



JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

RONNIE S. JOHNS
CHAIRMAN

DECISION OF THE LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

IN RE: Mark A. Freedlund, Jr.
No. P040070069

This matter is before the Louisiana Gaming Control Board on appeal by Mark A. Freedlund, Jr., P040070069, from the Hearing Officer's decision dated March 23, 2022, wherein The renewal of his non-key gaming employee permit was denied. The denial was based on Mr. Freedlund's unsuitability and his disqualification due to a pending felony criminal charge of La. R.S. 14:35(I) -Domestic Abuse Child Endangerment.

Mr. Freedlund alleges that the criminal charges are untrue and that his hearing has been continued until June 16, 2022.

La. R.S. 27:28(B)(1)(a) and B(2):

The board or division, where applicable, shall not grant a license or permit, enter into a casino operating contract, or issue any other approval pursuant to the provisions of this Title to any person who is disqualified on the basis of the following criteria:

- (1) The conviction or a plea of guilty or nolo contendere by the applicant or any person required to be suitable under the provisions of this Title for any of the following:
 - (a) Any offense punishable by imprisonment of more than one year.

- (2) There is a current prosecution or pending charge against the person in any jurisdiction for any offense listed in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

Pursuant to La.R.S. 27:28(B)(1)a and B(2), Mr. Freedlund is statutorily disqualified from holding a gaming permit in the state of Louisiana. A Bill of Information was filed in the 14th Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu on August 25, 2021 and charges Mr. Freedlund with Domestic Abuse Child Endangerment, a felony. Furthermore, Mr. Freedlund admitted in his appeal to currently having pending criminal charges.

The basis for the denial is Mr. Freedlund's arrest and being formally billed with La. R.S. 14:35(I) -Domestic Abuse Child Endangerment, as such the Hearing Officer's ruling finding Mr. Freedlund unsuitable and disqualified to hold a Non-Key Gaming Employee Permit should be upheld.

Any new evidence is not part of the record and cannot be considered.

ORDER

This matter having been considered by the Louisiana Gaming Control Board in open meeting of May 16, 2022:

IT IS ORDERED THAT the Hearing Officer's decision finding that Mark A. Freedlund, Jr., P040070069, has pending criminal charges (Domestic Abuse Battery with Child Endangerment, a felony) and pursuant to Louisiana Gaming Law, is unsuitable and disqualified from possessing a non-key gaming employee permit, be upheld.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED on this the *16th day of May, 2022.*

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

BY:



RONNIE S. JOHNS, CHAIRMAN