time: 03/08/2024 14:21 End Time: 03/08/2024 14:30 Report Group: Exclusion Reports Report Type: Patron - Trespass Permanent Note: Permanent Trespass Location / Origin: Casino Person Name: Misael Orlando Marquez Fajardo Alias: Race: Hispanic Gender: Male Miami, Fl. 33193 PC# Fajardo.jpg Narrative

Signature A

Signature B

Date



## Florida Gaming Control Commission Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering Office of Investigations

## PROPERTY RECEIPT

Complaint # _	2024 01 7188	Date <u>2/25/24</u> Lab #
Item No.	Quantity	Description
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I hereby acknowledge that the above I hereby acknowledge that the above list list represents all property taken from represents all property impounded by me in the my possession and that I have official performance of duty as Investigator for received a copy of this receipt. the Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering. Saul Signature - Impounding Investigator

Signature

## RETURNED PROPERTY RECEIPT

I hereby acknowledge the return to me, by the Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering, the above listed property.

	Signature	Date
Received by: Received by: Received by:	Date: Date:	
Copies for: File, Transmittal, Laboratory, P	EXHIBIT # 3 PAGE # 1	
Form FGCC 11-75 (Revised 07/22)		

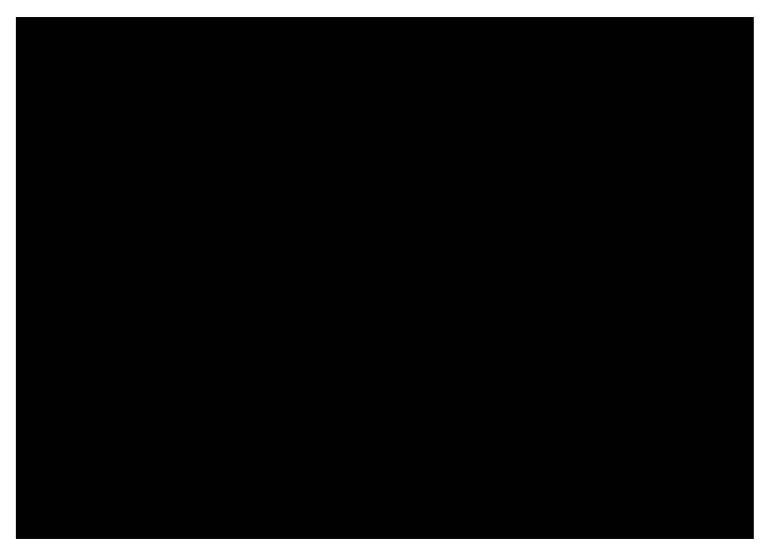


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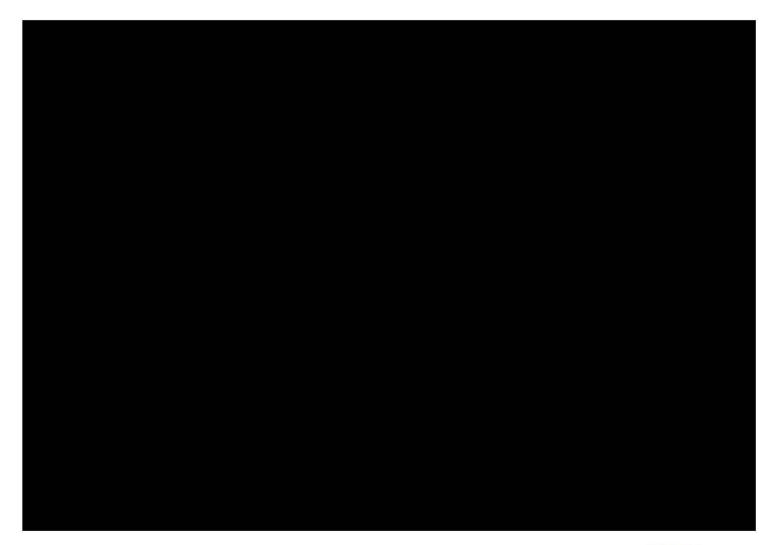




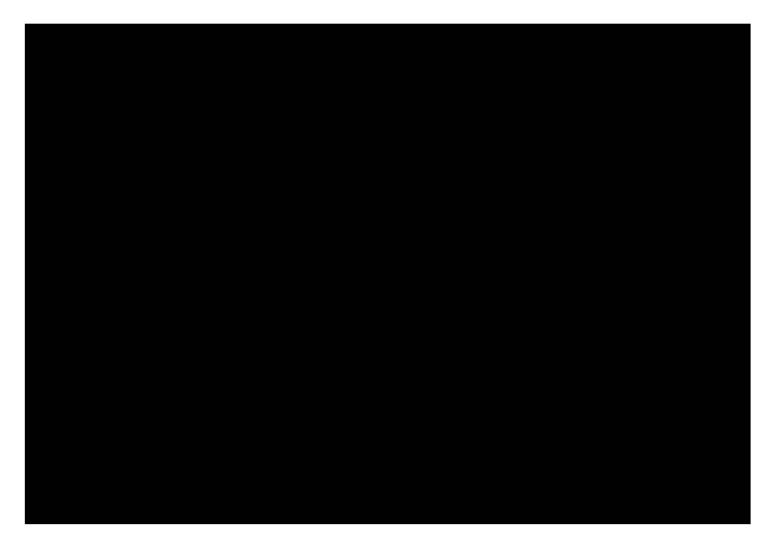




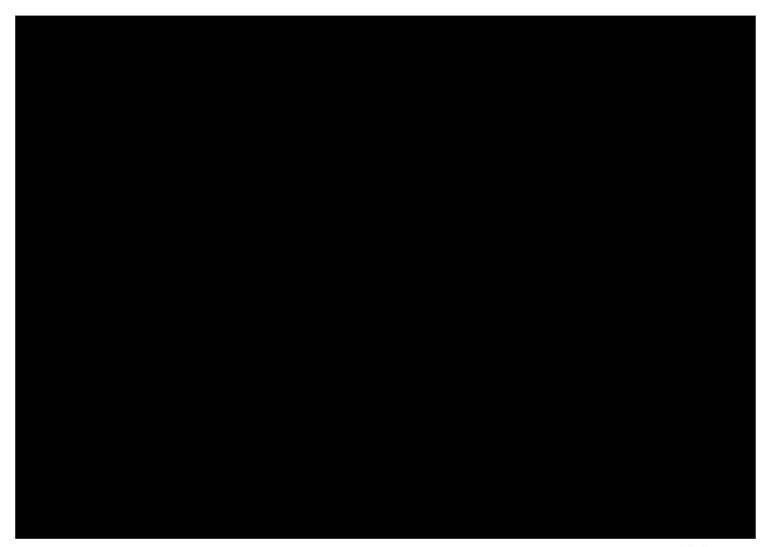




















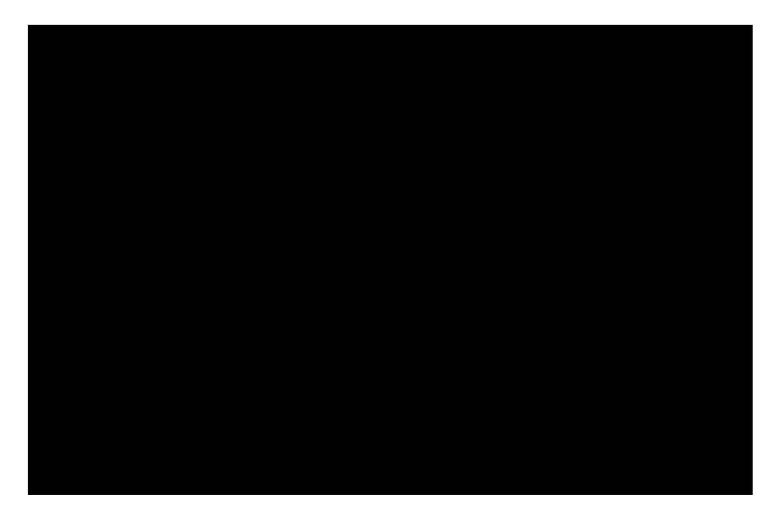




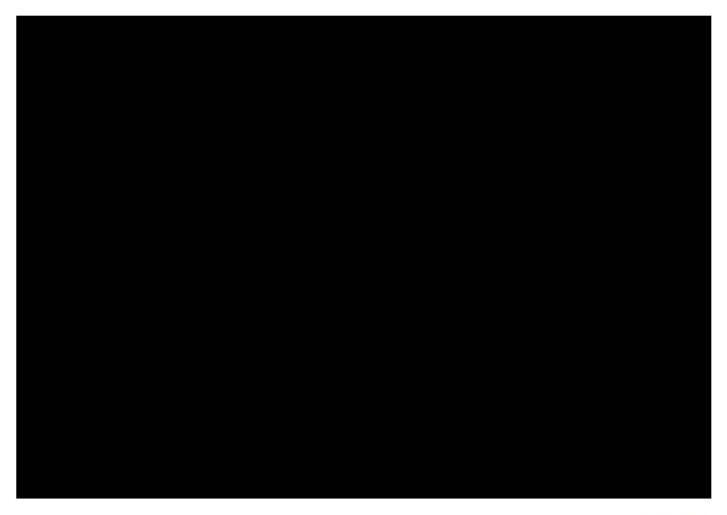














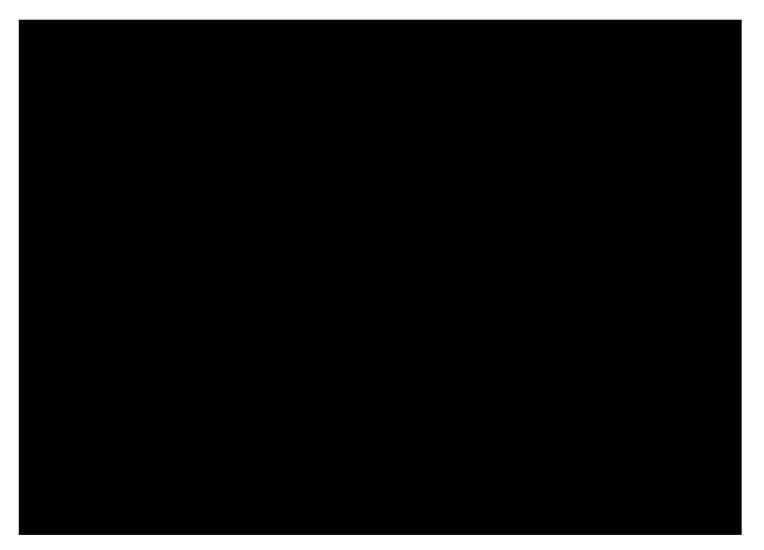








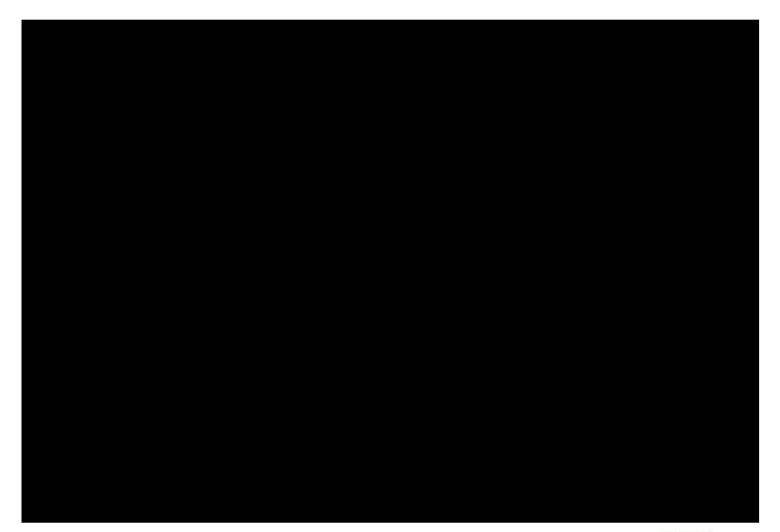












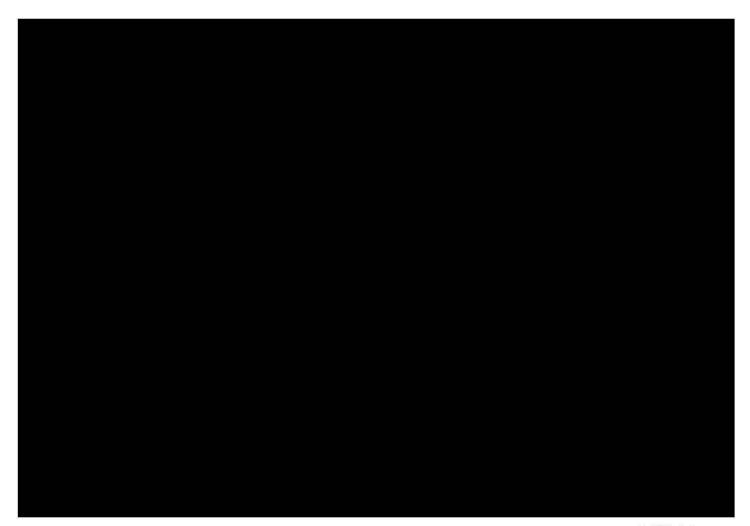








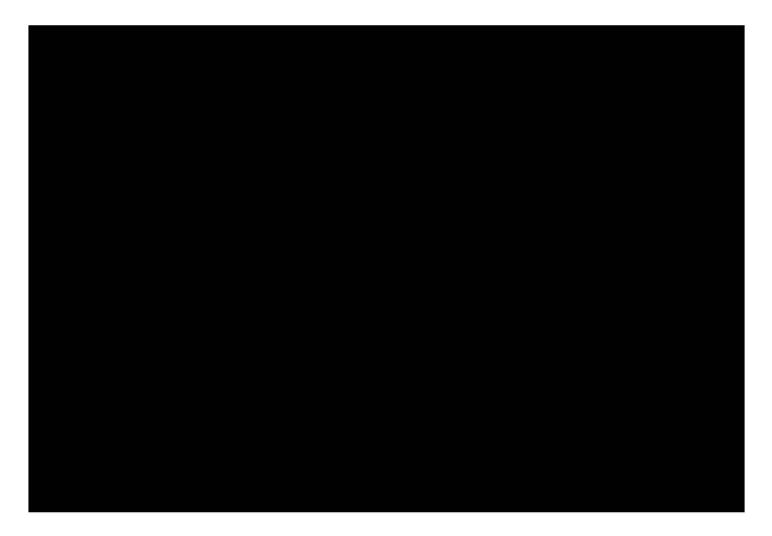




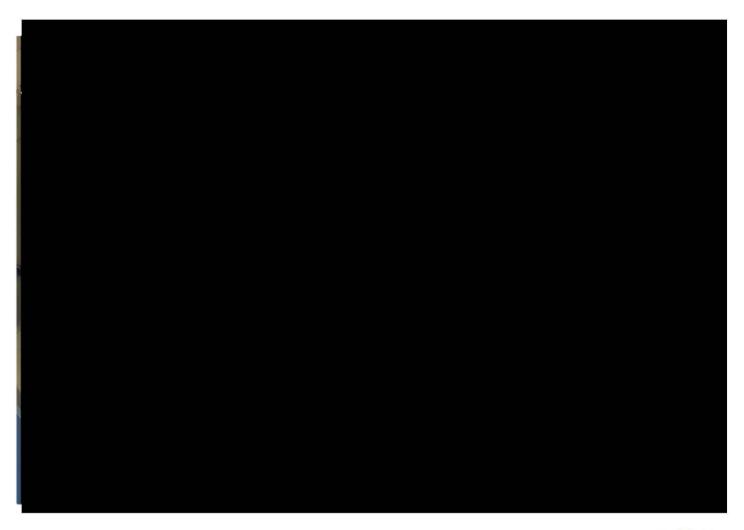




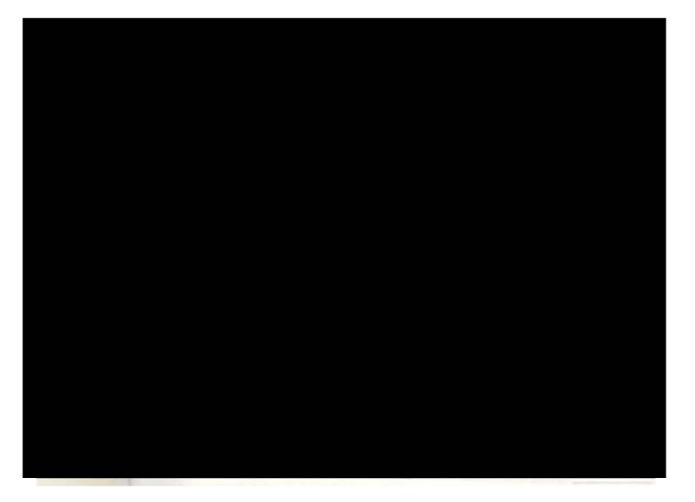


















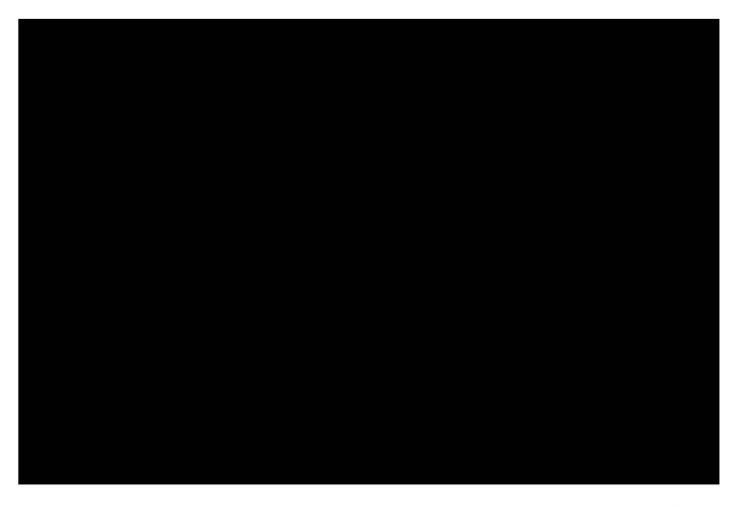






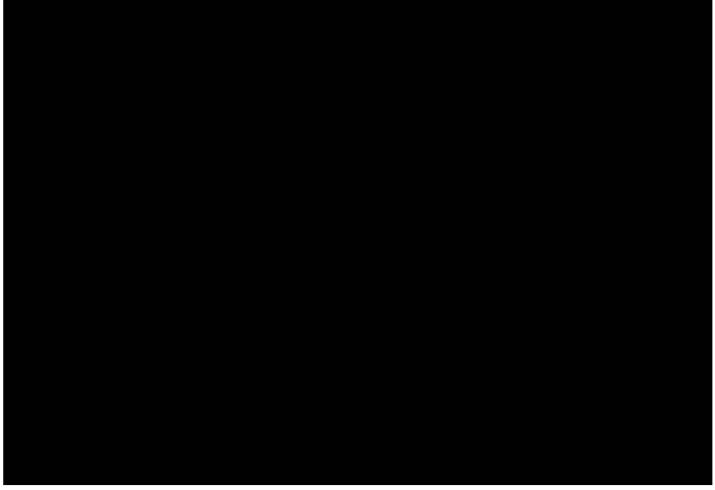




















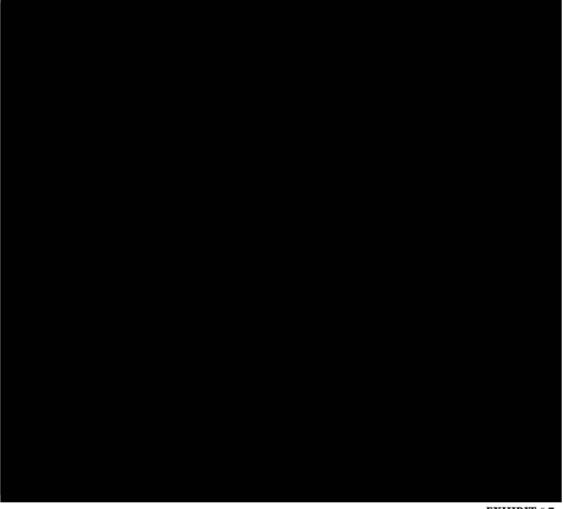


EXHIBIT # 7 PAGE # 1



EXHIBIT 7 PAGE # 2







#### Florida Gaming Control Commission Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering Office of Investigations

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I hereby acknowledge that the above list represents all property taken from my possession and that I have received a copy of this receipt. Si gnature

### RETURNED PROPERTY RECEIPT

I hereby acknowledge the return to me, by the Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering, the above listed property.

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Form FGCC 11-75 (Revised 07/22)		EXHIBIT #8

PAGE # 1



#### **Florida Gaming Control Commission** Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering Office of Investigations

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official performance of duty as Investigator for the Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering.

Signature

Signature - Impounding Investigator

## RETURNED PROPERTY RECEIPT

I hereby acknowledge the return to me, by the Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering, the above listed property.

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Received by:	Date:	_
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Received by:	Date:	-
Copies for: File, Transmittal,	Laboratory, Property Receipt	
		EVILIBIT # 0

Form FGCC 11-75 (Revised 07/22)

#### Julio Minaya

From: Sent: To: Subject: Raul Suau Tuesday, April 23, 2024 4:11 PM Julio Minaya FW: Cheating suspects

Thank you,



Raul Suau Investigations Specialist II Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering Office of Investigations 754-288-1011 Office 954-658-3663 Cell

The information contained in this transmission is intended solely for the use of the person(s) named herein. If you are not the Intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, dissemination, distribution, or duplication of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you are not the Intended recipient, please contact me by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message.

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From: Daniel Licciardi <dlicciardi@playcasinomiami.com> Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:41 AM To: Raul Suau <Raul.Suau@flgaming.gov> Subject: ]FW: Cheating suspects

Good morning Raul, here are the names and photos. Thanks

From: Roy Choi <<u>rchoi@knighted.com</u>> Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 6:40 PM To: Daniel Licciardi <<u>dlicciardi@playcasinomiami.com</u>> Subject: Cheating suspects

Dan,

Here are the two suspects.

**Yoan Argelles** 





#### Misael Marquez



Roy Choi | Managing Partner

p. 213.222.8589 | rchoi@knighted.com | knighted.com



\*

KNIGHTED

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# 3. Discussion of Consent Orders

# **MEMORANDUM**

To:	The Florida Gaming Control Commission
From:	Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering
Through	Justin Hundersmarck, Senior Attorney
Re:	FGCC v. Bestbet St. Augustine, Inc.,
	Case No. 2024-045025; Consent Order
Date:	March 26, 2025.

# Executive Summary

Bestbet St. Augustine, Inc., ("Respondent") seeks the adoption of the proposed settlement and consent order to resolve Case No. 2024-045025. Pursuant to the terms of the proposed order, the Respondent will agree to pay \$500.00 to the Florida Gaming Control Commission.

# Background

On September 20, 2024, a two-count administrative complaint was filed against Respondent alleging 1) a violation of rule 75-11.003(4), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to ensure the dealer button is moved around the card table in a clockwise fashion, and 2) a violation of rule 75-11.015(1), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to lock all chips which were not in play or available for play in a secure location.

# Analysis

Rule 75-11.003(4), Florida Administrative Code, provides "[t]he cardroom operator shall ensure that the button is moved around the card table in a clockwise fashion to provide each player equal opportunity."

Section 849.086(2)(f) defines cardroom operator as "a licensed pari-mutuel permitholder which holds a valid permit and license issued by the Florida Gaming Control Commission pursuant to chapter 550 and which also holds a valid cardroom license issued by the commission pursuant to this section which authorizes such person to operate a cardroom and to conduct authorized games in such cardroom."

Rule 75-11.015(1), Florida Administrative Code, provides "[a]ll chips and tokens not in play or which are not available for play or use that day shall be locked in a secure location."

Under section 120.57(4), Florida Statutes, the Commission may resolve matters such as this case informally through a negotiated settlement. As part of settlement negotiations, Respondent is requesting that the Commission consider and agree to the proposed terms set forth in the Consent Order, whereby Respondent will agree to pay \$500.00, effective from the date the Final Order is filed with the Clerk of the Commission.

#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

#### FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

FGCC Case No.: 2024-045025

BESTBET ST. AUGUSTINE, INC,

Respondent.

\_\_\_\_\_/

#### STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering (hereinafter the "Commission") and Bestbet St. Augustine, Inc. (hereinafter "Respondent"), each individually, a "party," and collectively as "parties," hereby agree and stipulate as follows:

WHEREAS, The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter and Respondent; and

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2024, the Commission filed a two-count administrative complaint against Respondent, alleging a violation of (1) rule 75-11.003(4), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to ensure that the button is moved around the card table in a clockwise fashion to provide each player equal opportunity and (2) rule 75-11.015(1), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to lock all chips which were not in play or available for play in a secure location (the "Administrative Complaint"); and

WHEREAS, the parties have negotiated and agreed that the best interest of all the parties will be served by a settlement of these proceedings in lieu of further litigation.

#### **STIPULATION**

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and recitals herein, the parties hereby agree and stipulate to the following:

1. All recitals herein are true and correct and are incorporated herein.

 All parties agree that the above "whereas" clauses incorporated herein are binding findings of the parties.

 The Commission is authorized by section 120.57, Florida Statutes, to resolve administrative proceedings by consent orders.

4. Each party has entered into the terms of this Stipulation and Consent Order voluntarily. Respondent is aware that he is entitled to the advice of counsel and has either sought the advice of counsel or, by execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order, is knowingly waiving the right to have the advice of counsel. Respondent acknowledges that the Commission has not made any promise, nor has it in any other way encouraged Respondent to enter into this Stipulation and Consent Order without the advice of counsel.

5. The parties acknowledge and agree that this Stipulation and Consent Order constitutes the final order in this case and that this Stipulation and Consent Order is enforceable under section 120.69, and chapter 550, Florida Statutes, as final agency action.

6. Respondent, for itself and its related or resulting organizations, successors, transferees, attorneys, heirs, and executors or administrators, discharges the Commission and its agents, representatives, and attorneys, of and from all claims, demands, actions, causes of action, suits, damages, losses and expenses of any and every nature whatsoever, arising out of or in any way related to this matter and the Commission's actions, including, but not limited to, any claims that were or may be asserted in any federal or state court or administrative forum, including any

2

claims arising out of this agreement, by or on behalf of Respondent or its related or resulting organizations.

7. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorney's fees.

8. FINE: Respondent agrees to and shall pay to the Commission the sum FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00) at the time Respondent submits an executed copy of this Consent Order. The payment must be in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, made payable to the Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering (NO PERSONAL CHECKS).

9. Respondent must <u>mail the executed Stipulation and Consent Order and the payment</u> <u>to</u>: The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering, 4070 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1035, Attention: Emily Alvarado.

10. By executing this Stipulation and Consent Order, the Respondent neither admits nor denies the facts and legal conclusions raised in the Administrative Complaint, and the Commission continues to assert the validity thereof. Nothing in this Stipulation and Consent Order shall be deemed to preclude the Commission from imposing a penalty against Respondent for any future act(s) or omission(s) constituting either a violation of Florida law or the Florida Administrative Code.

11. The parties acknowledge and agree that this Stipulation and Consent Order is subject to the approval of the Commission. The Stipulation and Consent Order will have no force or effect unless and until the Commission files a Final Order adopting this Stipulation and Consent Order. Should this Stipulation and Consent Order be rejected, no statement made in furtherance thereof by Respondent may be used as direct evidence against Respondent in any proceeding.

3

12. Upon the Commission's adoption of this Stipulation and Consent Order, Respondent agrees to waive any and all appeals and proceedings relating to these proceedings to which it may be entitled, including, but not limited to, an informal proceeding under section 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; a formal proceeding under section 120.57(1), Florida Statutes; appeals under section 120.68, Florida Statutes; and declaratory and all writs of relief in any court or quasicourt of competent jurisdiction; and agrees to waive compliance with the form of the Final Order (findings of fact and conclusions of law) to which it may be entitled, provided, however, that this agreement shall not be deemed a waiver by either party of its right to judicial enforcement of the Stipulation and Consent Order.

13. Venue for any action brought to interpret, enforce, or challenge the terms of this Stipulation and Consent Order and its corresponding Final Order shall lie solely in the Circuit Court of Florida, in and for Leon County, Florida.

14. This Stipulation and Consent Order is executed by the parties for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to the matters addressed herein. In this regard, Respondent authorizes the Commission to review and examine all materials concerning Respondent, prior to or in conjunction with consideration of this Stipulation and Consent Order. Should the Commission not accept this Stipulation and Consent Order, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of this Stipulation and Consent Order and other documents and matters by the Commission shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Commission from further participation, consideration, or resolution of these proceedings.

15. This Stipulation and Consent Order may be signed in counterparts, and copies shall be treated as original.

16. This Stipulation and Consent Order is binding upon all parties.

4

17. The parties agree that this serves as notice that the signed Stipulation and Consent Order will be placed on the next available Commission meeting. If Respondent would like to attend, Respondent is responsible for checking the Florida Gaming Control Commission website at https://flgaming.gov for the meeting materials, agenda, and contact information.

18. Respondent authorizes the Commission to correct any typographical errors or make any non-material changes to this Stipulation and Consent Order after it is signed.

[Signature pages to follow]

Respondent, BESTBET ST. AUGUSTINE, INC. requests that the Commission enter a Final Order approving and incorporating this Stipulation and Consent Order in resolution of this matter.

Signed this 11 day of Febrary 2024.

BESTBET ST. AUGUSTINE, INC. Respondent

Signed on behalf of Bestbet St. Augustine, Inc. by:

DEBORAH GIARDINA Printed Name V. P. Poker Operations

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF DUVAL

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me, by means of D physical presence or □ online notarization, this // day of February, 2024, by a duly authorized representative of Bestbet St. Augustine, Inc., who is personally known to me or who produced the following as identification:

Charline E. Small

CHARLINE E MY COMMISSION EXPIRES SEP. 08, 2026

Notary Public

My commission expires: Sept. 08, 2026

This Stipulation and Consent Order for the Florida Gaming Control Commission Case Number 2024-045025 is APPROVED for legal sufficiency this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

> Emily Alvarado Chief Attorney The Florida Gaming Control Commission

# STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

## FGCC v. BESTBET ST. AUGUSTINE, INC.

CASE NO.: 2024-045025

## **ELECTION OF RIGHTS**

Please read the Administrative Complaint before choosing one of the three options. The Election of Rights is a **legally binding** document. Consult an attorney if you do not understand your options.

You can only select **ONE** of the options numbered one (1), two (2), and three (3) on the Election of Rights form. You must sign the form.

A completed Election of Rights <u>must be returned to the Clerk of the Commission within 21 days, by 5:00</u> p.m., Eastern Time, of the day you receive the attached Administrative Complaint.

If your Election of Rights form or request for hearing is not filed with the Clerk of the Commission within 21 days of the day you received the Administrative Complaint, you will have waived your right to contest the proposed agency action and a Final Order will be issued imposing the proposed agency action set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

Please use this form unless you, your attorney, or your representative prefer to reply according to chapter 120, Florida Statutes, and chapter 28.106 of the Florida Administrative Code.

Please return your Election of Rights form to this address:

Florida Gaming Control Commission Attention: Clerk of the Commission 4070 Esplanade Way, Suite 250, Tallahassee, FL 32399 Telephone: (850) 794-8067 Fax: (850) 536-8709 Email: clerk@flgaming.gov

# PLEASE CHECK ONLY ONE OF THE THREE OPTIONS.

**Option One (1)** I do not dispute the allegations of material fact in the Administrative Complaint and wish to be heard at an informal proceeding pursuant to section 120.57(2), Florida Statutes, where I may submit testimony and written evidence to the Commission to show that the proposed agency action is too severe or that the sanction should be reduced.

**Option Two (2)** I do dispute the allegations of material fact in the Administrative Complaint and I request a formal hearing pursuant to Section 120.57(1) before an Administrative Law Judge of the Division of Administrative Hearings ("DOAH"). I specifically dispute the following facts in the Administrative Complaint (attach extra pages or write on the back if needed):

Paragraphs 6, 9, 11, and 13

## STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

# In addition to the above election for formal hearing, check the box below if you wish to enter into settlement negotiations and waive the 15-day requirement for this matter to be referred to DOAH:

 $\checkmark$  Section 120.569(2)(a), Florida Statutes, requires the Commission to send this case to DOAH for a formal hearing within 15 days after receiving your Election of Rights. I am interested in settling this case and waive the 15-day requirement.

**Option Three (3)** I **do not dispute the allegations** of material fact in the Administrative Complaint and **waive my right** to object and to have a hearing. I understand that by giving up the right to object and have a hearing, a Final Order will be issued that adopts the allegations of fact and conclusions of law alleged in the Administrative Complaint and imposes the Commission action set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

THIS IS A **LEGALLY BINDING DOCUMENT**. SEEK LEGAL ADVICE BEFORE SIGNING IF YOU DO NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE TERMS.

\_ . . .

			I J Morton					
PRINTED NAME			ATTORNEY OR QUALIFIED REPRESENTATIVE					
			1400 Village Square	e Blvd., #3-504				
Street Address			Street Address (wh	nere service shall	be made)			
			Tallahassee, Florid	a 32312				
City	State	Zip	City	State	Zip			
			850-284-8769					
Telephone Number Number (if any)	Facsimile	Number (if any)	Tel	ephone Number	Facsimile			
			tj@lockwoodlawfirn	n.com				
E-mail			E-mail					
			/s/ TJ Morton					
SIGNATURE								

#### YOU MUST LET THE COMMISSION KNOW IF YOUR E-MAIL OR MAILING ADDRESS CHANGES

FLORIDA GA	FILED MING CONTROL COMMISSION
Date:	9/20/2024
File Number:	
	MELBA L. APELLANIZ K OF THE COMMISSION

FGCC Case No.: 2024-045025

# STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

# FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

BESTBET ST. AUGUSTINE, INC,

Respondent.

### ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), files this Administrative Complaint against Bestbet St. Augustine, Inc. ("Respondent"), and alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating pari-mutuel wagering and cardroom operations pursuant to chapters 550 and 849, Florida Statutes.

2. At all times material hereto, Respondent held a pari-mutuel wagering permit pursuant to Section 550.054, and license pursuant to Section 550.0115, both issued by the Commission.

3. At all times material hereto, Respondent held a valid cardroom license number 157 issued by the Commission under section 849.086, Florida Statutes, and operated a cardroom within the meaning of section 849.086(2)(c), Florida Statutes, at its Facility (the "Cardroom").

4. The Cardroom is a Facility operated by the Respondent at all times material hereto, and is located at 800 Marketplace Drive St. Augustine, Florida 32084.

#### COUNT I

5. Petitioner realleges and adopts paragraphs numbered one through four as if set forth fully herein.

6. During a routine inspection of the Cardroom surveillance on or about July 15, 2024, Commission investigators observed an employee of the Cardroom failing to ensure that the button was moved around the card table in a clockwise fashion.

7. Rule 75-11.003(4), Florida Administrative Code, provides "[t]he cardroom operator shall ensure that the button is moved around the card table in a clockwise fashion to provide each player equal opportunity."

8. Section 849.086(2)(f) defines cardroom operator as "a licensed pari-mutuel permitholder which holds a valid permit and license issued by the Florida Gaming Control Commission pursuant to chapter 550 and which also holds a valid cardroom license issued by the commission pursuant to this section which authorizes such person to operate a cardroom and to conduct authorized games in such cardroom."

9. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated rule 75-11.003(4), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to ensure that the button is moved around the card table in a clockwise fashion to provide each player equal opportunity.

#### COUNT II

10. Petitioner realleges and adopts paragraphs numbered one through four as if set forth fully herein.

11. During a routine inspection of the cardroom on or about July 15, 2024, Commission investigators observed two unlocked imprest trays full of chips in the dealer's breakroom.

12. Rule 75-11.015(1), Florida Administrative Code, provides "[a]ll chips and tokens not in play or which are not available for play or use that day shall be locked in a secure location."

13. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated rule 75-11.015(1), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to lock all chips which were not in play or available for play in a secure location.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter an Order imposing against Respondent one or more of the penalties specified in section 849.086(14)(c), Florida Statutes, and/or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Administrative Complaint for FGCC Case Number 2024-045025 is signed this 20th day of September 2024.

/s/Emily A. Alvarado

Emily A. Alvarado Chief Attorney FBN: 1025200 Florida Gaming Control Commission Office of the General Counsel Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering 4070 Esplanade Way, Suite 250 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2202 Telephone: (850) 794-8066 Facsimile: +1 (850) 536-8709 Primary: Emily.Alvarado@flagaming.gov Secondary: Ebonie.Lanier@flgaming.gov

#### NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, you have the right to request a hearing to challenge the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint. If you choose to request a hearing, you will have the right to be represented by counsel, or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses, and to have subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum issued on your behalf.

Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint must conform to rule 28-106.2015, Florida Administrative Code. Pursuant to rule 28-106.111, Florida Administrative Code, you must request a hearing within 21 days from receipt of this Notice, or you will waive your right to request a hearing.

Mediation under section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.

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Louis Trombetta, Executive Director

Ron DeSantis, Governor

# **OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS**

# **INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

Office:	Region:		Complaint:	Case Number:			
PMW	CENTRAL	AUGUS	T 6, 2024	2024 04 5025			
Respondent:			Complainant:				
BESTBET ST. AL	JGUSTINE. INC.		DIVISION OF PA	RI-MUTUEL WAGERING			
201 MONUMENT	,		OFFICE OF INV				
JACKSONVILLE,	FLORIDA 32225			ERCIAL BLVD. SUITE 165 LE, FLORIDA 33309			
TEL# (904) 646-0	001						
	# and Type:		ession:	Report Date:			
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	, , , , ,						
75-11.015 Chips							
.,	nd tokens not in play o	r which are not av	ailable for play or	use that day shall be locked in a			
secure location.							
Svnopsis: On Ju	lv 15. 2024. during a r	routine bi-weekly	cardroom inspect	ion it was discovered that Poker			
				means a circular object moved			
				.) is moved around the card table			
				n addition, I found two unattended			
Related Case: 202		aler's breakroom	not locked in a se	cure location as required.			
			nvestigator Super	visor / Date			
Is/ Fande	$\bigcirc$	/	Is put Warking				
Randa Samson /	Randa Samson / September 5, 2024			C. Derek Washington / September 13, 2024			
Chief of Investigat	ions / Date						
Bradford D. Jones							

#### CONTINUATION

On July 15, 2024, during a regular bi-weekly cardroom inspection at St. Augustine Best Bet, I discovered that Poker Room Dealer, Devin Rochford (PMW LIC# 10707012) did not follow proper Card-Play procedure. Specifically, he neglected to ensure that the "Button" was moved around the card table in a clockwise fashion to provide each player an equal opportunity. The **"Button**" is a circular object moved clockwise around a poker table to denote the assigned dealer for each hand.

Furthermore, while continuing my inspection alongside Investigations Manager Derek Washington, we found two unattended imprest trays full of chips in the dealer's breakroom that were not secured in the provided secured chip tray lockers (EXHIBIT #3).

A careful review of surveillance video evidence from July 15, 2024, obtained from **ST**. **AUGUSTINE BEST BET** shows Poker Dealer Rochford was assigned to table #33 from approximately 12:10 PM to 12:33 PM and failed to ensure that the "Button" was moved around the card table in a clockwise fashion to provide each player equal opportunity.

**ST. AUGUSTINE BESTBET** is in violation of **75-11.003(4)**, because the Dealer failed to ensure that the "Button" was moved around the card table in a clockwise fashion to provide each player equal opportunity. The facility is also in violation of **75-11.015 (1)**, for failing to have all chips and tokens not in play, or which are not available for play or use that day, locked in a secure location.

A review of Versa Regulation Enforcement database revealed **ST. AUGUSTINE BEST BET** has no prior violations of the specific rules listed. This case will be forwarded to Legal in conjunction with the related case concerning Poker Dealer Rochford.

Case Status: Investigations case closed and referred to Legal for review.

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Logged in as: jhodge

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# **MEMORANDUM**

To:	The Florida Gaming Control Commission
From:	Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering
Through	Justin Hundersmarck, Senior Attorney
Re:	FGCC v. TBD Entertainment, LLC d/b/a TGT Poker & Racebook,
	Case No. 2024-058077; Consent Order
Date:	March 27, 2025.

# Executive Summary

TBD Entertainment, LLC d/b/a TGT Poker & Racebook ("Respondent") seeks the adoption of the proposed settlement and consent order to resolve case no. 2024-058077. Pursuant to the terms of the proposed order, the Respondent will be issued a written warning and will agree to pay \$250.00 to the Florida Gaming Control Commission.

# Relevant Facts

On January 6, 2025, a two-count administrative complaint was filed against Respondent alleging 1) a violation of rule 75.11.015(1), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to lock and secure chips that were not in play or available for use on that day, and 2) a violation of rule 75-11.025(17), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to maintain a log of all surveillance activities in the surveillance room.

# Analysis

Rule 75.11.015(1) Florida Administrative Code, provides "[a]ll chips and tokens not in play or which are not available for play or use that day shall be locked in a secure location."

Rule 75-11.025(17), Florida Administrative Code, provides in relevant part that "[e]ach cardroom operator shall maintain a log of all surveillance activities in the surveillance room that shall include: (a) The name and license number of each person who initiates, performs, or supervises the surveillance monitoring; (b) Reason for the surveillance, including the name, if known, the description of each individual being monitored, the date and time the monitoring commences and ends, and a brief description of the activity in which the monitored person is engaging."

Under section 120.57(4), Florida Statutes, the Commission may resolve matters such as this case informally through a negotiated settlement. As part of settlement negotiations, Respondent is requesting that the Commission consider and agree to the proposed terms set forth in the Consent Order, whereby Respondent will be issued a written warning and will agree to pay \$250.00, effective from the date the Final Order is filed with the Clerk of the Commission.

#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

#### FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

FGCC Case No.: 2024-058077

#### TBD ENTERTAINMENT, LLC d/b/a TGT POKER & RACEBOOK Respondent.

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#### STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering (hereinafter the "Commission") and TBD Entertainment, LLC. d/b/a TGT Poker & Racebook (hereinafter "Respondent"), each individually, a "party," and collectively as "parties," hereby agree and stipulate as follows:

WHEREAS, the Commission has jurisdiction over this matter and Respondent; and

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2025, the Commission filed an Administrative Complaint against Respondent, alleging that Respondent violated (1) rule 75-11.015(1), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to secure the lock on the imprest tray to ensure that all chips and tokens not in play are locked in a secured location and (2) rule 75-11.025(17), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to maintain a log of all surveillance activities in the surveillance room ("the Administrative Complaint"), and

WHEREAS, the parties have negotiated and agreed that the best interest of all the parties will be served by a settlement of these proceedings in lieu of further litigation.

#### STIPULATION

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and recitals herein, the parties hereby agree and stipulate to the following:

1. All recitals herein are true and correct and are incorporated herein.

 All parties agree that the above "whereas" clauses incorporated herein are binding findings of the parties.

 The Commission is authorized by section 120.57, Florida Statutes, to resolve administrative proceedings by consent orders.

4. Each party has entered into the terms of this Stipulation and Consent Order voluntarily. Respondent is aware that it is entitled to the advice of counsel and has either sought the advice of counsel or, by execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order, is knowingly waiving the right to have the advice of counsel. Respondent acknowledges that the Commission has not made any promise, nor has it in any other way encouraged Respondent to enter into this Stipulation and Consent Order without the advice of counsel.

5. The parties acknowledge and agree that this Stipulation and Consent Order constitutes the final order in this case and that this Stipulation and Consent Order is enforceable under sections 120.69, 849.086, and chapter 550, Florida Statutes, as final agency action.

6. Respondent, for itself and its related or resulting organizations, successors, transferees, attorneys, heirs, and executors or administrators, discharges the Commission and its agents, representatives, and attorneys, of and from all claims, demands, actions, causes of action, suits, damages, losses and expenses of any and every nature whatsoever, arising out of or in any way related to this matter and the Commission's actions, including, but not limited to, any claims that were or may be asserted in any federal or state court or administrative forum, including any

claims arising out of this agreement, by or on behalf of Respondent or its related or resulting organizations.

- 7. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorney's fees.
- 8. **PENALTIES:** Respondent agrees to the following penalties:
  - a. <u>Count I</u>: the Parties agree that Respondent will be issued a WRITTEN WARNING. The Written Warning is not appealable and may be considered in aggravation of any future disciplinary proceedings against Respondent.
  - b. <u>Count II</u>: Respondent agrees to and shall pay to the Commission the sum of TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (250.00). The payment shall be received by the Commission within thirty (30) days of filing of the Final Order Adopting the Settlement and Consent (the "Final Order") with the Commission.

9. The payment must be in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, made payable to the Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering (NO PERSONAL CHECKS).

 Respondent must <u>mail the executed Stipulation and Consent Order to</u>: the Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering, 4070 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-7033, Attention: Justin Hundersmarck.

 This Stipulation and Consent Order is entered into in consideration of Respondent's disciplinary history including one prior violation of 75-11.025(17).

12. By executing this Stipulation and Consent Order, the Respondent neither admits nor denies the facts and legal conclusions raised in the Administrative Complaint, and the Commission continues to assert the validity thereof. Nothing in this Stipulation and Consent Order shall be deemed to preclude the Commission from imposing a penalty against Respondent for any

future act(s) or omission(s) constituting either a violation of Florida law or the Florida Administrative Code and this Consent Order may be considered as aggravation of any future proceedings involving Respondent.

13. The parties acknowledge and agree that this Stipulation and Consent Order is subject to the approval of the Commission. The Stipulation and Consent Order will have no force or effect unless and until the Commission files a Final Order adopting this Stipulation and Consent Order. Should this Stipulation and Consent Order be rejected, no statement made in furtherance thereof by Respondent may be used as direct evidence against Respondent in any proceeding.

14. Upon the Commission's adoption of this Stipulation and Consent Order, Respondent agrees to waive any and all appeals and proceedings relating to these proceedings to which it may be entitled, including, but not limited to, an informal proceeding under section 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; a formal proceeding under section 120.57(1), Florida Statutes; appeals under section 120.68, Florida Statutes; and declaratory and all writs of relief in any court or quasicourt of competent jurisdiction; and agrees to waive compliance with the form of the Final Order (findings of fact and conclusions of law) to which it may be entitled, provided, however, that this agreement shall not be deemed a waiver by either party of its right to judicial enforcement of the Stipulation and Consent Order.

15. Venue for any action brought to interpret, enforce, or challenge the terms of this Stipulation and Consent Order and its corresponding Final Order shall lie solely in the Circuit Court of Florida, in and for Leon County, Florida.

16. This Stipulation and Consent Order is executed by the parties for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to the matters addressed herein. In this regard, Respondent authorizes the Commission to review and examine all materials concerning

Respondent, prior to or in conjunction with consideration of this Stipulation and Consent Order. Should the Commission not accept this Stipulation and Consent Order, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of this Stipulation and Consent Order and other documents and matters by the Commission shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Commission from further participation, consideration, or resolution of these proceedings.

 This Stipulation and Consent Order may be signed in counterparts, and copies shall be treated as original.

18. This Stipulation and Consent Order is binding upon all parties.

19. The parties agree that this serves as notice that the signed Stipulation and Consent Order will be placed on the next available Commission meeting. If Respondent would like to attend, Respondent is responsible for checking the Florida Gaming Control Commission website at https://flgaming.gov for the meeting materials, agenda, and contact information. Respondent is not required to attend the Commission meeting.

20. Respondent authorizes the Commission to correct any typographical errors or make any non-material changes to this Stipulation and Consent Order after it is signed.

[Signature pages to follow]

Respondent, TBD ENTERTAINMENT, LLC d/b/a TGT POKER & RACEBOOK,

requests that the Commission enter a Final Order approving and incorporating this Stipulation and Consent Order in resolution of this matter.

Signed this 12 day of Morch, 2025.

TBD ENTERTAINMENT, LLC d/b/a TGT POKER & RACEBOOK, Respondent

Signed on behalf of TBD Entertainment, LLC d/b/a TGT Poker & Racebook, by;/

Printed Name NAMIL Title

COUNTY OF Hilkhwargt

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me, by means of Aphysical presence or  $\Box$  online notarization, this <u>12</u> day of <u>March</u>, 2025, by a duly authorized representative of TBD Entertainment, LLC d/b/a TGT Poker & Racebook,, who is personally known to me or who produced the following as identification:

Talar 9

Notary Public

My commission expires: LINDA NOTARANGELO Notary Public - State of Florida Commission # HH 532518 My Comm. Expires Sep 5, 2028 Bonded through National Notary Assn. This Stipulation and Consent Order for the Florida Gaming Control Commission Case Number 2024-058077 is APPROVED for legal sufficiency this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

.

Justin Hundersmarck Senior Attorney Florida Gaming Control Commission

2024-058077

.

# Rutledge | Ecenia

119 South Monroe Street, Suite 202 Tallahassee, FL 32301

> PO Box 551 Tallahassee, FL 32302

March 25, 2025

# HAND DELIVERY

Justin Hundersmarck Office of the General Counsel Florida Gaming Control Commission 4070 Esplanade Way Tallahassee, Florida 32399 RECEIVED

# Re: Stipulation and Consent Order/FGCC Case No. 2024-058077 Stipulation and Consent Order/FGCC Case No. 2024-063449

Justin,

Thank you for your assistance with regards to handling the above referenced cases. Enclosed please find the executed orders in both cases including a check in the amount of \$250.00.

Sincerely,

Gary R. Rutledge

GRR/vw Enclosures

#### 1/06/2025

#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

# FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

FGCC Case No.: 2024-058077

TBD ENTERTAINMENT, LLC d/b/a TGT POKER & RACEBOOK,

Respondent.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), files this Administrative Complaint against TBD Entertainment, LLC d/b/a TGT Poker and Racebook, ("Respondent"), and alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating pari-mutuel wagering and cardroom operations pursuant to chapters 550 and 849, Florida Statutes.

2. At all times material hereto, Respondent held a pari-mutuel wagering permit pursuant to Section 550.054, and license pursuant to Section 550.0115, both issued by the Commission.

3. At all times material hereto, Respondent held a valid cardroom license number 140 issued by the Commission under section 849.086, Florida Statutes, and operated a cardroom within the meaning of section 849.086(2)(c), Florida Statutes, at its Facility (the "Cardroom"). The Cardroom is a Facility operated by the Respondent at all times material hereto, and is located at 755 East Waters Avenue. Tampa, FL 33604.

### <u>COUNT I</u>

4. Petitioner realleges and adopts paragraphs numbered one through three as if set forth fully herein.

5. During a routine inspection of the cardroom on September 30, 2024, Commission investigators viewed recorded surveillance video of Tournament Floor Supervisor Christopher Henry Henson neglecting to secure a Tournament Podium and leaving it unattended, while it contained chips and a total of \$3868.00 in tournament prize money. This resulted in a patron stealing the \$3868.00.

6. Rule 75.11.015(1), Florida Administrative Code, provides "[a]ll chips and tokens not in play or which are not available for play or use that day shall be locked in a secure location."

7. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated rule 75.11.015(1), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to lock and secure chips that were not in play or available for use on that day.

### COUNT II

8. Petitioner realleges and adopts paragraphs numbered one through three as if set forth fully herein.

9. On September 30, 2024, Commission investigators determined that Poker Room Floor Supervisor, Matthew Alan Dillahunty, accessed the surveillance room and failed to comply with the requirement of documenting his monitoring of the surveillance footage in the logbook.

10. Rule 75-11.025(17), Florida Administrative Code, provides, in pertinent part, that:

Each cardroom operator shall maintain a log of all surveillance activities in the surveillance room that shall include:(a) The name and license number of each person who initiates, performs, or supervises the surveillance monitoring;(b) Reason for the surveillance, including the name, if known, the description of each individual being monitored, the date and time

the monitoring commences and ends, and a brief description of the activity in which the monitored person is engaging.

11. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated rule 75-11.025(17),

Florida Administrative Code, by failing to maintain a log of all surveillance

activities in the surveillance room.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests the Florida Gaming Control Commission

enter an Order imposing against Respondent one or more of the penalties specified in section

849.086(14), Florida Statutes, and/or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Administrative Complaint for FGCC Case Number 2024-058077 is signed this 2nd day of January 2025.

/s/ Justin Hundersmarck

Justin Hundersmarck Senior Attorney FBN: 1039038 Florida Gaming Control Commission Office of the General Counsel Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering 4070 Esplanade Way, Suite 250 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2202 Telephone: (850)794-8063 Facsimile: +1 (850) 536-8709 Primary: Justin.Hundersmarck@flgaming.gov Secondary: Ebonie.Lanier@flgaming.gov

### NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, you have the right to request a hearing to challenge the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint. If you choose to request a hearing, you will have the right to be represented by counsel, or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses, and to have subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum issued on your behalf.

Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint must conform to rule 28-106.2015, Florida Administrative Code. Pursuant to rule 28-106.111, Florida Administrative Code, you must request a hearing within 21 days from receipt of this Notice, or you will waive your right to request a hearing.

Mediation under section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.

VR Home	Inbox E	ntity	Application	License	Cash	Exam	Inspection	Enforcemen	t Report
Complaint So pdate M	earch Cha ass <mark>Status</mark> Upd		rding License Public Case In		Delete Co	mplaint	Mass Activ	vity Update	Mass Discipline
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mplaint #	2024058077	Cas	e Type CMP Com	plaint	Dispositio	n		Dispositio	n Date
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Complaint	Responde	nt Co	omplainant	Addt'l Int	fo				
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Entered	10/08/2024		Entered	By jhod	ge		Inspectio	n	
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	Greyhound 1 violations: 1						Time Track	ling	Auto Assign
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Updated	10/31/2024 1	6:18:51		By jhod	ge				
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Louis Trombetta, Executive Director

Ron DeSantis, Governor

# **OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS**

	INVE		REPORT			
Office:	Region:	Date of C	Complaint:	Case Number:		
PMW	CENTRAL	OCTOBE	R 8, 2024	2024 05 8077		
Respondent: TBD ENTERTAIN 755 E Waters Ave TAMPA, FLORIDA TEL# (813) 932-4	e. A 33604		Complainant: DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS 1400 W. COMMERCIAL BLVD. SUITE 165 FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33309			
	# and Type:		ssion:	Report Date:		
	/ 1002		HOLDER	OCTOBER 18, 2024		
	Period of Investigation ER 30, 2024 – OCTOB			Type of Report: <b>FINAL</b>		
	75-11.015 Chips and T					
-	-		av or use that day s	hall be locked in a secure location.		
<ul> <li>(17) Each cardr</li> <li>include:</li> <li>(a) The name</li> <li>monitoring;</li> <li>(b) Reason for the date and time the person is engaging;</li> </ul>	and license number of the surveillance, includin ne monitoring commence	ntain a log of all su f each person wh g the name, if kno es and ends, and a	o initiates, perform wn, the description brief description c	s in the surveillance room that shall ms, or supervises the surveillance of each individual being monitored, of the activity in which the monitored		
<ul> <li>Synopsis: On September 30, 2024, I conducted a cardroom inspection at the TAMPA GREYHOUND TRACK and found the following violations:</li> <li>1. A Tournament Podium, which contained chips and currency, was left unattended and unsecured, which lead to a theft of currency.</li> <li>2. The Surveillance Activity Logbook was found to be incomplete and did not comply with the specified regulations.</li> </ul>						
	Case #2023 08 8637					
Investigation Spec	cialist II / Date		nvestigation Man			
15/ Rando	anson		s/ C. Purt	Warhang		
	October 18, 2024		C. Derek Washington / October 25, 2024			
Chief of Investigat /s/ Bradford D. Jones	R.					

### CONTINUATION

On September 30, 2024, I conducted a regular inspection of the cardroom at the **TAMPA GREYHOUND TRACK**. During the inspection, I carefully examined the Surveillance Activity Logbook and discovered that a theft had taken place on September 28, 2024, around 1:01 AM at the facility. Upon reviewing the recorded surveillance video, I observed Tournament Floor Supervisor, Christopher Henry Henson (PMW LIC #8183521 - EXP: 6/30/2027) neglecting to secure a Tournament Podium and leaving it unattended, while it contained chips and a total of three thousand eight hundred sixty-eight dollars (\$3,868.00) in tournament prize money. This negligence resulted in an unknown patron stealing the \$3,868.00.

Additionally, I found that Poker Room Floor Supervisor, Matthew Alan Dillahunty (PMW LIC# 1619254 – EXP. 6/30/2027) accessed the surveillance room on September 30, 2024, between 4:41 PM and 5:14 PM to review saved surveillance footage of poker game activity. However, he failed to comply with the requirement of documenting his monitoring of surveillance footage in the logbook as required by Rule. A check of the Surveillance Activity Logbook reveals no entry between 4:41 PM and 5:15 PM on September 30, 2024 (EXHIBIT #4). The violations in question were brought to the attention of Jacob Darrell Mast, who is the Poker Room Manager (PMW LIC# 7050031 - EXP 6/30/2026).

Upon completion of the inspection at **TAMPA GREYHOUND TRACK** (TBD Entertainment, LLC.), it was determined that the facility was in violation of F.A.C. 75-11.015. This violation was due to the failure to lock and secure a podium that contained chips and currency that were not in play or available for use on that day. Additionally, the establishment was found to be in violation of F.A.C. 75-11.025(a)(b) because the Floor Supervisor did not comply with the specified regulations. Specifically, failing to document in the Surveillance Activity Logbook his monitoring of surveillance footage.

A review of the Versa Regulation Enforcement database revealed **TAMPA GREYHOUND TRACK** (TBD Entertainment, LLC.) has one prior violation of 75-11.025(a)(b):

1. Case # 2023 05 8637, verbal warning was issued (EXHIBIT #5).

**Case Status:** Closed by Investigations and referred to Legal for review.

# CONTINUATION

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FAO | Help | Sign Out

Logged in as: jhodge

VR Home	Inbo	K Entity	Application	License	Cash	Exam	Inspection	Enforcement	Report
License Searc	:h	Entity Search	Modify Lic	ense Standir	g	Maintain	License CE C	ontrol	

Domain	10	- Division	of	Pari-Mutuel	Wagering
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License		<u></u>				]	Licensee
Fed Tax	#	Lic Type	1002 - Cardroom	l License	Expires On 06/30/2025		History
File	# 27	Name	TBD ENTERTAIN	IMENT,	Extended To		Notes
License	# 140	Rank	CLIC - Cardroom	1	Renewed On		Notes History Back
Entity	# 140	Lic Status		50		3	Dack
Address	5					1	
Street	# St	treet POBO	X 2007				
Line	2						
Line	3						
Cit	ty <b>TAMPA</b>		State FL		Zip 33674-8096		
		Routing					
Other						1	
1st Licer	nse Date 03	/18/2024	Rank Date 09/1	2/2024	Certificate #		
	Method I-S	5-1020	Status Date 06/2	4/2002	Certificate Date		
Fee	Exempt No	<b>)</b>	Birth Date		Renewal Sent		
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DBA	Lucky's C	ardroom				EXHIBIT	#1
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# Surveillance Room Log

Employee performing Surveillance	Start Time: <u>0859</u> Print Name <u>Aberky M<sup>c</sup>CULLACH</u> IP TROP SURVEILLE	aver	Camera <u>PTZ-6</u> Signature
Offense		( and ing(o)	
Date:	If offense occurred note Meter Start Time:	E d Time of	
Date: <u>9-78-</u> 24 Employee performing Surveillance Reason <u>Cevrew</u> <u>&amp; M.K. Mak</u>		End Time: <u>1:32 pm</u> License # <u>10598540</u> with TPD	Camera <u>M213</u> Signature (officer Goser)
Offense		the section of (a)	
Date:	If offense occurred note Meter Start Time:	= I Times	
Date: <u>9-29</u> -24 Employee performing Surveillance Reason <u>CNII</u>	Start Time: <u>0858</u> Print Name Rocky <u>M<sup>c</sup>CVLLDCR</u> P DAOP SVRVEILLI	and the second s	Camera <u>PTZ-6</u> Signature
Offense 0923 c	HIP POWAL	(inclusion of the second ing(s)	
Date:	If offense occurred note Meter Start Time:		
Employee performing Surveillance	Start Time: <u>69p1</u> Print Name <u>ROCKT MCLVLLOCH</u> IP DROP SURVEJSK	End Time: <u>0938</u> License # <u>8539192</u> ANCE	Camera <u>PTZ-6</u> Signature
Offense			
Date:	If offense occurred note Meter Start Time:		
			EXHIBIT #2

]

PAGE 5/6

	Surveillan	ce Room Log	OTL
Date: <u>9/30/14</u> Employee performin Surveillance Reason <u>Name</u>	MATT Duthen	End Time: <u>1415</u> License # 	Camera PETT Signature
Offense	Contena e deserva da	nations of a methodal	and the second second second
Date:		ote time of recording(s) Meter End Time	
Employee performing Surveillance	Start Time: <u>0908</u> Print Name <u>Rocky McCusho</u> IP DROP SURVEILL	License #	Camera <u>PTZ-4</u> Signature
Offense	E office provided	to time of monotonetal	
Date:	If offense occurred no Meter Start Time:	Meter End Time:	
Date: <u>lofor/vo</u> ry Employee performing Surveillance Reason <u>CH</u>	Start Time: <u>0982</u> Print Name <u>Duc Lun</u> P DNSP SURVEICLAN	License # <u>13779356</u>	Camera <u>PTZ C</u> Signature
Offense	If offense occurred not Meter Start Time:		
Date: <u>1012129</u> Employee performing Surveillance Reason Ficer Ansp	Start Time: <u>10:58</u> Print Name Chan Cansar Chan Quzit	End Time: License # 344C La My Bhuteek	Camera <u>ALL</u> Signature Unda JumSch
	If offense occurred note Meter Start Time:		

EXHIBIT #2 PAGE 6/6

							FAQ   Help	Sign Out
VR Home	Inbox Entity	Application	License	Cash	Exam	Inspection	Enforcement	Report
Complaint S Update N	Search Change R Mass Status Update	ecording License Public Case In		elete Comp	laint	Mass Activity Up	odate Mass D	iscipline
Domain 10 - I	Division of Pari-Mu	ituel Wagering					Logged in as	cstubbs1
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	1002 - Cardroom L			Status	90 Clos	ed	Status Date 12	/18/2023
Complaint #	2023058637	CMP Case Type Com		isposition		Dis	position Date	
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Complaint	Respondent	Complainant	Addt'l Info					
Source	INTN - Internal	Security Le	evel 1			Parties	Activit	ies
Form	INTR - Internal	Pric	rity					
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Security	STND - Standard	Incid	lent 10/16/2	2023		Violations	Complia	ance
Region	CR - Central Region	Recei	ved <b>10/18</b> /2	2023		Related	Dispos	ition
Reference	75-11.025					Increation	1	
Entered	10/18/2023	Entered	By cstubl	os1		Inspection	]	
	140 - Tampa Grey Surveillance: On routine quarterly	October 17, 202	23, during a	a		Costs	]	
Summary	ENTERTAINMENT supervisors enter	F, LLC., I found red the surveilla	that two ance room		П [Т	ime Tracking	Auto As	sign
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						1 .		

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EXHIBIT #5 PAGE 1/4



Louis Trombetta, Executive Director

Ron DeSantis, Governor

# **OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS**

	INVE	STIGATIVE R	EPORT			
Office:	Region:		Complaint:	Case Number:		
PMW	CENTRAL	OCTOBE	R 18, 2023	2023 05 8637		
Respondent:			Complainant			
TBD ENTERTAIN	IMENT, LLC.		DIVISION OF PA	RI-MUTUEL WAGERING		
(TAMPA GREYHO			OFFICE OF INVI			
755 E. Waters Av				ERCIAL BLVD. SUITE 165		
TAMPA FLORIDA	33604		FT. LAUDERDA TEL 954-202-3	LE, FLORIDA 33309		
TEL# (813) 932-43	313		TEL 554-202-5			
License	# and Type:	and the second	ssion:	Report Date:		
	/ 1002		HOLDER	NOVEMBER 16, 2023		
	Period of Investigation 17, 2023 – NOVEMBE			Type of Report: FINAL		
	ation: 75-11.025 Ca		onic Surveilland			
				ce activities in the surveillance		
room that shall in	nclude:					
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surveillance mon						
				e description of each individual		
	, the date and time tr ich the monitored pe			ends, and a brief description of		
	ich the monitored pe	i son is engaging	9.			
Synopsis: On (	October 17, 2023, c	during a routine	cardroom insp	ection at Tampa Greyhound		
				room supervisors entered the		
				lance coverage of poker game		
		e, license numb	er and the reas	son for the surveillance in the		
	book as required.					
Related Case(s):						
Investigator / Da	te	1	nvestigator Supe	ervisor / Date		
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Is/	Island O			Isl		
	November 16, 2023		C. Derek Washington / December 18, 2023			
Chief of Investiga	ations / Date					
Isi Jon	1 hours					
Bradford D. Jone	es / December 19,	2023				
Diadiora D. cones / December 10, 2020						

### **CONTINUATION**

On October 17, 2023, I conducted a routine cardroom inspection at **Tampa Greyhound Track**. While reviewing surveillance footage of October 16 and 17, 2023, I discovered that two Supervisors, Matthew Alan **DILLAHUNTY** (PMW LIC# 1619254 - EXP 6/30/2024) and Sean Edmund **STELLER** (PMW LIC# 8732593 - Exp 6/30/2024) entered the surveillance room on multiple occasions to observe saved surveillance coverage of poker game activity but failed to log their name, license number and the reason for the surveillance in the surveillance logbook **(EXHIBIT #2)**.

A careful review of the video evidence of October 16, 2023, and October 17, 2023, obtained from Tampa Greyhound Track revealed the following violations (EXHIBIT #2):

- On October 16, 2023, at 5:50 PM, DILLAHUNTY entered the Surveillance Room, reviewed saved surveillance coverage, and failed to sign into the Surveillance Book. (EXHIBIT #2 & #3)
- On October 17, 2023, at 12:40 AM, STELLER entered the Surveillance Room, reviewed saved surveillance coverage, and failed to sign into the Surveillance Book. (EXHIBIT #2 & #3)
- On October 17, 2023, at 2:33 AM, STELLER entered the Surveillance Room, reviewed saved surveillance coverage, and failed to sign into the Surveillance Book. (EXHIBIT #2 & #3)

I then reviewed the Surveillance Logbook and confirmed that **DILLAHUNTY** and **STELLER** failed to log in their surveillance activity as required by the above-cited rule.

Poker Room Supervisor Matthew John **BENNETT** (PMW LIC# 7910238 - EXP 6/30/2025) was informed of this violation.

A review of the Versa Regulation Enforcement database showed no prior violations of the above-cited rule. Since this is the facility's first violation of the above-cited rule, a verbal warning was issued.

Case Status: Investigations case closed. No further action will be taken at this time.



## **CONTINUATION**

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# **MEMORANDUM**

To:	The Florida Gaming Control Commission
From:	Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering
Through	Justin Hundersmarck, Senior Attorney
Re:	FGCC v Tampa Bay Downs, Inc.,
	Case No. 2024-063449; Consent Order
Date:	March 27, 2025.

# Executive Summary

Tampa Bay Downs, Inc., ("Respondent") seeks the adoption of the proposed settlement and consent order to resolve case no. 2024-063449. Pursuant to the terms of the proposed order, Respondent will be issued a written warning by the Florida Gaming Control Commission.

# Background

On January 6, 2025, an administrative complaint was filed against Respondent alleging a violation of rule 75.11.020(1), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to have a drop box marked with a permanent number corresponding to the table number to which the drop box is assigned. Respondent has no prior violations of this rule.

# Analysis

Rule 75-11.020(1), Florida Administrative Code, provides in relevant part that, "the drop box shall be: (a) marked with a permanent number corresponding to the table number to which the drop box is assigned."

Under section 120.57(4), Florida Statutes, the Commission may resolve matters such as this case informally through a negotiated settlement. As part of settlement negotiations, Respondent is requesting that the Commission consider and agree to the proposed terms set forth in the Consent Order, whereby Respondent be issued a written warning, effective from the date the Final Order is filed with the Clerk of the Commission.

### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

FGCC Case No.: 2024-063449

# FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

TAMPA BAY DOWNS, INC.,

8

Respondent.

### STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering (hereinafter the "Commission") and Tampa Bay Downs, Inc. (hereinafter "Respondent"), each individually, a "party," and collectively as "parties," hereby agree and stipulate as follows:

WHEREAS, the Commission has jurisdiction over this matter and Respondent; and

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2025, the Commission filed an Administrative Complaint against Respondent, alleging that Respondent violated rule 75-11.020(1), Florida Administrative Code, by failing to have a drop box marked with a permanent number corresponding to the table number to which the drop box is assigned (the "Administrative Complaint"); and

WHEREAS, the parties have negotiated and agreed that the best interest of all the parties will be served by a settlement of these proceedings in lieu of further litigation.

### STIPULATION

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and recitals herein, the parties hereby agree and stipulate to the following:

1. All recitals herein are true and correct and are incorporated herein.

 All parties agree that the above "whereas" clauses incorporated herein are binding findings of the parties.

 The Commission is authorized by section 120.57, Florida Statutes, to resolve administrative proceedings by consent orders.

4. Each party has entered into the terms of this Stipulation and Consent Order voluntarily. Respondent is aware that it is entitled to the advice of counsel and has either sought the advice of counsel or, by execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order, is knowingly waiving the right to have the advice of counsel. Respondent acknowledges that the Commission has not made any promise, nor has it in any other way encouraged Respondent to enter into this Stipulation and Consent Order without the advice of counsel.

5. The parties acknowledge and agree that this Stipulation and Consent Order constitutes the final order in this case and that this Stipulation and Consent Order is enforceable under sections 120.69, 849.086, and chapter 550, Florida Statutes, as final agency action.

6. Respondent, for itself and its related or resulting organizations, successors, transferees, attorneys, heirs, and executors or administrators, discharges the Commission and its agents, representatives, and attorneys, of and from all claims, demands, actions, causes of action, suits, damages, losses and expenses of any and every nature whatsoever, arising out of or in any way related to this matter and the Commission's actions, including, but not limited to, any claims that were or may be asserted in any federal or state court or administrative forum, including any claims arising out of this agreement, by or on behalf of Respondent or its related or resulting organizations.

7. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorney's fees.

8. WARNING: The Parties agree that Respondent will be issued a WRITTEN WARNING. The Written Warning is not appealable and may be considered in aggravation of any future disciplinary proceedings against Respondent.

 Respondent must <u>mail the executed Stipulation and Consent Order to</u>: the Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering, 4070 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-7033, Attention: Justin Hundersmarck.

10. This Stipulation and Consent Order is entered into in consideration of Respondent's disciplinary history, including one prior violation of 75-11.020(1), Florida Administrative Code.

11. By executing this Stipulation and Consent Order, the Respondent neither admits nor denies the facts and legal conclusions raised in the Administrative Complaint, and the Commission continues to assert the validity thereof. Nothing in this Stipulation and Consent Order shall be deemed to preclude the Commission from imposing a penalty against Respondent for any future act(s) or omission(s) constituting either a violation of Florida law or the Florida Administrative Code and this Consent Order may be considered as aggravation of any future proceedings involving Respondent.

12. The parties acknowledge and agree that this Stipulation and Consent Order is subject to the approval of the Commission. The Stipulation and Consent Order will have no force or effect unless and until the Commission files a Final Order adopting this Stipulation and Consent Order. Should this Stipulation and Consent Order be rejected, no statement made in furtherance thereof by Respondent may be used as direct evidence against Respondent in any proceeding.

13. Upon the Commission's adoption of this Stipulation and Consent Order, Respondent agrees to waive any and all appeals and proceedings relating to these proceedings to which it may be entitled, including, but not limited to, an informal proceeding under section

120.57(2), Florida Statutes; a formal proceeding under section 120.57(1), Florida Statutes; appeals under section 120.68, Florida Statutes; and declaratory and all writs of relief in any court or quasicourt of competent jurisdiction; and agrees to waive compliance with the form of the Final Order (findings of fact and conclusions of law) to which it may be entitled, provided, however, that this agreement shall not be deemed a waiver by either party of its right to judicial enforcement of the Stipulation and Consent Order.

14. Venue for any action brought to interpret, enforce, or challenge the terms of this Stipulation and Consent Order and its corresponding Final Order shall lie solely in the Circuit Court of Florida, in and for Leon County, Florida.

15. This Stipulation and Consent Order is executed by the parties for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to the matters addressed herein. In this regard, Respondent authorizes the Commission to review and examine all materials concerning Respondent, prior to or in conjunction with consideration of this Stipulation and Consent Order. Should the Commission not accept this Stipulation and Consent Order, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of this Stipulation and Consent Order and other documents and matters by the Commission shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Commission from further participation, consideration, or resolution of these proceedings.

 This Stipulation and Consent Order may be signed in counterparts, and copies shall be treated as original.

17. This Stipulation and Consent Order is binding upon all parties.

18. The parties agree that this serves as notice that the signed Stipulation and Consent Order will be placed on the next available Commission meeting. If Respondent would like to attend, Respondent is responsible for checking the Florida Gaming Control Commission website

at https://flgaming.gov for the meeting materials, agenda, and contact information. Respondent is not required to attend the Commission meeting.

19. Respondent authorizes the Commission to correct any typographical errors or make any non-material changes to this Stipulation and Consent Order after it is signed.

[Signature pages to follow]

2024 063449

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Respondent, TAMPA BAY DOWNS, INC., requests that the Commission enter a Final

Order approving and incorporating this Stipulation and Consent Order in resolution of this matter.

Signed this 12 day of March , 2025.

TAMPA BAY DOWNS, INC., Respondent

Signed on behalf of Tampa Bay Downs, Inc., by:

Chegory Gayn Printed Name

Ul Furger le

Title

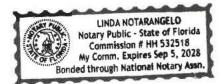
STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF Hillsprog L

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me, by means of physical presence or  $\Box$  online notarization, this 12 day of March, 2025, by a duly authorized representative of Tampa Bay Downs, Inc., who is personally known to me or who produced the following as identification:

inea / at a sugelo

Notary Public

My commission expires:



This Stipulation and Consent Order for the Florida Gaming Control Commission Case Number 2024-063449 is APPROVED for legal sufficiency this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

> Justin Hundersmarck Senior Attorney The Florida Gaming Control Commission

2024 063449

### 1/06/2025

### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

# FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

TAMPA BAY DOWNS, INC.,

Respondent.

### ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), files this Administrative Complaint against Tampa Bay Downs, Inc. ("Respondent"), and alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating pari-mutuel wagering and cardroom operations pursuant to chapters 550 and 849, Florida Statutes.

2. At all times material hereto, Respondent held a pari-mutuel wagering permit pursuant to Section 550.054, and license pursuant to Section 550.0115, both issued by the Commission.

3. At all times material hereto, Respondent held a valid cardroom license number 320 issued by the Commission under section 849.086, Florida Statutes, and operated a cardroom within the meaning of section 849.086(2)(c), Florida Statutes, at its Facility (the "Cardroom").

4. The Cardroom is a Facility operated by the Respondent at all times material hereto, and is located at 11225 Race Track Road, Tampa, FL 33626.

FGCC Case No.: 2024-063449

5. During a routine inspection of the cardroom on November 4, 2024, Commission investigators observed that the drop boxes for tables #2-1 and #2-2 were incorrectly labeled, resulting in the table numbers no longer corresponding to the drop boxes.

6. Rule 75.11.020(1) Florida Administrative Code, provides, in pertinent part that, "the drop box shall be: (a) marked with a permanent number corresponding to the table number to which the drop box is assigned.

7. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated rule 75.11.020, Florida Administrative Code, by failing to have a drop box marked with a permanent number corresponding to the table number to which the drop box is assigned.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter an Order imposing against Respondent one or more of the penalties specified in section 849.086(14), Florida Statutes, and/or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Administrative Complaint for FGCC Case Number 2024-063449 is signed this 19th day of December 2024.

# /s/ Justin Hundersmarck

Justin Hundersmarck Senior Attorney FBN: 1039038 Florida Gaming Control Commission Office of the General Counsel Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering 4070 Esplanade Way, Suite 250 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2202 Telephone: (850)794-8063 Facsimile: +1 (850) 536-8709 Primary: Justin.Hundersmarck@flgaming.gov Secondary: Ebonie.Lanier@flgaming.gov

### NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, you have the right to request a hearing to challenge the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint. If you choose to request a hearing, you will have the right to be represented by counsel, or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses, and to have subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum issued on your behalf.

Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint must conform to rule 28-106.2015, Florida Administrative Code. Pursuant to rule 28-106.111, Florida Administrative Code, you must request a hearing within 21 days from receipt of this Notice, or you will waive your right to request a hearing.

Mediation under section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.

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Reference	75-11.020	)					I&nspection			
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	320 - TAMPA BAY DOWNS, INC - Drop Box and Key Control Procedures On November 4, 2024, I conducted a routine bi-weekly cardroom inspection at TAMPA BAY DOWNS. During my inspection, I observed the following violation: Table #2-1 and #2-2 had their drop boxes switched, resulting in the Tables numbers not corresponding to the drop boxes.					Costs	ng Au	uto Assign		
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Louis Trombetta, Executive Director

Ron DeSantis, Governor

# **OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS**

# **INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

Office:	Region:	Date of C		Case Number:			
PMW	CENTRAL NOVEMB		ER 5, 2024	2024 06 3449			
Respondent: TAMPA BAY DO P.O. BOX 2007, OLDSMAR, FLO TEL. # (813) 222	ORIDA 34677		Complainant: DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS 1400 W. COMMERCIAL BLVD. SUITE 165 FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33309				
License	# and Type:	Profe	ession: Report Date:				
	/ 1002		HOLDER	NOVEMBER 5, 2024			
	Period of Investigatio		Type of Report:				
	<u>R 4, 2024 – NOVEM</u> on: 75-11.020 Drop B			FINAL			
<ul> <li>(1) Each table shall have a drop box that is configured to permit the dealer to insert the rake directly into the drop box. The drop box shall be:</li> <li>(a) Marked with a permanent number corresponding to the table number to which the drop box is assigned.</li> <li>Synopsis: On November 4, 2024, I conducted a routine bi-weekly cardroom inspection at TAMPA BAY DOWNS. During my inspection, I observed a discrepancy involving the drop boxes at Tables</li> </ul>							
#2-1 and #2-2. Specifically, the drop boxes for these tables had been inadvertently switched,							
resulting in the Tables numbers no longer corresponding to the drop boxes.							
Related Case: 2021 05 6062							
Investigations Spe		1	Investigation Manager / Date:				
15/ Rando	anson		Is Purt Warting				
Randa Samson	/ November 5, 202	24 C	C. Derek Washington / November 19, 2024				
Chief of Investiga /s/ Bradford D. Jone	The state	2024					

### CONTINUATION

On November 4, 2024, at approximately 11:59 AM, I conducted a routine bi-weekly inspection of the cardroom at **TAMPA BAY DOWNS**. During my walk through of the cardroom floor, I observed that the drop boxes for tables #2-1 and #2-2 had been incorrectly swapped. Specifically, I found that drop box #2-2 was inserted and securely attached to table #2-1, while drop box #2-1 was installed and secured to table #2-2 (**EXHIBIT #2**).

This violation was reported to Poker Room Floor Supervisor, Vincent Paul Zumpano Sr. (PMW LIC# 7617952 – Exp. June 30, 2027), who promptly switched the drop boxes and secured them to their correct tables.

**TAMPA BAY DOWNS** has been found in violation of F.A.C. Rule 75-11.020 (1) (a) due to the incorrect placement of drop boxes in the tables, causing a mismatch between the table numbers and the drop boxes.

A review of the Versa Regulation Enforcement database indicates one prior violation of the cited rule, for which a verbal warning was issued (refer to Case #2021 05 6062).

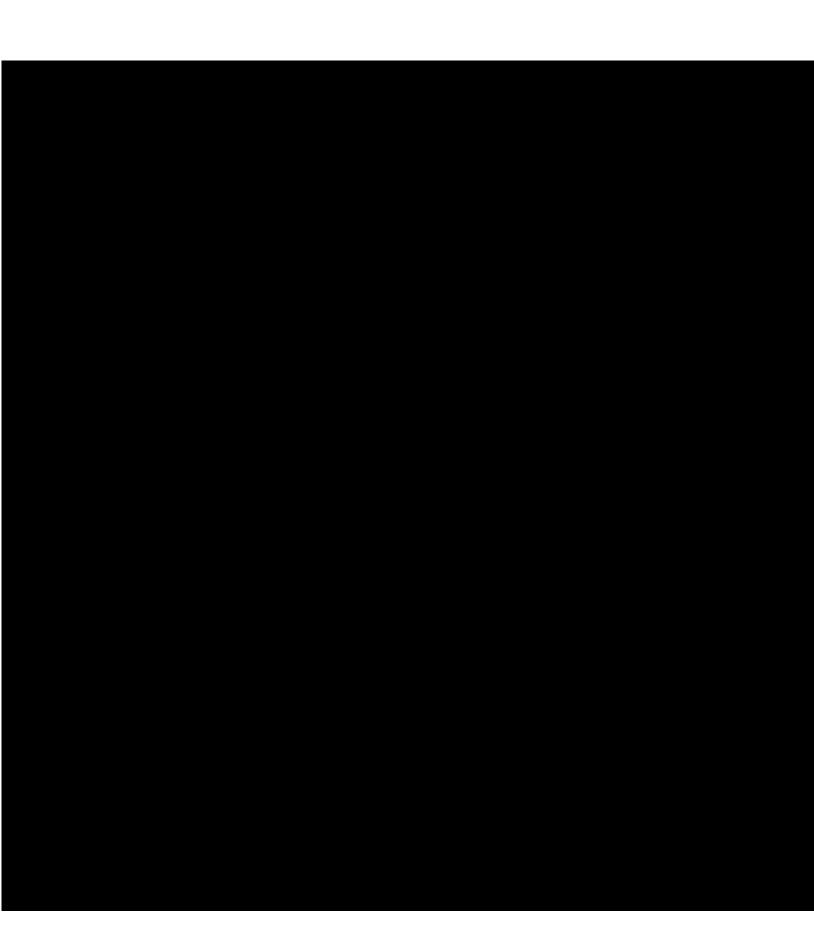
Case Status: Investigation case closed, and case referred to Legal for review

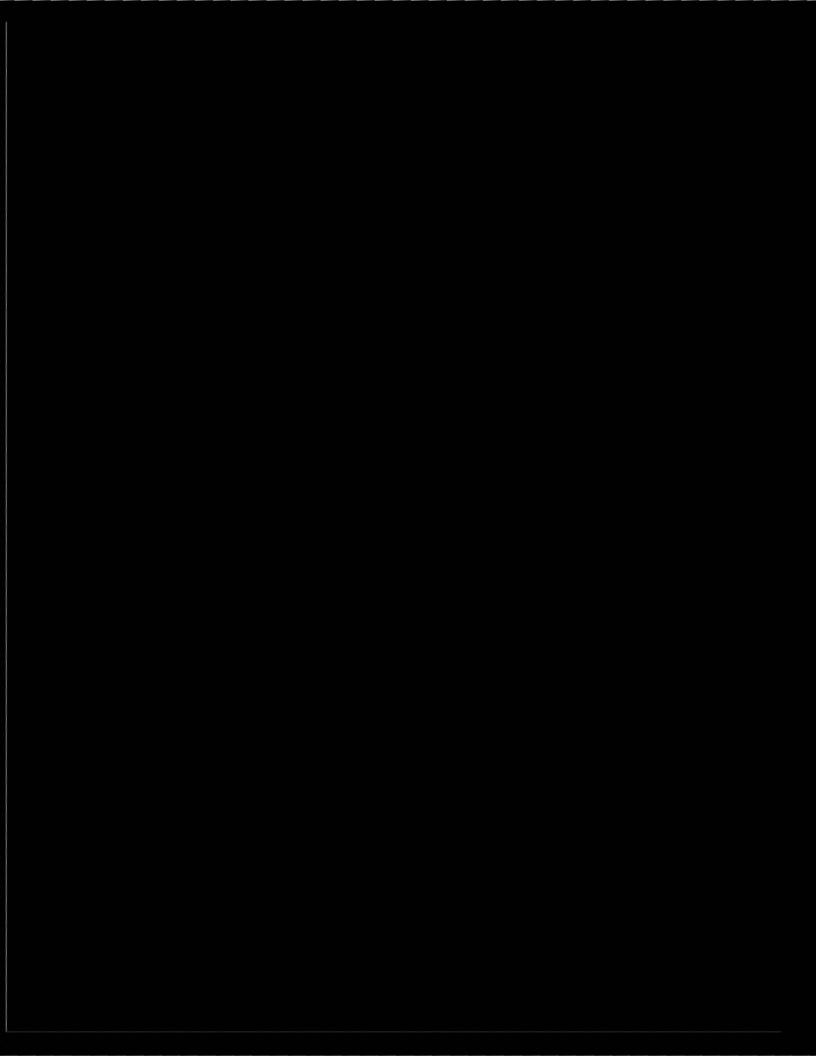
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III.	EXHIBITS	
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	2. Photos	1-2
	3. Prior Case	1-4

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EXHIBIT #1 PAGE 1/1





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Julie I. Brown, Secretary

Ron DeSantis, Governor

# **OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS**

# **INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

Office: PMW	Region: Date of Comp CENTRAL DECE		nt: ER 6, 2021	Case Number: 2021 05 6062
Respondent:		I	Complainant:	
TAMPA BAY DO P.O. Box 2007, OLDSMAR, FL			PROFESSIONA	ORIDA, OF BUSINESS AND AL REGULATION, ARI-MUTUEL WAGERING
TEL # (813) 222-	8935			
License # and Typ	be: 0 /1002	Profession:	HOLDER	Report Date: DECEMBER 6, 2021
Period of Investiga	ation:		Type of Repor	t:
	ER 6, 2021 – DECEME 1: 61D-11.020 Drop		optrol Drocodur	FINAL
<ul> <li>(1) Each table shinto the drop box</li> <li>(a) Corresponding</li> <li>Synopsis: On Dependence</li> <li>DOWNS. During</li> </ul>	hall have a drop box a. The drop box shall ing to the table number ecember 6, 2021, I co my facility visit, I ob	that is configure be: er to which the d onducted a routing served the follow	d to permit the de lrop box is assign ne Cardroom faci ving violation: Ta	ealer to insert the rake directly
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Chief of Investigat				
151 Star	E. Koga	0.4		
Steven E. Kogan	/ December 7, 20	21		

# DBPR INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

# CONTINUATION

Investigative Activity:

On December 6, 2021, at approximately 11:15 AM, I conducted a routine facility visit at **TAMPA BAY DOWNS.** While walking the cardroom floor, I found tables #3-7 and table #3-8 had their jackpot drop boxes switched with each other. Table #3-7 had jackpot drop box #3-8 inserted and secured to the table, and table # 3-8 had drop box #3-7 inserted and secured to the table **(EXHIBIT #2).** 

This violation was brought to the attention of Poker Room Manager **ROBERT J. DELLACAMERA (PMW LIC# 7852105),** and he immediately switched the jackpot boxes and secured them into their correct tables.

**TAMPA BAY DOWNS** violated F.A.C. Rule 61D-11.020 (1) (a) because jackpot drop boxes were mistakenly placed in the wrong tables.

A review of Versa Regulation Enforcement database shows no prior violation of this specific rule. Therefore, a verbal warning was issued.

Status: Investigation case closed.

EXHIBIT #3 PAGE 3/4 **DBPR INVESTIGATIVE REPORT** 

CASE NUMBER: 2021 05 6062

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	2. PHOTOS1-2



# **MEMORANDUM**

To:	The Florida Gaming Control Commission
From:	Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering
Through	Justin Hundersmarck, Senior Attorney
Re:	FGCC v. German Ernesto Bonesi,
	Case No. 2024-067393; Consent Order
Date:	March 26, 2025.

# Executive Summary

German Ernesto Bonesi ("Respondent") seeks the adoption of the proposed settlement and consent order to resolve Case No. 2024-067393. Pursuant to the terms of the proposed order, the Respondent will agree that the Commission is revoking Respondent's license and declaring Respondent ineligible for licensure under chapters 550, 551, and section 849.086, Florida Statutes, for a period of ten years from the date the Final Order is filed with the Clerk of the Commission.

# Relevant Facts

On December 11, 2024, an administrative complaint was filed against Respondent alleging a violation of rule 75-11.011, Florida Administrative Code by failing to provide written notification to Petitioner within five days of Respondent's November 15, 2024 arrest for Grand Theft – Greater than \$100,000 and Organized Scheme to Defraud - over \$50,000.

# Analysis

Rule 75-11.011, Florida Administrative Code, states in relevant part that "[a]ny cardroom occupational licensee shall provide written notification to the division when the licensee has been arrested, indicted, or charged in any other way with a criminal offense within five days of the arrest, or if not arrested, within five days of the receipt of a charging document."

Under section 120.57(4), Florida Statutes, the Commission may resolve matters such as this case informally through a negotiated settlement. As part of settlement negotiations, Respondent is requesting that the Commission consider and agree to the proposed terms set forth in the Consent Order, whereby Respondent will agree that the Commission is revoking Respondent's license and declaring Respondent ineligible for licensure issued under chapters 550, 551, and section 849.086, Florida Statutes, for a period of ten years from the date the Final Order is filed with the Clerk of the Commission.

# STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

# FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

FGCC Case No.: 2024-067393

GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI,

Respondent.

# \_\_\_\_\_/

# STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering (hereinafter the "Commission") and German Ernesto Bonesi (hereinafter "Respondent"), each individually, a "party," and collectively as "parties," hereby agree and stipulate as follows:

WHEREAS, Respondent held a Slot Machine/Cardroom/Pari-Mutuel Combination Occupational License, number 11765334 (the "License"); and

WHEREAS, the Commission has jurisdiction over this matter and Respondent; and

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2024, the Commission filed an Administrative Complaint against Respondent, alleging that Respondent violated rule 75-11.011, Florida Administrative Code, by failing to provide written notification to Petitioner within five days of his November 15, 2024, arrest (the "Administrative Complaint"); and

WHEREAS, the parties have negotiated and agreed that the best interest of all the parties will be served by a settlement of these proceedings in lieu of further litigation.

#### STIPULATION

**NOW THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual promises and recitals herein, the parties hereby agree and stipulate to the following:

1. All recitals herein are true and correct and are incorporated herein.

2. All parties agree that the above "whereas" clauses incorporated herein are binding findings of the parties.

3. The Commission is authorized by section 120.57, Florida Statutes, to resolve administrative proceedings by consent orders.

4. Each party has entered into the terms of this Stipulation and Consent Order voluntarily. Respondent is aware that it is entitled to the advice of counsel and has either sought the advice of counsel or, by execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order, is knowingly waiving the right to have the advice of counsel. Respondent acknowledges that the Commission has not made any promise, nor has it in any other way encouraged Respondent to enter into this Stipulation and Consent Order without the advice of counsel.

5. The parties acknowledge and agree that this Stipulation and Consent Order constitutes the final order in this case and that this Stipulation and Consent Order is enforceable under sections 120.69 and 849.086, and chapters 550 and 551, Florida Statutes, as final agency action.

6. Respondent, for itself and its related or resulting organizations, successors, transferees, attorneys, heirs, and executors or administrators, discharges the Commission and its agents, representatives, and attorneys, of and from all claims, demands, actions, causes of action, suits, damages, losses and expenses of any and every nature whatsoever, arising out of or in any way related to this matter and the Commission's actions, including, but not limited to, any claims

2024-067393

2

that were or may be asserted in any federal or state court or administrative forum, including any claims arising out of this agreement, by or on behalf of Respondent or its related or resulting organizations.

7. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorney's fees.

8. **REVOCATION**: Respondent agrees that the Commission is revoking the License and declaring Respondent ineligible for licensure and will not reapply for licensure issued by the Commission under chapters 550 and 551, and section 849.086, Florida Statutes, for a period of ten (10) years effective on the date the Final Order is filed with the Clerk of the Commission.

9. Respondent must <u>mail the executed Stipulation and Consent Order to</u>: the Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering, 4070 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1035, Attention: Emily Alvarado.

10. By executing this Stipulation and Consent Order, the Respondent admits the allegations of fact and conclusions of law set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Nothing in this Stipulation and Consent Order shall be deemed to preclude the Commission from imposing a penalty against Respondent for any future act(s) or omission(s) constituting either a violation of Florida law or the Florida Administrative Code and this Consent Order may be considered in aggravation of any future proceedings involving Respondent.

11. The parties acknowledge and agree that this Stipulation and Consent Order is subject to the approval of the Commission. The Stipulation and Consent Order will have no force or effect unless and until the Commission files a Final Order adopting this Stipulation and Consent Order. Should this Stipulation and Consent Order be rejected, no statement made in furtherance thereof by Respondent may be used as direct evidence against Respondent in any proceeding. 12. Upon the Commission's adoption of this Stipulation and Consent Order, Respondent agrees to waive any and all appeals and proceedings relating to these proceedings to which it may be entitled, including, but not limited to, an informal proceeding under section 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; a formal proceeding under section 120.57(1), Florida Statutes; appeals under section 120.68, Florida Statutes; and declaratory and all writs of relief in any court or quasicourt of competent jurisdiction; and agrees to waive compliance with the form of the Final Order (findings of fact and conclusions of law) to which it may be entitled, provided, however, that this agreement shall not be deemed a waiver by either party of its right to judicial enforcement of the Stipulation and Consent Order.

13. Venue for any action brought to interpret, enforce, or challenge the terms of this Stipulation and Consent Order and its corresponding Final Order shall lie solely in the Circuit Court of Florida, in and for Leon County, Florida.

14. This Stipulation and Consent Order is executed by the parties for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to the matters addressed herein. In this regard, Respondent authorizes the Commission to review and examine all materials concerning Respondent, prior to or in conjunction with consideration of this Stipulation and Consent Order. Should the Commission not accept this Stipulation and Consent Order, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of this Stipulation and Consent Order and other documents and matters by the Commission shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Commission from further participation, consideration, or resolution of these proceedings.

15. This Stipulation and Consent Order may be signed in counterparts, and copies shall be treated as original.

16. This Stipulation and Consent Order is binding upon all parties.

# 2024-067393

17. The parties agree that this serves as notice that the signed Stipulation and Consent Order will be placed on the next available Commission meeting. If Respondent would like to attend, Respondent is responsible for checking the Florida Gaming Control Commission website at https://flgaming.gov for the meeting materials, agenda, and contact information. Respondent is not required to attend the Commission meeting.

18. Respondent authorizes the Commission to correct any typographical errors or make any non-material changes to this Stipulation and Consent Order after it is signed.

[Signature pages to follow]

2024-067393

Respondent, GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI requests that the Commission enter a Final

Order approving and incorporating this Stipulation and Consent Order in resolution of this matter.

Signed this 21 st day of March, 2025.

GERMAN ER ESTO BONESI, Respondent

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF <u>Broward</u>

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me, by means of  $\square$  physical presence or  $\square$  online notarization, this  $2/\sqrt[4]{day}$  day of  $\cancel{MOW}$ , 2025, by a duly authorized representative of German Ernesto Bonesi, who is personally known to me or who produced the following as identification:

Notary Public

My commission expires:

LUIS E REYNOSO Notary Public - State of Florida Commission # HH 278621 My Comm. Expires Jun 21, 2026 Bonded through National Notary Assn.

2024-067393

This Stipulation and Consent Order for the Florida Gaming Control Commission Case Number 2024-067393 is APPROVED for legal sufficiency this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

> Emily Alvarado Chief Attorney The Florida Gaming Control Commission

	FILED
LORIDA GA	MING CONTROL COMMISSION
Date: File Number:	12/11/2024

BY: MELBA L. APELLANIZ CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

FGCC Case No.: 2024-067393

# STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

# FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI,

Respondent.

# ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), files this Administrative Complaint against German Ernesto Bonesi ("Respondent"), and alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating pari-mutuel wagering, slot machine, and cardroom operations pursuant to chapters 550, 551, and 849, Florida Statutes.

2. At all times material hereto, Respondent held a Slot Machine/Cardroom/Pari-Mutuel Combination Occupational License, number 11765334, and therefore subject to the requirements of chapters 550, 551, and section 849.086, Florida Statutes, along with any other rules promulgated thereunder.

3. On or about November 15, 2024, Respondent was arrested in Broward County, Florida, and was charged with Grand Theft- Greater Than \$100,00 and Organized Scheme to Defraud- Over \$50,000.

4. As of the date of the filing of this Administrative Complaint, Respondent has failed to provide written notification to Petitioner of his November 15, 2024 arrest.

5. Rule 75-11.011, Florida Administrative Code, states:

Any cardroom occupational licensee shall provide written notification to the division when the licensee has been arrested, indicted, or charged in any other way with a criminal offense within five days of the arrest, or if not arrested, within five days of the receipt of a charging document. Licensees are not required to report non-criminal traffic offenses.

6. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated rule 75-11.011, Florida Administrative Code, by failing to provide written notification to Petitioner within five days of his November 15, 2024, arrest.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter an Order revoking or suspending Respondent's Occupational License, along with any other remedy provided by section 849.086(14), Florida Statutes, and/or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Administrative Complaint for FGCC Case Number 2024-067393 is signed this 11th day of December 2024.

/s/Emily A. Alvarado

Emily A. Alvarado Chief Attorney FBN: 1025200 Florida Gaming Control Commission Office of the General Counsel Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering 4070 Esplanade Way, Suite 250 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2202 Telephone: (850) 794-8066 Facsimile: (850) 536-8709 Primary: Emily.Alvarado@flgaming.gov Secondary: Ebonie.Lanier@flgaming.gov

# NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, you have the right to request a hearing to challenge the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint. If you choose to request a hearing, you will have the right to be represented by counsel, or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses, and to have subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum issued on your behalf.

Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint must conform to rule 28-106.2015, Florida Administrative Code. Pursuant to rule 28-106.111, Florida Administrative Code, you must request a hearing within 21 days from receipt of this Notice, or you will waive your right to request a hearing.

Mediation under section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.



# Florida Gaming Control Commission

JULIE I. BROWN, VICE CHAIR CHUCK DRAGO, COMMISSIONER JOHN D'AQUILA, COMMISSIONER TINA REPP, COMMISSIONER

2/05/2025

December 11, 2024

German E. Bonesi 3680 Heron Ridge Lane Weston, FL 33331

> Case No.: 2024-067393 Subject: SERVICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

Dear Mr./Ms. Bonesi:

This is to inform you that probable cause has been found to believe that you violated certain provisions of the Florida Statutes. The Administrative Complaint enclosed with this letter contains the formal charges filed against you along with an Election of Rights Form. Receipt of these documents constitutes legal service upon you. The options available to you under Florida law are as follows:

(a) Dispute the material facts alleged and request a hearing before an administrative law judge with the Division of Administrative Hearings

(b) Choose not to dispute the material facts alleged, and request a hearing before the Commission, who will only hear evidence regarding the conclusions of law and the penalty for violations; or

(c) Waive your right to either type of hearing and put yourself completely at the Commission's discretion.

Please be advised, pursuant to section 120.573, Florida Statutes, that mediation is not available for this type of agency action. You must respond by selecting one of the options on the enclosed Election of Rights Form. The executed Election of Rights form **must be received in this office within 21 days of your receipt of this letter**. Failure to respond within the 21-day period constitutes a waiver of the rights outlined above, and the Commission shall proceed against you by default. Prior oral or written submissions to the Commission regarding this matter <u>will not</u> be considered responsive to this Administrative Complaint. Regardless of your prior communication(s) with the Commission, it is required that you respond to the Administrative Complaint by selecting one of the options on the enclosed Election of Rights Form.

Sincerely,

/s/ Emily A. Alvarado

Emily A. Alvarado Chief Attorney 850-794-8066

Enclosures: Administrative Complaint and Election of Rights Form

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL 4070 ESPLANADE WAY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399 FLGAMING.GOV

	ŀ	ILED	
LORIDA	GAMING	CONTROL	COMMISSION

Date: <u>12/11/2024</u> File Number:

> BY: MELBA L. APELLANIZ CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

FGCC Case No.: 2024-067393

# STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

# FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v. .

GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI,

Respondent.

# ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), files this Administrative Complaint against German Ernesto Bonesi ("Respondent"), and alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating pari-mutuel wagering, slot nachine, and cardroom operations pursuant to chapters 550, 551, and 849, Florida Statutes.

2. At all times material hereto, Respondent held a Slot Machine/Cardroom/Pari-Mutuel Combination Occupational License, number 11765334, and therefore subject to the requirements of chapters 550, 551, and section 849.086, Florida Statutes, along with any other ules promulgated thereunder.

3. On or about November 15, 2024, Respondent was arrested in Broward County, Florida, and was charged with Grand Theft- Greater Than S100,00 and Organized Scheme to Defraud- Over \$50,000.

4. As of the date of the filing of this Administrative Complaint, Respondent has failed to provide written notification to Petitioner of his November 15, 2024 arrest.

### 5. Rule 75-11.011, Florida Administrative Code, states:

Any cardroom occupational licensee shall provide written notification to the division when the licensee has been arrested, indicted, or charged in any other way with a criminal offense within five days of the arrest, or if not arrested, within five days of the receipt of a charging document. Licensees are not required to report non-criminal traffic offenses.

6. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated rule 75-11.011, Florida Administrative Code, by failing to provide written notification to Petitioner within five days of his November 15, 2024, arrest.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter an Order revoking or suspending Respondent's Occupational License, along with any other remedy provided by section 849.086(14), Florida Statutes, and/or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Administrative Complaint for FGCC Case Number 2024-067393 is signed this 11th day of December 2024.

/s/Emily A. Alvarado

Emily A. Alvarado Chief Attorney FBN: 1025200 Florida Gaming Control Commission Office of the General Counsel Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering 4070 Esplanade Way, Suite 250 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2202 Telephone: (850) 794-8066 Facsimile: (850) 536-8709 Primary: Emily.Alvarado@flgaming.gov Secondary: Ebonie.Lanier@flgaming.gov

#### NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, you have the right to request a hearing to challenge the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint. If you choose to request a hearing, you will have the right to be represented by counsel, or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses, and to have subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum issued on your behalf.

Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint must conform to rule 28-106.2015, Florida Administrative Code. Pursuant to rule 28-106.111, Florida Administrative Code, you must request a hearing within 21 days from receipt of this Notice, or you will waive your right to request a hearing.

Mediation under section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.

and the second

# STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

# FGCC v. GERMAN E. BONESI

CASE NO.: 2024-067393

# **ELECTION OF RIGHTS**

Please read the Administrative Complaint before choosing one of the three options. The Election of Rights is a legally binding document. Consult an attorney if you do not understand your options.

You can only select ONE of the options numbered one (1), two (2), and three (3) on the Election of Rights form. You must sign the form.

A completed Election of Rights <u>must be returned to the Clerk of the Commission within 21 days, by 5:00</u> p.m., Eastern Time, of the day you receive the attached Administrative Complaint.

If your Election of Rights form or request for hearing is not filed with the Clerk of the Commission within 21 days of the day you received the Administrative Complaint, you will have waived your right to contest the proposed agency action and a Final Order will be issued imposing the proposed agency action set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

Please use this form unless you, your attorney, or your representative prefer to reply according to chapter 120, Florida Statutes, and chapter 28.106 of the Florida Administrative Code.

Please return your Election of Rights form to this address:

Florida Gaming Control Commission Attention: Clerk of the Commission 4070 Esplanade Way, Suite 250, Tallahassee, FL 32399 Telephone: (850) 794-8067 Fax: (850) 536-8709 Email: clerk@flgaming.gov

# PLEASE CHECK ONLY ONE OF THE THREE OPTIONS.

**Option One (1)**  $\Box$  **I do not dispute the allegations** of material fact in the Administrative Complaint and wish to be heard at an informal proceeding pursuant to section 120.57(2), Florida Statutes, where I may submit testimony and written evidence to the Commission to show that the proposed agency action is too severe or that the sanction should be reduced.

**Option Two (2)** I do dispute the allegations of material fact in the Administrative Complaint and I request a formal hearing pursuant to Section 120.57(1) before an Administrative Law Judge of the Division of Administrative Hearings ("DOAH"). I specifically dispute the following facts in the Administrative Complaint (attach extra pages or write on the back if needed):

# STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

# In addition to the above election for formal hearing, check the box below if you wish to enter into settlement negotiations and waive the 15-day requirement for this matter to be referred to DOAH:

Section 120.569(2)(a), Florida Statutes, requires the Commission to send this case to DOAH for a formal hearing within 15 days after receiving your Election of Rights. I am interested in settling this case and waive the 15-day requirement.

Option Three (3) I do not dispute the allegations of material fact in the Administrative Complaint and waive my right to object and to have a hearing. I understand that by giving up the right to object and have a hearing, a Final Order will be issued that adopts the allegations of fact and conclusions of law alleged in the Administrative Complaint and imposes the Commission action set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

THIS IS A **LEGALLY BINDING DOCUMENT**. SEEK LEGAL ADVICE BEFORE SIGNING IF YOU DO NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE TERMS.

GERMAN E	INNESTO	BONESI			
PRINTED NAME		2	ATTORNEY OR QU	ALIFIED REPRE	SENTATIVE
3680 HERON	RiDGE L	N			
Street Address			Street Address (when	e service shall be	made)
WESTON	FL	3333/			
City	State	Zip	City	State	Zip
954-319-2	760				
Telephone Number Number (if any)	er Facsimile		Telep	hone Number F	acsimile
gbones; @ E-mail	2 pmail.c	2m /	E-mail		
	SHA	deuus			
SIGNATURE					
YOU MUST	LET THE CO	MMISSION KNOW I	<b>IF YOUR E-MAIL OR MA</b>	<b>ILING ADDRESS</b>	CHANGES

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Louis Trombetta, Executive Director

Ron DeSantis, Governor

# **OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS**

# **INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

Office:	Region:		Complaint:	Case Number:
PMW	SOUTHERN	Novembe	er 25, 2023	2024 06 7393
Respondent: BONESI, GERMA			Complainant:	ARI-MUTUEL WAGERING
3680 HERON RIE			OFFICE OF INV	
WESTON, FL 33				ERCIAL BLVD. SUITE 165
				LE, FLORIDA 33309
License	# and Type:	Profe	ssion:	Report Date:
	334 - 1055		ncial Officer	December 4, 2024
	Period of Investigation			Type of Report:
	5, 2023, through Dec			Final
				track employees; fees; denial,
	revocation of licens			rariated as required by this section
				rprinted as required by this section d of or has entered a plea of guilty
	e to any disqualifying			d of of flas efficied a plea of guilty
		olicitise, regardles	s of adjudication.	
F.A.C. 75-11.011	Notification of Crimi	nal Conviction o	r Charge	
				en the licensee has been arrested,
indicted, or charge	ed in any other way w	vith a criminal offer	nse within five da	ys of the arrest, or if not arrested,
	the receipt of a chargi	ng document. Lice	ensees are not re	quired to report non-criminal traffic
offenses.				
				EC) Chief Financial Officer (CFO),
				d County Sheriff's Office and was
				e to Defraud Over \$50,000. On
			es. BUNESI falle	d to notify the Division of his arrest
	e above statute and ru 24 05 9498 & 2024 06			
Investigations Spe			nvestigations Mar	nager / Date
			invooligationio mai	lagor / Date
A				hefer
Ian Campbell /	November 26, 2024	J	lulio Minaya / D	ecember 3, 2024
Chief of Investigat	tions / Date			
	27			
Jun	X			
Bradford D. Jones	December 4, 202	24		

### CONTINUATION

On or about the last week of September 2024, FGCC Investigations was informed that Daina Entertainment Casino's CFO, German Ernesto **BONESI**, was terminated for embezzlement. On November 15, 2024, **BONESI** was arrested by the Broward County Sheriff's Office and was charged with Grand Theft-Greater Than \$100,000 and Organized Scheme to Defraud Over \$50,000. **BONESI** was initially held in custody and was not offered bail or bond. His passport was ordered to be surrendered thus removing the possibility of him being a flight risk.

A review of the related arrest documentation on the Broward County Clerk of Court's website disclosed that from May of 2021 to September of 2024, **BONESI** defrauded Dania Casino of \$759,835.66 with outstanding subpoenas for additional credit card and mortgage company information (**Exhibit # 3, - Pages 1 thru 9**). He had a NEBBIA<sup>1</sup> and Passport Surrender hold. On November 19, 2024, **BONESI** pled Not Guilty to the above charges (**Exhibit # 3, - Page 17**). On November 27, 2024, **BONESI** surrendered his passport and posted bond (**Exhibit # 3, - Pages 18 thru 23**). As of December 3, 2024, the Broward County Clerk of Court's website does not show any future court dates for **BONESI** on his docket (**Exhibit # 3, - Pages 24 thru 30**).

A check of VERSA shows that **BONESI'S** license expires on June 30, 2027 (**Exhibit # 2**). On December 4, 2024, an Enforcement Alert noting **BONESI'S** arrest was placed on his license record in VERSA.

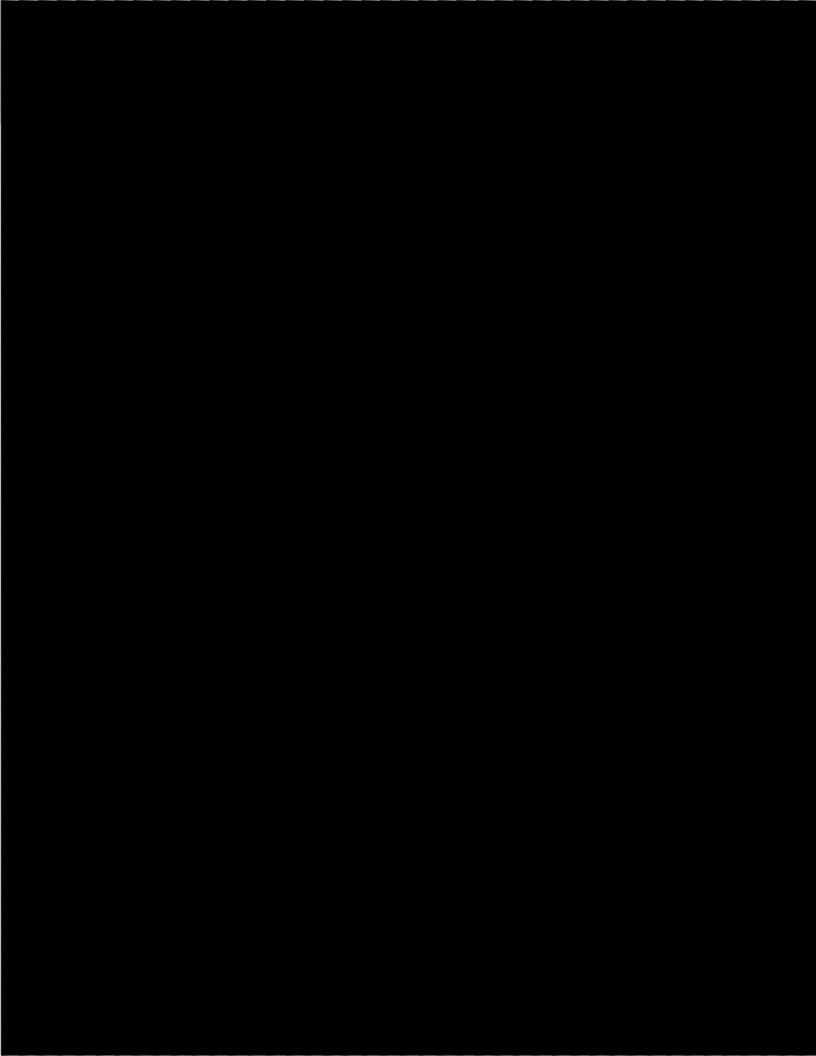
**Conclusion:** The findings of this investigation indicate that **BONESI** violated F.S.S. 550.105(10(d) when he failed to notify the Division within 48 hours of his arrest.

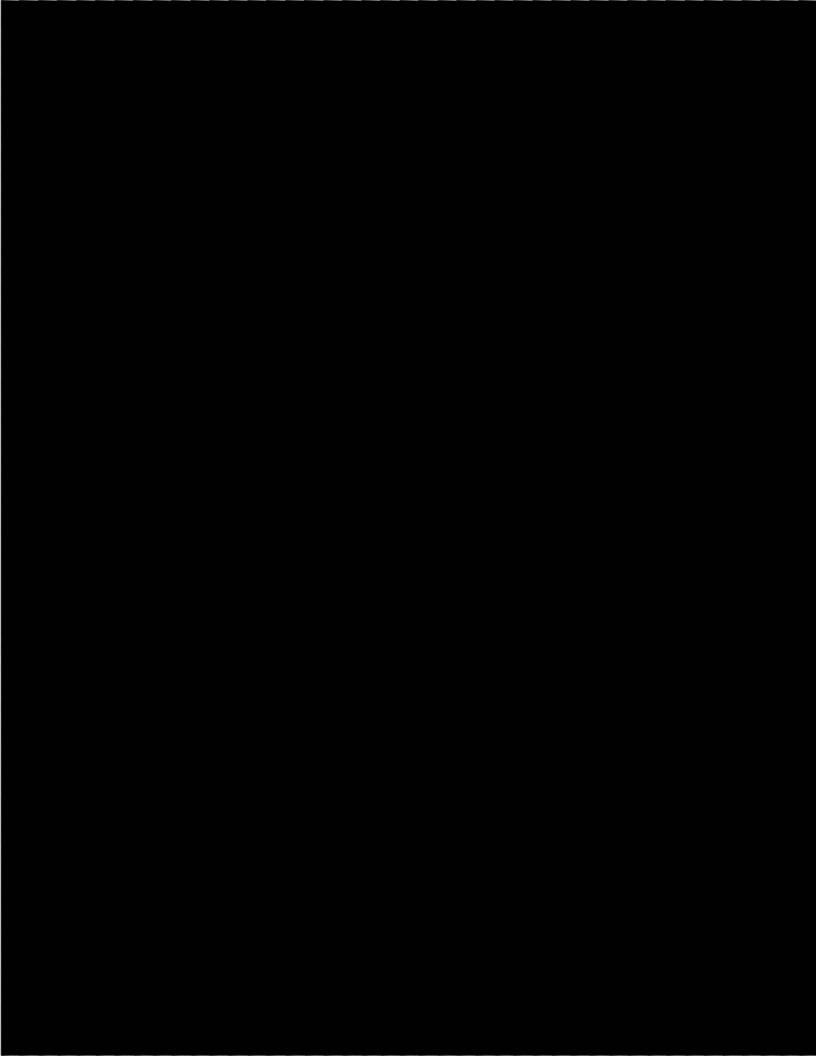
Status: Closed by Investigations and forwarded to Legal for review.

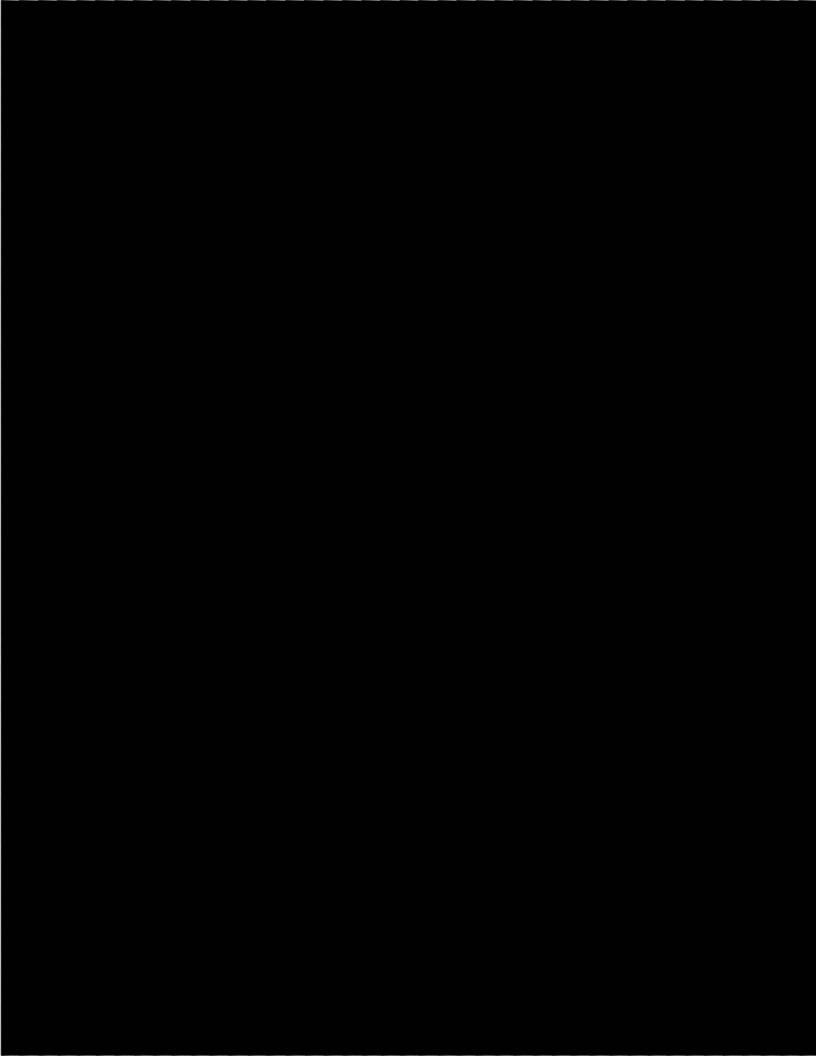
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A Nebbia hold is a legal requirement that requires a defendant or their bail agent to prove that the funds used for bail are legitimate. The term comes from the 1966 US Supreme Court case United States v. Nebbia, which established procedures to verify the source of bail funds.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INVESTIGATIVE REPORT COVERSHEET1
II.	INVESTIGATIVE REPORT2
III.	EXHIBITS
	1. FDLE Rap Sheet1 - 3
	2. License1 - 1
	3. Sheriff and Court Docs1 - 30







VR Home	Inbox	Entity	Application	License	Cash	Exam	Inspection	Enforcement	Report
License Sea	arch E	ntity Search	Modify L	 icense Standir	ng Ma	aintain Lice	ense CE Conti	rol	
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License									Licensee
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Fed Tax #		Lic Type	Biot/Cardro Mutuel Ind		Expires (	On 06/30	2027		Notes
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			- SCPL -						
License #	11765334	Ran	k Slot/Cardro Mutuel Ind	oom/Pari- <sub>R</sub>	enewed	On 05/09	/2024		
			Combo	IV .					
Entity #	11765334	Lic Statu	s Current						
Address									
Street # 36	80 Stree	t HERON	RIDGE LANE						
Line 2									
Line 3									
City W	ESTON	S	tate FL		Zip 33	331			
	Ro	outing							
Other		3							
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\*\*\*\* FILED: BROWARD COUNTY, FL Brenda D. Forman, CLERK 11/18/2024 3:35:27 PM.\*\*\*\* 2 4 - 1 0 3 2 - AF10

Geman Bonesi NIN

ARREST WARRANT Broward Sherift's Office Case # 02-2410-000077

-Z0Z4AF-955200

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

#### STATE OF FLORIDA,

Vs.



Plaintiff. :

# RECEIVED

NOV 1 5 20/4

**BSO RECORDS/WARRANTS** 

24-12630

WARRANT TO ARREST

GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI, (WHITE/MALE

Defendant, :

# IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, TO ALL AND SINGULAR THE SHERIFFS AND CONSTABLES OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Detective Vecchio of the Broward Sheriff's Office County of Broward. State of Florida, has this 15<sup>TH</sup> day of November, A.D. 2024, made application for an Arrest Warrant via electronic means pursuant to F.S. 901.02(3), said application being supported by the General Affidavit for an Arrest Warrant, wherein it is alleged that the Affiant has reason to believe and does believe that one <u>GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI (WHITE/MALE</u> did then and there:

# COUNT I

#### **GRAND THEFT - GREATER THAN \$100,000**

# F.S. 812.014(2)(a)1

From May 2021 to September 2024. German Bonesi knowingly obtained or used cash, the property of Dania Entertainment Center, LLC, with the intent to either temporarily or permanently deprive them the right to the property or benefit from the property. In total, \$759.835.66 was stolen.

Exhibit # 3 Page 1 of 30

24 - 1032 - AF10

ARREST WARRANT Broward Sheriff's Office Case # 02-2410-000077

#### COUNT II

#### ORGANIZED SCHEME TO DEFRAUD - OVER \$50,000

#### F.S. 817.034(4)(a)1

From May 2021 to September 2024, German Bonesi, with intent to defraud Dania Entertainment Center, LLC, did unlawfully participate in a systematic, ongoing course of conduct with intent to defraud one or more persons, or with intent to obtain property from one or more persons by false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises or willful misrepresentations of a future act, and did thereby obtain property from the businesses or persons valued at \$759.835.66.

The offenses set forth in the foregoing Warrant are contrary to the statutes in such case made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Florida. Attached hereto and made a part hereof by incorporation is the affidavit executed by <u>Detective Vecchio. CCN 18349</u>. Affiant herein.

THESE ARE, THEREFORE, to command you forthwith to arrest the said GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI (WHITE/MALE) and bring her before me to be dealt with according to law.

Given under my hand and seal the 1

AN OFF

A D 2024

THE HONORABLE JUDGE MERRIDAN KOLLRA JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT \*\*\*\* FILED: BROWARD COUNTY, FL Brenda D. Forman, CLERK 11/18/2024 3:35:27 PM.\*\*\*\*

24 - 1032 - AF10

ARREST WARRANT Broward Sherifi's Office Case # 02-2410-000077

RECEIVED the Warrant on the

Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 and executed the same on the \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 by arresting the within-named Defendant and having him now before the Court IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA

GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI, (WHITE/MALE/ DEFENDANT

WARRANT TO ARREST

ARREST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ RETURN: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ MILEAGE: \_\_\_\_\_\_ COMMITMENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_ RECOMMITMENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_ RELEASE: \_\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.SHERIFF

FOR MAGISTRAF BOND as to Count 1 is hereby fixed at \$ BOND as to Count 2 is hereby fixed at \$.

RETURN DATE on this Warrant to be not later than the: Jay of AUDY 2025.

THE HONORABLE JUDGE TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE TO THE AN KOLLIZ A

ARREST WARRANT Broward Sheriff's Office Case # 02-2410-000077

#### Special Conditions of Bond (Initial all that apply)

The Defendant shall not be released on bail until the proof that the funds being used for bail are not tainted by illegal activity. See United States v. Nebbia, 357 F.2d 303 (2<sup>nd</sup> Cir. 1986).

Bail may only be modified by the trial Judge to whom this case is assigned or the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court.

The Defendant shall secure his release pursuant to a surety bond that is fully collateralized, net asset value of the collateral must be in an amount equal to or in excess of bond amounts.

The Defendant shall surrender any passport to the Clerk of Court prior to release.

The Defendant shall have no contact, directly or indirectly, with any codefendants or State witnesses.

The Defendant shall submit to home confinement with electronic monitoring.

\_\_\_\_The Defendant shall not possess any firearms.

GIVEN UNDER MY HA

HONORABLE JUDGE MENCEDAN KOLLAA

\*\*\*\* FILED: BROWARD COUNTY, FL Brenda D. Forman, CLERK 11/18/2024 3:35:27 PM.\*\*\*\*

Plaintiff, :

24 - 1032 - AF10

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT & APPLICATION FOR ARREST WARRANT Broward Sheriff's Office Case # 02-2410-000077

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

#### STATE OF FLORIDA,

Vs.

OFFICIAL CITY **AFFIDAVIT TO ARREST** 

AN



GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI, WHITE/MALE/

Defendant. : ......

The undersigned Affiant, Detective Vecchio of the Broward Sheriff's Office, County of Broward, State of Florida, hereby submits this affidavit and application for arrest to the Honorable Judge Merrigan, Judge of the Circuit Court of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit in and for Broward County, State of Florida.

This affidavit and application is hereby electronically submitted bearing your Affiant's signature supported by oath or affirmation in compliance with F.S. 901.02(3), in which the Affiant deposes and says that on or about the 15th day of November, A.D. 2024, in the County and State aforesaid, one GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI (WHITE/MALE. did then and there:

### COUNT I

#### **GRAND THEFT - GREATER THAN \$100.000**

### F.S. 812.014(2)(a)1

From May 2021 to September 2024, German Bonesi knowingly obtained or used cash, the property of Dania Entertainment Center, LLC, with the intent to either temporarily or permanently deprive them the right to the property or benefit from the property. In total, \$759,835.66 was stolen.

Page 1 of 5

REV AB 2-10/20

Exhibit #3 Page 5 of 30 GENERAL AFFIDAVIT & APPLICATION FOR ARREST WARRANT Broward Sheriff's Office Case # 02-2410-000077

#### COUNT II

#### **ORGANIZED SCHEME TO DEFRAUD - OVER \$50,000**

#### F.S. 817.034(4)(a)1

From May 2021 to September 2024, German Bonesi, with intent to defraud Dania Entertainment Center, LLC, did unlawfully participate in a systematic, ongoing course of conduct with intent to defraud one or more persons, or with intent to obtain property from one or more persons by false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises or willful misrepresentations of a future act, and did thereby obtain property from the businesses or persons valued at \$759,835.66.

#### **GROUNDS FOR ISSUANCE**

The following grounds constitute this Affiant's reason for her belief that the laws of the State of Florida were violated as stated above and the facts establishing the grounds for this affidavit and the probable cause for believing that such facts exist are as follows:

### AFFLANT QUALIFICATIONS

Your Affiant is a certified deputy sheriff with the Broward Sheriff's Office and has been so employed for seven years. Your Affiant has been a detective for one year and is currently assigned to the Dania Beach Criminal Investigations Unit. Your Affiant is a property crimes detective that specializes in identity theft, forgery, embezzlement, and elderly exploitation cases. Your Affiant is also a certified public accountant and has been licensed to practice in the State of Florida for nine years. Your Affiant has additional training in auditing, taxation, spreadsheet software programs, and was a QuickBooks ProAdvisor for several years. Prior to working for the sheriff's office, your Affiant served as an accountant for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

#### PROBABLE CAUSE

For the past 15 years, German Bonesi, the defendant, has been employed by Dania Entertainment Center (DEC). He was originally hired in Argentina, then agreed to be transferred to the United States to continue working for the company. He has been here since 2018. Prior to his termination, German's position was Chief Financial Officer. Part of his job duties included overseeing managing the company's finances.

From 2018 to 2023, German's compensation package included his salary, a company vehicle, cell phone, and housing. Any payments issued for salary or benefits were paid through the appropriate payroll channels (ADP Payroll and HR Solutions). In 2023, his compensation package was adjusted. His salary and bonuses were increased, but there would no longer be additional benefits and payments for a vehicle and housing.

In the fall of 2024, numerous accounting irregularities were discovered by DEC's CEO, For example, accounts weren't properly reconciling, other transactions lacked

Page 2 of 5

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GENERAL AFFIDAVIT & APPLICATION FOR ARREST WARRANT Broward Sheriff's Office Case # 02-2410-000077

documentation, etc. In September 2024, an external accounting firm was retained to conduct an internal audit and find the anomalies. As part of their normal investigative process, the accounting firm had several questions relating to the company and their transactions. They directed their questions to German, as the CFO. His responses were delayed and unhelpful. German's attendance at work started to decline and numerous excuses were provided to account for his absences. Several days later, he called and stated that he was going to resign from his position due to job related stresses. This was significant and unexpected for DEC.

attorney to discuss the concerns. **Concerns** called German back and explained to that there were concerns relating to the financial statements. The auditors needed their questions answered before he resigned. When German refused, he was terminated.

was then put in control of the company's bank accounts. He browsed through the various accounts and statements.

Each month, a portion of DEC's net income is transferred from their operating account to an external checking account, owned by Ondiss, Corp. The purpose of this account was to allocate earnings from DEC to Ondiss, Corp, to pay the individual shareholders and investors. In general, this account does not maintain a large balance. The money transferred in each month, is equally paid out, leaving a small balance. All payments made to Ondiss, Corp owners were reviewed and found to be proper and reasonable. It was part of German's responsibilities to ensure the appropriate funds were transferred to Ondiss, Corp each month.

saw that each month, when the profits were transferred to Ondiss, Corp, German would include additional funds, above and beyond what was due to the investors. After the investors were paid, German would transfer the remaining funds to a DEC savings account. This account was infrequently used and not monitored by other company executives. From the DEC savings account, German would make payments to his personal credit card and loan companies.

DEC's bank accounts are managed by First Horizon Bank. Five years of statements were analyzed and revealed the following payments made from the DEC operating and savings accounts -

- From October 2022 to April 2024, 24 payments were made to A&D Mortgage, totaling \$13,635.42.
- From June 2021 to September 2024, 44 payments were made to Lakeview Loan Servicing, totaling \$155,526.12.
- From July 2023 to September 2024, 15 payments were made to Amerant Mortgage, totaling \$169,789.15.
- From October 2021 to August 2024, 56 payments were made to Citibank (credit card), totaling \$68,662.99.
- From May 2021 to September 2024, 82 payments were made to Petal Card, Inc. (credit card), totaling \$135,851.91.
- From May 2021 to September 2024, 63 payments were made to Discover (credit card), totaling \$62,951.13.

Page 3 of 5

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\*\*\*\* FILED: BROWARD COUNTY, FL Brenda D. Forman, CLERK 11/18/2024 3:35:27 PM.\*\*\*\*

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT & APPLICATION FOR ARREST WARRANT Broward Sheriff's Office Case # 02-2410-000077

 From May 2021 to June 2024, 85 payments were made to Capital One (credit card), totaling \$153,418.94.

Certified records were received for the listed accounts. All were owned by German Bonesi, except for the A&D Mortgage account. This account was owned by Lagata, LLC, which is a company owned by German.

German Bonesi was not authorized to use company funds for his personal credit cards and mortgages. He was also not allowed to use DEC funds for his business's expenses (Lagata. LLC).

To date, the loss is \$759,835.66. There are still outstanding subpoenas for additional credit card and mortgage companies. Due to German's strong family and business ties to Argentina, there are concerns that he may attempt to leave the country, after he learns about the charges.

A sworn statement was obtained from Arnaldo. DEC wants to press charges.

#### STATUTES BEING VIOLATED

Count I

Grand Theft - Greater than \$100,000

F.S. 812.014(2)(a)1

Count II

Organized Scheme to Defraud - Over \$50,000

F.S. 817.034(4)(a)1

As a result, the undersigned Affiant has probable cause to believe that German Ernesto Bonesi, (white/male stole over \$100,000 and obtained property by fraud over \$50,000, contrary to F.S. 812.014(2)(a)1 and F.S. 817.034(4)(a)1.

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Page 4 of 5

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GENERAL AFFIDAVIT & APPLICATION FOR ARREST WARRANT Broward Sheriff's Office Case # 02-2410-000077

The offenses set forth in the foregoing Affidavit are contrary to the statutes in such case made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Florida.

This affidavit is hereby submitted bearing your Affiant's signature supported by oath or affirmation in compliance with F.S. 901.02.

I, Detective Vecchio, having been duly sworn, say that the facts contained herein, are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

349

AFFIA STADETECTIVE AMANDA VECCHIO, CCN 18349 BROWARD SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The foregoing instrument was duly sworn to and subscribed before me this 15 day of NoV. 2024, by Detective Vecchio, who is personally known to me or who has produced (ID) as identification and who DID take an oath.

41

Officer Administering the Oath (Signature)

Officer Administering the Oath (Printed Name)

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# BONESI, GERMAN ERNESTO

Click To Enlarge       Arrest       362400165       Arrest       11/15/2024       Arresting Agency         Number       Race       W       Sex       M       DOB       WESTON         Race       W       Sex       M       DOB       WESTON         Location       Main Jail       Visitation       View Schedule (https://www.sheriff.org/DOD/Pages/F         Expected       Reisese       Visitation       View Schedule         Date       Number       Visitation       View Schedule         Charge       1       Case       TMP2024AF955200         Number       Number       Statute       812.014-2a1       Description         GRAND THEFT-GREATER THAN \$100,000       SEMI-TRLR       \$0.00         Charge       GRAND THEFT-GREATER THAN \$100,000       SEMI-TRLR         Charge       PENDING       Bond       \$0.00         Status       PENDING       Bond Type       HG       Bond       \$0.00         Amount       Projected       Sent End       Sent End       Sent End       Sent End	Number       Date       WESTON         Race W       Sex M       DOB       Height 511         Height 511       Weigh 250       Hair       GRY Eyes       GRN         Location       Main Jail       Visitation       View Schedule (https://www.sheriff.org/DOD/Pages/le	Inmate Informati	on				
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Holder Desc.	NEBBIA

HOLDER	
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For information about BSO's jail facilities including addresses and phone numbers, click here (http://www.sheriff.org/DOD/Pages/Jail-Facilities.aspx).

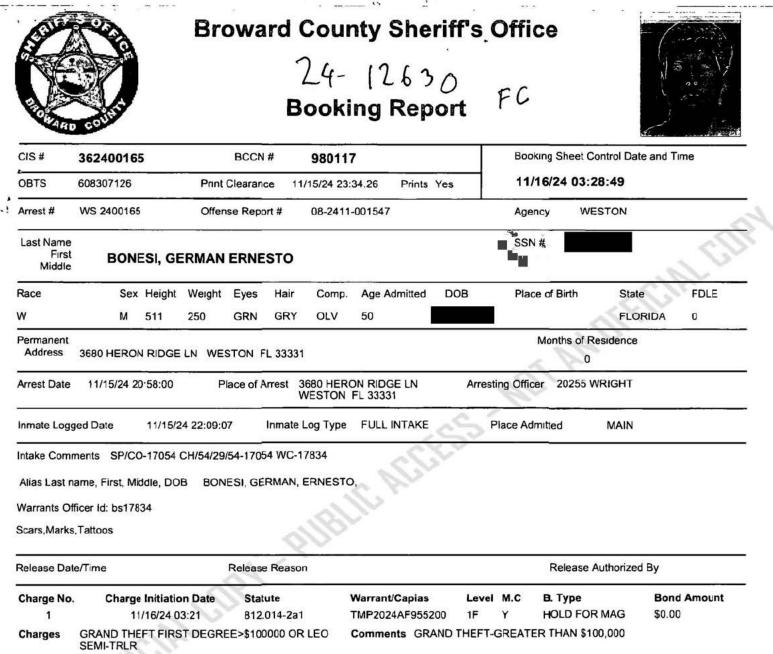
#### Inmate Detail

Click here (http://www.sheriff.org/DOD/Pages/Inmate-Visitor-Info.aspx) for general information about charges, bond, the arrest process and visiting and phoning incarcerated inmates in any Broward Sheriff's Office jail.

For information on specific court cases, please consult the Broward County Clerk of the Courts web site by clicking here (http://www.browardclerk.org).

**Disclaimer:** Information posted on this web site is provided for informational purposes only. It is subject to change and may be updated periodically. While every effort is made to ensure that the posted information is accurate, it may contain factual or other errors. Inmate information changes quickly, and the posted information may not reflect the current information. An arrest does not mean that the inmate has been convicted of the crime. Links to other sites are provided as a convenience to the user and no representation, warranty or endorsement of those sites is made by inclusion or exclusion of other web sites. The information on this web site should not be relied upon for any type of legal action. Unauthorized or illegal use of this information is strictly prohibited.

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\* End of Report \*

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Residence Type: (1) City (3) Flori	(2) County	Local Addres	<sup>8.</sup> 3680 HERON WESTON, F		Place of Employment	-		Length
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I swear the above statement is correct and true	to the best of my knowledge and belief WRIGHT, KIERSTEN (20255)	Weston
Officer/Affiant's Stgradure STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF BROWARD	Officer's Name/CCN	Officer's Division
Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before		
by WRIGHT KIERST	EN (name and title), who is personally known to me or has pro- as identi	
	Dap. 2118	58
Notary Public, Deputy Clerk of the Cout, or Assistan	State Attorney Title/Rank and CCN	58
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	***	** FILED: BROWARD COUNTY, FL Bren	nda D. Forman, CLERK 11/	18/2024 3:35:27 PM.****
	PROBABLE CA	USE DETERMINATION FOR		IN THE SEVENTEENTH CIRCUIT
				IN AND FOR BROWARD COUNTY
ŵ.	BONESI	, GERMAN ERNESTO		FINDINGS AND ORDER
		1		362400165
		)	2120	
			2630	
	The Defend	ant noving been attested by : WESTON		Arrest Number: 2400165
	and having been l	brought before the undersigned as Committing Magistrate, th	he Court makes the following findings a	and enters the following ORDER:
	ì			4
	i. Having review	we the Affadavit(s) attached hereto of WRIG	нт	, the Court finds:
	A. KA	Probable cause to believe the Defendant has committed,	and shall be held to answer for the offe	species or panish Atero.
	• 14 1411			
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	But finds no	probable cause as to the offense(s) of	. C.h.	
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	and this cau	se is hereby continued for	hour	s and shall be brought back
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	B		tted any offense, and he is hereby orde	ered discharged from
	from custody	unless held on other unrelated charges		
	II. The Court ha	s now advised the Defendant.		
		rges A gainst film. (see I.A. above)		
		not required to say anything, and anything he says may be t to counsel, or findigent, of his right to Court appointed Co		
	D. Of his right	tto an adversary Preliminary Hearing on any Felony charge	es, if an indictment or information is no	t filed sgainst him within 21
1	days of	his arest	^	
20	III. BOND: A. BO	ond is set at the amount indicated.	luis ~ Da	1100-0 F
1.	IV. COUNSEL A	Defendant has or will retain private counsel: OR	LIIS E. RU	UNUSOa FSG.
		<ol> <li>Defendant is declared indigent, and the Public Defendant.</li> </ol>	ender is appointed to represent him, su	pect to review at Arraignment.
		fendant is detained under the Untform Extradition Act, F 8. ant to the county jail for a period of thirty (30) days.	941, this finding of Probable Cause sha	sil operate to commit
	VI. Defendant is according t	hereby remanded to the custody of the shertiff unless and un to law.	til bonded (if bond has been set herinat	bove) for further proceedings
	DONE AND OR	DERED at Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida on	NOV-127 2024	
				han
	Original to:	Clerk		
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	1999-900-900	State Attorney		HY ILLE = 2
				Page 16 of 30

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

## THE STATE OF FLORIDA,

CASE NO.: 24-012630CF10A

FIGHL CITP

v.

ATT AND

GERMAN E. BONESI, Defendant.

## NOTICE OF APPEARANCE, PLEA OF NOT GUILTY AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

COMES NOW, the Defendant, GERMAN E. BONESI, by and through undersigned counsel, and tenders the following to this court:

- 1. Please take notice that the undersigned are Attorneys of Record for the Defendant.
- The Defendant waives reading of the charging documents and respectfully enters a plea of not guilty to those charges.
- 3. The Defendant respectfully demands a jury trial herein.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was electronically filed

this 19th day of November 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

<u>s/ Luis E. Reynoso</u> Luis E. Reynoso, Esq. Fl. Bar No. 0864021

s/ Robert M. Erickson Robert M. Erickson, Esq. Fl. Bar No. 0107326 <u>REYNOSO ERICKSON TRIAL LAW, P.A.</u> 1801 NE 123rd Street, Suite 314 North Miami, Florida 33181 Telephone: (754) 216-4981 rob@reynosoerickson.com luis@reynosoerickson.com



BRENDA D. FORMAN CLERK OF CIRCUIT AND COUNTY COURT  $17^{TH}$  JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

201 Southeast 6<sup>th</sup> Street Broward County Courthouse Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

OFFICIA

Date: November 27, 2024

In the Circuit/County Court Broward County, Florida

State of Florida

Case Number: 24-012630CF10A

Vs.

GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI

### **Clerk's Receipt for Property**

Pursuant to an Order of the Court signed by <u>Judge Peter Holden</u> the following items have been received from Laura Garcia Taddia, and are hereby placed in property:

Item of Property	Serial Number
Argentino Passport	

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the above described item(s), and in witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Fort Lauderdale, FL on this the 27<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2024.



**Bond Number** 

Bond Amount \$37,500.00



11/27/2024 6:45:23 PM

DI

#### **CIS Number**

State of Florida, County of Broward

Defendant GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI 3680 HERON RIDGE LN WESTON, FL 33331

> Depositor LAURA SUSANA GARCIA TADDIA 3680 HERON RIDGE LN WESTON, FL 33331

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS THAT I, LAURA SUSANA GARCIA TADDIA

have deposited with the Sheriff of Broward County, Florida, the sum of \$37,500.00

as security for the appearance of the Defendant upon the conditions hereinafter set forth. Defendant shall appear

before the Circuit Court, in and for, Broward County, City of Ft. Lauderdale

Florida at a time to be set by the Court to answer to a charge of

GRAND THEFT FIRST DEGREE>\$100000 OR LEO SEMI-TRLR

#### 24012630CF10A / GRAND THEFT-GREATER THAN \$100,000

or such other charges as may result therefrom. Defendant shall appear in said court from day to day and term to term and shall not depart the same without leave, else the sum deposited herein to be forfeited or estreated by order of the above court. Pursuant to § 903 286, and § 939 17, Florida Statutes, Depositor understands and agrees that the Clerk of Court shall withhold from the return of the cash bond deposited herein, sufficient funds to pay for any unpaid cost of prosecution, costs of representation as provided by § 27 52 and 938 29, court fees, court costs, and criminal penalties on behalf of the criminal defendant, regardless of who posted the funds. Per FL Statute 903.31, Bonds expire after 36 months of the posting date.

The above sum received and this bond taken and approved by

eriff of Broward County, F	Florida	Defendant Signature
/ bs21288		Depositor Signature
	Apply to Costs	F.→ 12.
·	Return to Deposito	or .
Date:		
Clerk's Sig	nature (blue ink)	
Clerk's Sig	nature (blue ink)	
Clerk's Sig	nature (blue ink)	

Page 1 of 2

**Broward Sheriff's Office** 

Exhibit # 3 Page 19 of 30



**Bond Number** 

11/27/2024 5:45:23 PM

**CIS Number** 

State of Florida, County of Broward

Bond Amount \$37,500.00

Defendant GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI 3680 HERON RIDGE LN WESTON, FL 33331

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The above sum received and this bond taken and approved by

me this 27 day of November 2024 Sheriff of Broward County, Florida		L.		
By bs21288				r Signature
, <b>*</b>	Apply to Costs			
5	Return to Depositor			
Date				
Clerk's Signature (bl	ue ink)			
		$\backslash$		
Original Copy	Cash Bond copy	Depositor copy	Clerk copy	Permanent copy

**Broward Sheriff's Office** 

Exhibit # 3 Page 20 of 30



11/27/2024 6:45:23 PM

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M

**CIS Number** 

State of Florida, County of Broward

Defendant GERMAN ERNESTO BONESI 3680 HERON RIDGE LN WESTON, FL 33331

> Depositor LAURA SUSANA GARCIA TADDIA 3680 HERON RIDGE LN WESTON, FL 33331

24-12630

Bond Number

Bond Amount \$37,500.00

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before the Circuit Court, in and for, Broward County, City of Ft. Lauderdale

Florida at a time to be set by the Court to answer to a charge of

24012630CF10A / ORGANIZED SCHEME TO DEFRAUD-OVER \$50,000

or such other charges as may result therefrom. Defendant shall appear in said court from day to day and term to term and shall not depart the same without leave, else the sum deposited herein to be forfeited or estimated by order of the above court. Pursuant to § 903 286, and § 939 17, Florida Statutes, Depositor understands and agrees that the Clerk of Court shall withhold from the return of the cash bond deposited herein, sufficient funds to pay for any unpaid cost of prosecution, costs of representation as provided by § 27 52 and 938.29, court fees, court costs, and criminal penalties on behalf of the criminal defendant, regardless of who posted the funds. Per FL Statute 903 31, Bonds expire after 36 months of the posting date

The above sum received and this bond taken and approved by

me this 27 day of November 2024

Sheriff of Broward County, Florida

#### By bs21288

\$	Apply to Costs
5	Return to Depositor
Date:	
Clerk's	Signature (blue ink)

Defendant Signature

**OBTAIN PROPERTY OVER 50000 DOLLARS BY FRAUD** 

Depos

Original Copy	Cash Bond copy	Depositor copy	Clerk copy	Permanent copy
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**Broward Sheriff's Office** 

Exhibit # 3 Page 21 of 30



**Bond Number** 

11/27/2024 6:45:23 PM

**CIS Number** 

State of Florida, County of Broward

Bond Amount \$37,500.00

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Defendant Signature

24012630CF10A / ORGANIZED SCHEME TO DEFRAUD-OVER \$50,000

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The above sum received and this bond taken and approved by

me this 27 day of November 2024

Sheriff of Broward County, Florida

#### By bs21288

By 0521200		Deposi	or Signature
s	Apply to Costs	Verified 1	
s	Return to Deposi	tor	
Date:			
Clerk's Sign	nature (blue ink)		
Original Copy	Cash Bond copy	Depositor copy Clerk copy	Permanent copy

**Broward Sheriff's Office** 

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CIS #				BCCN	#	98011	7			Book	ing Shee	et Contr	ol Date a	and Tim	ne
OBTS 608	3307126		Print	Clearan	ce 11	1/15/24 23	.34:26 Pr	ints Ye	s	11/1	6/24 0	3:28:4	49		
Arrest # WS	5 2400165	5	Offen	se Repo	ort#	08-2411	-001547			Agen	су	WEST	ON	2.	
Last Name First Middle	BON	ESI, GE	RMAN	ERNE	сто		191 <u>.</u> 191		- 24	SSN	#	*****			6
Race	Sex	Height	Weight	Eyes	Haır	Comp.	Age Admit	ted	DOB	Place	e of Birth	i.	State	$\overline{\bigtriangledown}$	FDLE
w	м	511	250	GRN	GRY	OLV	50					. <	FLORI	DA	0
Release Date/Tir	me				Release	e Reason			R	elease A	uthorize	d By	~		
	1				014-2a		Warrant/Cap 24012630CF Comments	10A	Level 1F D THEFT-O	Y	B. Type BOND R THAN		000	Bond \$37,50	<b>Amou</b> 00 00
01				Cou	inty	BROWAR	D	1	Judge	ко	LLER				
Booking Off. ID			Dete	Stat	ute		Warrant/Cap	olas	Level	M.C	B. Typ	e		Bond	Amou
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Charge No. 2 Charges OB	Charg 1 BTAIN PR RAUD D bs194	1/16/24 0: OPERTY 96	3 22	817. 0000 DC	.034-4a )LLARS		24012630CF Comments	10A ORGA		HEME TO	BOND		VER \$50	360.00040.00	00 00



Menu	Ξ

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# Case Detail - Public

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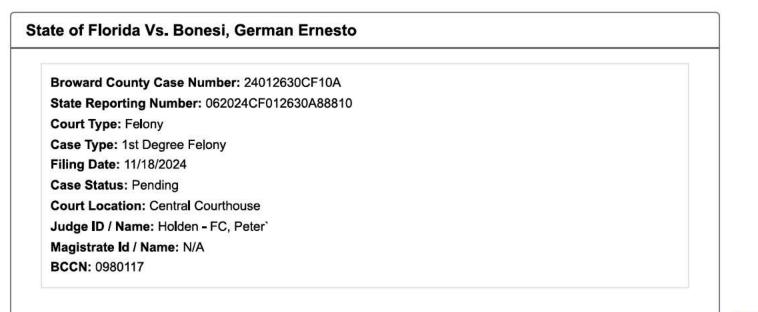


Exhibit # 3

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Party Name	Address	<ul> <li>Attorneys / Address</li> <li>★ Denotes Lead Attorney</li> </ul>
State of Florida		
Bonesi, German Ernesto	3680 Heron Ridge Lane Weston, FL 33331	★ Reynoso, Luis E Bar ID: 864021 Attn: Reynoso Erickson Trial Law, P.A.
Gender: Male		1801 NE 123 ST
Race: White		STE 314 North Miami, FL 33181
DOB:		Status: Active
S	State of Florida Bonesi, German Ernesto Gender: Male	State of Florida         Bonesi, German Ernesto         3680 Heron Ridge Lane         Weston, FL 33331         Gender: Male         Race: White

Charge(s)				Total:
Offense Date	Charge	Degree	Detail	
11/16/2024	1	(F1)	Grand Theft 1st Deg>\$100K/LEO Semi Date Filed: 11/16/2024 Current Statute: (F1)812.014(2)(a)1 Filing Agency: Broward Sheriff Office	
11/16/2024	2	(F2)	Organized Fraud In The 2nd Degree Date Filed: 11/16/2024 Current Statute: (F2)817.034(4)(a)2 Filing Agency: Broward Sheriff Office	



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- Warrant(s)

There is no Warrant information available for this case.

- Bond(s)

Total: 0

Total: 0

There is no Bond information available for this case.

Arrest(s)			Total
Arrest Date	Charge	Arrest Number	Detail
11/16/2024	1	WS24000165	Arrest Name At Arrest: Bonesi, German Ernesto Offense: Grand Theft 1st Deg>\$100K/LEO Semi Degree: (F1) Bond Amount: \$ Statute: 812.014(2)(a)1 OBTS Number: 0608307126
11/16/2024	2	WS24000165	Arrest Name At Arrest: Bonesi, German Ernesto Offense: Organized Fraud In The 2nd Degree Degree: (F2) Bond Amount: \$ Statute: 817.034(4)(a)2 OBTS Number: 0608307126

- Disposition(s)

Total: 2



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Offense Date	Charge	Disposition(s)
11/16/2024	1	Plea(s) 11/19/2024 Plea Written Plea Not Guilty-Jury
11/16/2024	2	Plea(s) 11/19/2024 Plea Written Plea Not Guilty-Jury

		Total	Total	Current	Last	Last	-353
	Citation	Imposed	Amount	Amount	Payment	Payment	Due
Charge	Citation Number	Imposed Amount	Amount Paid	Amount Due	Payment Date	Payment Amount	

Event(s) 8	& Document(s)		Total: 1
Date	Description	Additional Text	View / Pages
12/02/2024	Bond Posted	Pwr#5132889	<b>)</b> /3
12/02/2024	Bond Posted	Pwr#5132888	▶/2
11/27/2024	Passport Accepted		
11/27/2024	Passport Accepted		<b>1</b>

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Date	Description	Additional Text	View / Pages
11/19/2024	File Defense Motion To Set Bond		/4
11/19/2024	File Defense Written Plea Of Not Guilty		1
11/18/2024	Hrg Held / Magistrate Findings/Order - Probable Cause Found		<b>1</b>
11/18/2024	Arrest Paperwork		/3
11/18/2024	Warrant Image		<b>)</b> /9
11/18/2024	File Notice Of Confidential Info Within Court Filing		▶/1
11/16/2024	Electronic Case		

<ul> <li>Hearing(s)</li> </ul>	Total: 0
There is no Disposition information available for this case.	

- Related Case(s)

There is no related case information available for this case.

## Brenda D. Forman

https://www.browardclerk.org/Web2/CaseSearchECA/CaseDetailViewer

Exhibit # 3

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Total: 0

## Clerk of Court

Broward County

17th Judicial Circuit

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS (HTTPS://WWW.BROWARDCLERK.ORG//WEB2/CASESEARCHECA/GLOSSARY/)

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### Exhibit # 3 Page 29 of 30

https://www.browardclerk.org/Web2/CaseSearchECA/CaseDetailViewer

201 SE 6th Street

Fort Lauderdale Florida, US 33301 Phone: (954) 831-6565

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