FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

File Number:

2024-00133

BY: MELBA L. APELLANIZ CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

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

Petitioner,

FGCC Case No.: 2024-037645 v.

GREGORY WILLIAM FERRARI,

Ke	spondent.		

### FINAL ORDER

This matter appeared before the Florida Gaming Control Commission at a duly-noticed public meeting on November 7, 2024, for final agency action pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes. After a complete review of the record in this matter, the Commission makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

- 1. An Administrative Complaint was filed in this case on August 19, 2024, alleging that Respondent violated rule 75-11.005(4), Florida Administrative Code, and is therefore subject to license revocation pursuant to section 849.086(14)(a), Florida Statutes, and exclusion from all pari-mutuel facilities in the state of Florida pursuant to 550.0251(6), Florida Statutes. A copy of the Administrative Complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit "1" and incorporated by reference.
- 2. The Administrative Complaint, Election of Rights form, an Explanation of Rights, and a cover letter were served on Respondent via mail service on 8/28/2024. Proof of service is attached hereto as Exhibit "2" and incorporated by reference.
- Petitioner informed Respondent that the failure to file a timely response to the 3. Administrative Complaint would be deemed a waiver of the right to a hearing.

4. Respondent has not filed a timely response to the Administrative Complaint.

Respondent has not submitted any evidence or made any allegations that would support the application of the doctrine of equitable tolling.

Having considered the Administrative Complaint, the service of the Administrative Complaint with Election of Rights form, Explanation of Rights, and cover letter on Respondent along with Respondent's failure to respond, and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, it is hereby

#### ORDERED and ADJUDGED:

- 5. The allegations of fact and the conclusions of law in the Administrative Complaint are adopted in their entirety herein.
- 6. Respondent's Slot Machine/Cardroom/Pari-Mutuel Combination Occupational License, number 10193007, is hereby **REVOKED**.
- 7. Respondent is hereby **PERMANENTLY EXCLUDED** from all pari-mutuel facilities within the state of Florida.

This Final Order shall take effect upon being filed with the Clerk of the Commission.

FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

On Behalf of

Julie Brown, Vice-Chair

John D'Aquila, Commissioner

Charles Drago, Commissioner

Tina Repp, Acting Commissioner

### NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Any party to this proceeding has the right to seek its judicial review under section 120.68, Florida Statutes, by the filing of an original notice of appeal pursuant to rules 9.110 and 9.190, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, with the Clerk of the Commission, 4070 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, Florida 32399 (Email: clerk@flgaming.gov), and by filing a copy of the notice of appeal accompanied by the applicable filing fees with the appropriate Florida district court of appeal. The notice of appeal must be filed (received) by the Clerk of the Commission within thirty (30) days after the date this Order is filed with the Clerk of the Commission.

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this the day of NOUCHBER, 2024, a true and correct copy of this Final Order has been sent via email to:

Gregory William Ferrari 3681 Turtle Run Boulevard, Apt. 1138 Coral Springs, Florida 33067

CLERK OF THE COMMISSION
Florida Gaming Control Commission

CC: Ebonie Lanier

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

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

v.	
GREGORY WILLIAM FERRARI,	
Respondent.	

Petitioner,

FGCC Case No.: 2024-037645

## CORRECTED ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), files this Corrected Administrative Complaint against Gregory William Ferrari ("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 10193007, issued by Petitioner pursuant to sections 550.105(2)(a) 551.107(2)(b), and 849.086(6), Florida Statutes.
- 3. At all times material hereto, PPI, Inc. d/b/a Harrah's Pompano Beach was a facility operated by a permitholder authorized to conduct pari-mutuel wagering, slot machine, and cardroom operations in the state of Florida.
- 4. At all times material hereto, Respondent was employed as a Poker Supervisor at Harrah's Pompano Beach.

**EXHIBIT** 

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- 5. On or about June 25 and June 26, 2024, Respondent was observed by Harrah's Pompano Beach surveillance falsifying payout documentation and keeping \$1,200.
- 6. On or about June 28, 2024, Respondent's employment with Harrah's Pompano Beach was terminated and Respondent was permanently excluded from the facility.

#### COUNT I

- 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 pursuant 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, 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.

### 13. 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. 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.

14. Based on the foregoing, Respondent is subject to exclusion from all licensed parimutuel wagering facilities and any facility of a slot machine licenseein the state of Florida based on his exclusion from Harrah's Pompano Beach and 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 Slot Machine/Cardroom/Pari-Mutuel Combination Occupational License, number 10193007, and excluding Respondent from all licensed pari-mutuel wagering facilities and any facility of a slot machine licensee in the state of Florida, along with any other remedy provided by chapters 550, 551, and 849, Florida Statutes, and/or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Corrected Administrative Complaint for FGCC Case Number 2024-037645 is signed this 16th day of August 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 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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