FILED

FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Date: 8/07/2025

File Number:

2025-00119

BY: MELBA L. APELLANIZ 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.: 2024-012726

MIGUEL CERVERA MARTINEZ,

Respondent.

# **FINAL ORDER**

This matter appeared before the Florida Gaming Control Commission at a duly-noticed public meeting on August 6, 2025, 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:

- 1. An Administrative Complaint was filed in this case on February 18, 2025, 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 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 Administrative Complaint, Election of Rights form, an Explanation of Rights, and a cover letter were served on Respondent via certified mail.
- 3. The Election of Rights form, Explanation of Rights, and cover letter informed Respondent that a written response to the Complaint, including the right to request a hearing, was

due within 21 days of actual service of the Complaints. See § 120.569(1), Fla. Stat., and Fla. Admin. Code R. 28-106.111.

- 4. On or about July 15, 2025, Respondent returned a signed Election of Rights form and selected "Option 3" which states that Respondent does not dispute the allegations of material fact in the Administrative Complaint and waives his or her right to any form of hearing. Respondent, by selecting this option, requests that a Final Order imposing a penalty and/or fine be entered in this case. A copy of the Election of Rights is attached hereto as Exhibit "2" and incorporated by reference.
- Respondent has waived his right to request a hearing in which there is a disputed issue of material fact.

Having considered the Administrative Complaint and Respondent's waiver of his/her right to request a hearing, and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, it is hereby

#### ORDERED and ADJUDGED:

- The allegations of fact and the conclusions of law in the Administrative Complaint are adopted in their entirety herein.
- Respondent's cardroom employee occcupational license, number 11980145, is hereby REVOKED.
- 8. 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 1th day of August, 2025.

FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

On Behalf of

Julie I. Brown, Vice-Chair

Charles Drago, Commissioner

John D'Aquila, 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025, a true and correct copy of this Final Order has been sent via email to:

**Miguel Cervera Martinez** 

cerveramtz86@gmail.com

CLERK OF THE COMMISSION
Florida Gaming Control Commission

CC: Ebonie Lanier

FILED FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

2/18/2025

File Number:

BY: MELBA L. APELLANIZ 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.

FGCC Case No.: 2024-012726

MIGUEL CERVERA MARTINEZ,

Res	pond	ent.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering ("Petitioner"), files this Administrative Complaint against Miguel Cervera Martinez ("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.
- At all times material hereto, Respondent held a Cardroom Employee Occupational 2. License, number 11980145, and therefore subject to the requirements of chapters 550 and section 849.086, Florida Statutes, along with any other rules promulgated thereunder.
- 3. At all times material hereto, Casino Miami, LLC was a facility operated by a permitholder authorized to conduct pari-mutuel wagering, cardroom operations, and slot machine operations in the state of Florida.
- At all times material hereto, Respondent worked as a dual rate cardroom manager 4. at Casino Miami, LLC.

EXHIBIT

#### COUNT I

- Petitioner realleges and adopts paragraphs numbered one through four as if set forth fully herein.
- 6. On or about February 10, 2024, Respondent is observed by facility surveillance exiting a facility bathroom with a small box containing poker cards and introducing these cards to Table #15.
- 7. Rule 75-11.005(4)(c), Florida Administrative Code, provides, "[n]o person shall, either directly or indirectly: ... [e]ngage in any act, practice, or course of operation with the intent of cheating any participant or the cardroom operator."
  - 8. 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.

9. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated rule 75-11.005(4)(c), Florida Administrative Code, by engaging in an act with the intent to cheat any participant and the cardroom operator and is therefore subject to suspension or revocation of his occupational license.

#### COUNT II

- Petitioner realleges and adopts paragraphs numbered one through four as if set forth fully herein.
- On or about March 8, 2024, Respondent was terminated and permanently excluded from Casino Miami, LLC.
  - 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.

## (Emphasis supplied).

## 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.

#### (Emphasis supplied).

14. Based on the foregoing, Respondent is subject to exclusion from all licensed parimutuel wagering facilities and any facility of a slot machine licensee in the state of Florida based on his exclusion from Casino Miami, LLC on March 8, 2024.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter an Order revoking Respondent's Cardroom Employee Occupational License, number 11980145, and 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, and section 849.086, Florida Statutes, and/or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Administrative Complaint for FGCC Case Number 2024-012726 is signed this 17th day of February 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.