



JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

RONNIE S. JOHNS
CHAIRMAN

DECISION OF THE LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

**IN RE: JUANITA DARNELL
NO. P040019438**

This matter is before the Louisiana Gaming Control Board on appeal by Juanita Darnell, from the Hearing Officer's decision dated December 7, 2022, wherein her application for her Non-Key Gaming Employee permit was denied.

The Hearing Officer in her reasons for decision concluded that Ms. Darnell is unsuitable. La. R.S. 27:28(A)(1), (2), and (4) places the burden of proof with the applicant for establishing suitability regarding a Non-Key Gaming Employee permit. It is not the burden of the Louisiana Office of State Police to prove an applicant is either suitable or unsuitable. Rather, the law positions the Louisiana Office of State Police as the party who must evaluate the suitability claims of those seeking to remain in possession of a gaming permit.

Ms. Darnell was arrested on September 28, 2022 for Theft under La. R.S. 14:67. According to the police report, Ms. Darnell took money from another employee's cash drawer, concealed it, and did not return to work. The theft was discovered through surveillance video. The theft occurred at Cash Magic Casino where Ms. Darnell was an employee.

La. R.S. 27:28(A) requires that an applicant for a gaming permit demonstrate their suitability for licensing. The burden is placed on the applicant to show by clear and convincing evidence that he or she is suitable. The Division reviewed the application and determined that the applicant lacks good character, honesty, and integrity and that determination was based on the theft of \$652.80 on Cash Magic Casino. Therefore, she is unsuitable and disqualified from holding a gaming permit.

Based on the actions of Ms. Darnell and pursuant to Louisiana Gaming Law, Juanita Darnell is unsuitable to hold a Non-Key Gaming Employee permit.

ORDER

This matter having been considered by the Louisiana Gaming Control Board in open meeting of February 16, 2023:

IT IS ORDERED THAT the Hearing Officer's decision denying Juanita Darnell's application for a Non-Key Gaming Employee permit is **AFFIRMED**.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED on this the *16th* day of *February*, 2023.

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT A CERTIFIED
COPY HAS BEEN MAILED OR SERVED ON
ALL PARTIES THIS 16th DAY
OF February, 2023.

Jawada S. Hernaldez
APPEAL DOCKET CLERK



RONNIE S. JOHNS, CHAIRMAN