



State of Louisiana
Gaming Control Board

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

RONNIE JONES
CHAIRMAN

**DECISION OF THE
LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD**

**IN RE: KASSANDRA M. PAIGE
NO. P040040892**

This matter is before the Louisiana Gaming Control Board on appeal by Cassandra Paige, P040040892, from the Hearing Officer's decision dated December 7, 2016, wherein the Hearing Officer revoked Ms. Paige's non-key gaming employee permit based on a finding that Ms. Paige failed to prove her suitability. In making this determination, the Hearing Officer considered Ms. Paige's activities relating to her rental of and failure to return a video game system.

FINDINGS OF FACT

We agree with the facts as outlined in the Hearing Officer's decision in his "Statement of the Case" and "Findings of Fact." We also note that if Ms. Paige fails to successfully complete the Diversion Program, prosecution of the charge which was deferred may occur.

We agree with the Hearing Officer's decision and will affirm.

ANALYSIS

Louisiana Revised Statute 27:28(A) provides:

A. No person shall be eligible to obtain a license or permit, enter into a casino operating contract with the state, or obtain any other approval pursuant to the provisions of this Title unless the applicant has demonstrated by clear and convincing evidence to the board or division, where applicable, that he is

LGCB-3907-16/17-L

suitable. For the purposes of this Title, "suitable" means the applicant, licensee, casino gaming operator, permittee, or other person is:

(1) A person of good character, honesty, and integrity.

(2) A person whose prior activities, criminal record, if any, reputation, habits, and associations do not pose a threat to the public interest of this state or to the effective regulation and control of gaming, or create or enhance the dangers of unsuitable, unfair, or illegal practices, methods, and activities in the conduct of gaming or carrying on of the business and financial arrangements incidental thereto.

(3) Capable of and likely to conduct the activities for which the applicant, licensee, permittee, casino gaming operator, or licensed eligible facility is licensed, permitted, or approved pursuant to the provisions of this Title.

(4) Not disqualified pursuant to the provisions of Subsection B of this Section.

Because the criminal charge was not prosecuted and the case was closed when Ms. Page entered the Diversion Program, Ms. Paige cannot be found unsuitable based on La. R.S. 27:28(A)(4) and (B). Ms. Paige could be found unsuitable based on her actions which led to the initial charge under La. R.S. 27:28(A) (1-3).

The Hearing Officer found that, based on the evidence and testimony, Ms. Paige did not meet her burden of proving suitability. We disagree. We do not find that Ms. Paige's actions rise to the level of unsuitably pursuant to La. R.S. 27:28(A) (1-3).

If Ms. Paige does not complete the Diversion Program and prosecution of the charge results, Ms. Paige's permit will be subject to suspension and revocation as she would be disqualified to hold a permit pursuant to La. R.S. 27:28(B)(1) and (2), which provides:

B. 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.
- (b) Theft or attempted theft, illegal possession of stolen things, or any offense or attempt involving the misappropriation of property or funds.
- (c) Any offense involving fraud or attempted fraud, false statements or declarations.
- (d) Gambling as defined by the laws or ordinances of any municipality, any parish or county, any state, or of the United States.

- (e) A crime of violence as defined in R.S. 14:2(B).
- (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.

ORDER

This matter having been considered by the Louisiana Gaming Control Board in open meeting of February 20, 2017:

IT IS ORDERED THAT the Hearing Officer's decision is **REVERSED**.


THUS DONE AND SIGNED on this the 20th day of February, 2017.

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

BY:



RONNIE JONES, CHAIRMAN

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT A CERTIFIED
COPY HAS BEEN SERVED ON
ALL PARTIES TO THIS
OF February 21st 2017
APPEAL DOCKET # _____


LGCB-3907-16/17-L