

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.: 2024-017723

JORGE RODRIGUEZ,

Respondent.

_____ /

FINAL ORDER

This matter appeared before the Florida Gaming Control Commission at a duly-noticed public meeting on May 7, 2026, for final agency action pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes. After a complete review of the records in this matter, the Commission makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Findings of Fact contained in the Corrected Recommended Order are hereby adopted as the Findings of Fact of the Commission.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Conclusions of Law contained in the Corrected Recommended Order are hereby adopted as the Conclusions of Law of the Commission.

ORDERED and ADJUDGED:

1. The Hearing Officer's Corrected Recommended Order is adopted in full.
2. Respondent is **PERMANENTLY EXCLUDED** from all licensed pari-mutuel wagering and slot machine facilities in the state of Florida.

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

DONE AND ORDERED this 14th day of MAY, 2026.

FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION



CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

On Behalf of

Julie I. Brown, Chair

Tina Repp, Vice Chair

John D'Aquila, Commissioner

William Spicola, Commissioner

Peter Cuderman, 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, Suite 250, 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 14th day of MAY, 2026, a true and correct copy of this Final Order has been sent via email to:

Jorge Rodriguez
c/o Neil M. Gonzalez
ngonzalez@gonzalezlaw.com



CLERK OF THE COMMISSION
Florida Gaming Control Commission

CC: Ebonie Lanier

STATE OF FLORIDA
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HEARING OFFICER'S CORRECTED RECOMMENDED ORDER

THIS MATTER came before Shireen Anbardan, designated Hearing Officer for the Florida Gaming Control Commission ("Commission"), on March 9, 2026, in Tallahassee, Florida, in accordance with the provisions of sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes, for consideration of the Commission's Administrative Complaint filed against Jorge Rodriguez ("Respondent"), in FGCC Case Number 2024-017723 ("Administrative Complaint"). Justin Hundersmarck, Senior Attorney, represented the Commission, and Respondent was represented by attorney Neil M. Gonzalez. The hearing was held telephonically. Both sides were permitted to present witnesses, proffer items into evidence, and otherwise fully participate in the hearing.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1. On or about February 18, 2025, the Commission filed an Administrative Complaint against Respondent, alleging that Respondent was a patron and was ejected and excluded from South Florida Racing Association, LLC d/b/a Hialeah Park Racing and Casino. The Administrative Complaint sought to exclude Respondent from all licensed pari-mutuel wagering facilities and any

facility of a slot machine licensee in the State of Florida due to Respondent's ejection and exclusion from Hialeah Park Racing and Casino.

2. On or about March 11, 2025, the Commission received an Election of Rights form from Respondent requesting a telephonic hearing in accordance with the provisions of sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes.

3. An informal hearing was scheduled for March 9, 2026.

The March 9, 2026, Informal Hearing

4. At the informal hearing held pursuant to section 120.57(2), Florida Statutes, on February 20, 2026, the Commission presented the issues raised in its Administrative Complaint. The Hearing Officer granted the Commission's motion to accept the Findings of Fact in the Administrative Complaint as the undisputed facts in the case and admitted the investigative packet into the record.

5. The investigative packet contained an Investigative Report detailing the activity that led to the permanent ejection and exclusion of the Respondent from Hialeah Park Racing and Casino.

6. The investigative report alleged that on or about January 31, 2024, Respondent was involved in multiple transactions that structured cash outs to avoid reporting requirements.

7. The investigative report alleged that Respondent was involved with individuals suspected of using marked cards to facilitate wins.

8. The investigative report alleged that on or about March 19, 2024, after investigation and discussion by management, Respondent was ejected and permanently excluded from Hialeah Park Racing and Casino.

9. Petitioner testified that he did not do anything wrong and should not have been excluded from Hialeah Park Racing and Casino.

10. Petitioner testified that he understood that under Florida Law, the Commission may exclude an individual from all pari-mutuel facilities in the State of Florida after he or she is excluded from one pari-mutuel facility, but that it would be an abuse of power to do so.

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

12. At all times material hereto, Hialeah Park and Racing Casino was a facility operated by a permit holder authorized by the Commission to conduct pari-mutuel wagering, cardroom operations, and slot operations in the State of Florida.

13. On or about January 31, 2024, the Respondent was a patron of Hialeah Park and Racing Casino. On or about March 19, 2024, Respondent was ejected and permanently excluded from Hialeah Park and Racing Casino.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

14. The Hearing Officer has jurisdiction over this matter and the parties pursuant to section 120.57(2), Florida Statutes.

15. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to chapters 120, 550, 551, and 849, Florida Statutes.

16. At all times material hereto, Hialeah Park and Racing Casino was a facility operated by a permit holder authorized by the Commission to conduct pari-mutuel wagering, cardroom operations, and slot operations in the State of Florida.

17. Section 550.0215(6), Florida Statutes, provides in relevant part:

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.

(Emphasis added).

18. 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.

(Emphasis added).

19. Pursuant to the statutes, Respondent's exclusion from one facility is sufficient to trigger his exclusion from all pari-mutuel wagering and slot machine facilities in the State of Florida.

20. Respondent is subject to permanent exclusion from all licensed pari-mutuel wagering facilities in the State of Florida based on Respondent's ejection and permanent exclusion from Hialeah Park Racing and Casino on or about March 19, 2024.

21. Respondent's testimony neither mitigates that Respondent was ejected and excluded from Hialeah Park Racing and Casino, nor Precludes the Commission from permanently excluding him from all licensed pari-mutuel facilities in the State of Florida.


22. Respondent denied any wrongdoing. However, the basis for statewide exclusion is predicated on the Respondent being ejected and excluded from a licensed pari-mutuel wagering facility.

23. There is competent, substantial evidence to support the conclusions of law.

RECOMMENDED ORDER

WHEREFORE, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby recommended that the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter a Final Order permanently excluding Respondent from all licensed pari-mutuel wagering and slot machine facilities in the State of Florida.

This Recommended Order in FGCC Case Number 2024-017723 is submitted on this 20th day of April, 2026.



Shireen Anbardan
Hearing Officer
Florida Gaming Control Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify this 20th day of April 2026, that a true copy of the foregoing
“Hearing Officer’s Corrected Recommended Order” has been provided by email to:

Neil M. Gonzalez
Gonzales & Associates, LLC
ngonzalez@gonzalezlaw.com
(305) 758-7774, ext:1105
Counsel for Respondent

Justin Hundersmarck
Senior Attorney
Counsel for Petitioner
Justin.Hundersmarck@flgaming.gov



Clerk of the Commission
FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION