

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.: 2023-043622

RAYMOND THOMAS HUGHES, JR.,

Respondent.

_____ /

FINAL ORDER

This matter appeared before the Florida Gaming Control Commission at a duly-noticed public meeting on May 2, 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. The Commission filed an Administrative Complaint in this case on September 19, 2023, alleging that Respondent is subject to exclusion from all licensed pari-mutuel facilities and all facilities of a slot machine licensee in the state of Florida pursuant to sections 550.0251(6) and 551.112, Florida Statutes. A copy of the Administrative Complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit "1" and incorporated by reference.

2. The Commission attempted to personally serve Respondent with the Administrative Complaint, Election of Rights form, an Explanation of Rights, and a cover letter via certified mail and hand service, but these attempts were unsuccessful.

3. A publication notice was posted in the Sun Sentinel starting on February 27, 2024. This publication complied with the notice requirements enumerated in section 120.60(5), Florida

Statutes. Respondent failed to respond to the notice before the published deadline of March 19, 2024. Proof of service is attached hereto as Exhibit "2" and incorporated by reference.

4. The Commission informed Respondent that the failure to contact the Florida Gaming Control Commission prior to the published deadline would be deemed a waiver of the right to a hearing.

5. Respondent has not filed a timely response to the publication notice. 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 publication notice, along with Respondent's failure to respond, and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, it is hereby

ORDERED and ADJUDGED:

1. The allegations of fact and the conclusions of law in the Administrative Complaint are adopted in their entirety herein.

2. Respondent is hereby **PERMANENTLY EXCLUDED** from all pari-mutuel facilities and all facilities of a slot machine licensee within the state of Florida.

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

DONE AND ORDERED this 8th day of MAY, 2024.

FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION



CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

On Behalf of

Julie Brown, Vice-Chair

John D' Aquila, Commissioner

Charles Drago, Commissioner

Tina Repp, 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

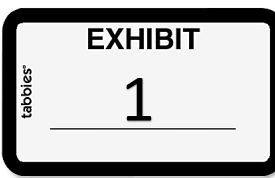
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 8th day of MAY, 2024, a true and correct copy of this Final Order has been sent via U.S. Mail to:

Raymond Thomas Hughes, Jr.
18600 Northwest 5th Avenue
Miami Gardens, Florida 33169



CLERK OF THE COMMISSION
Florida Gaming Control Commission

CC: Ebonie Lanier



FILED
 FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
 Date: 9/19/2023
 File Number: _____
 BY: MELBA L. APELLANIZ
 CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

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

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_____ /

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering (“Petitioner”), files this Administrative Complaint against Raymond Thomas Hughes Jr. (“Respondent”), and alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating pari-mutuel wagering, slot machines, and cardroom operations pursuant to chapters 550, 551, and 849, Florida Statutes.
2. At all times material hereto, Respondent’s address was reported as 18600 Northwest 5th Avenue, Miami Gardens, Florida 33169.
3. At all times material hereto, Calder Casino was a facility operated by a permitholder authorized to conduct pari-mutuel wagering, slot machines, and cardroom operations in the state of Florida.
4. On or about July 29, 2023, Respondent was a patron and was ejected from Calder Casino.
5. On or about August 1, 2023, Respondent was permanently excluded from Calder Casino.

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 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 supplied).

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. 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 supplied).

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 ejection from Calder Casino on or about July 29, 2023.

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, 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 2023-043622 is signed this 11th day of September 2023.

/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
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2202
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Facsimile: (850) 921-1311
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.