FILED

Department of Business and Professional Regulation Senior Deputy Agency Clerk

CLERK Brandon Nichols
Date 9/3/2021
File # 2021-06329

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v. DBPR Case No.: 2021-012913

LAZARO W. DE LA TORRE ESPINDOLA,

Respondent.

/

FINAL ORDER

The Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), issues this Final Order against Lazaro W. De La Torre Espindola, ("Respondent") as follows:

- 1. An Administrative Complaint was filed in this case on June 14, 2021, alleging that Respondent violated Section 550.0251(6), 551.112, Florida Statutes, and Rule 61D-11.005(4), Florida Administrative Code. 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 certified U.S. mail on July 24, 2021. Proof of service is attached hereto as Exhibit "2" and incorporated by reference.
- 3. The Election of Rights form, Explanation of Rights, and cover letter informed Respondent that a written response to the Administrative Complaint, including the right to request a hearing, was due within 21 days of actual service of the Administrative Complaint. *See* Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, and Rule 28-106.111, Florida Administrative Code.

4. Petitioner informed Respondent that the failure to file a timely response to the

Administrative Complaint shall be deemed a waiver of the right to a hearing.

5. 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:

6. The allegations of fact and the conclusions of law in the Administrative

Complaint are adopted in their entirety herein.

7. Respondent is hereby **PERMANENTLY EXCLUDED** from all pari-mutuel

facilities within the State of Florida and any facility of a slot machine licensee in the State of

Florida.

8. This Final Order is effective on the date it is filed with the Agency Clerk of the

Department of Business and Professional Regulation, as indicated on the first page of this Order.

This Final Order in DBPR Case Number 2021-012913 is DONE and ORDERED this

26 day of August , 2021.

LOUIS TROMBETTA, DIRECTOR

Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering

Department of Business and Professional Regulation

2601 Blair Stone Road

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1035

2021-012913

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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 Agency Clerk, 2601 Blair Stone Road, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2202 (Email: AGC.Filing@myfloridalicense.com), 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) in the Office of the Agency Clerk within thirty (30) days after the date this Order is filed with the Clerk.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 3rd day of September, 2021, a true and

correct copy of this Final Order has been sent via U.S. Mail to:

Lazaro W. De La Torre Espindola

11353 North West 3rd Terrace Miami, Florida 33172

AGENCY CLERK'S OFFICE

Department of Business and Professional Regulation

xandon M. Nichols

CC: Ebonie Lanier

Department of Business and Professional Regulation

CLERK Evette Lawson-Proctor

Pate 6/14/2021

DBPR Case No.: 2021-012913

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION, DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

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Respondent.

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v.	
LAZARO W. DE LA TORRE ESPINDOLA,	

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), files this Administrative Complaint against Lazaro W. De La Torre Espindola ("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, South Florida Racing Association, LLC ("Hialeah Park Racing & Casino") was a facility operated by a permitholder authorized to conduct parimutuel wagering, slot machines, and cardroom operations in the State of Florida.
- 3. On or about March 10, 2021, Respondent was observed cheating and colluding with a dealer at table number 12.
- 4. On or about March 10, 2021, Respondent was ejected from Hialeah Park Racing & Casino.



COUNT I

- 5. Petitioner realleges and incorporates the allegations contained within paragraphs one through four as though fully set forth herein.
 - 6. Rule 61D-11.005(4), Florida Administrative Code, states:
 - (4) No person shall, either directly or indirectly:
 - (a) Employ or attempt to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud any participant in a game or the cardroom operator.
 - (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.
- 7. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated Rule 61D-11.005(4), Florida Administrative Code, by cheating and colluding with a dealer at table number 12.

COUNT II

- 8. Petitioner realleges and incorporates the allegations contained within paragraphs one through four as though fully set forth herein.
 - 9. Section 550.0251(6), Florida Statutes, provides in relevant part:

In addition to the power to exclude certain persons from any parimutuel facility in the state, the division 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 division. The division 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).

10. 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 division 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 division. The division 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.

(Emphasis supplied).

11. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated Sections 550.0251(6) and 551.112, Florida Statutes, and is subject to exclusion from all licensed pari-mutuel wagering facilities in the State of Florida and any facility of a slot machine licensee in the State of Florida based on his ejection from Hialeah Park Racing & Casino on March 10, 2021.

(SIGNATURE TO FOLLOW)

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests the Division Director enter an Order excluding Respondent from any and all pari-mutuel facilities in the State of Florida 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 Administrative Complaint for DBPR Case Number 2021-012913 is signed this 11th day of June, 2021.

/s/Emily A. Leiva

Emily A. Leiva

Assistant General Counsel Florida Bar Number: 1025200

Department of Business and Professional Regulation

Office of the General Counsel Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering

2601 Blair Stone Road

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1035 Telephone: (850) 717-1783

Facsimile: (850) 921-1311

Primary: Emily.Leiva@MyFloridaLicense.com Secondary: Ebonie.Lanier@MyFloridaLicense.com

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.

Track Another Package +

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Order Delivered, Left with Individual

July 24, 2021 at 10:00 am MIAMI, FL 33172

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