

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

In Re: :
 :
 :
 Petition of D.B. to be Removed : **Docket # 11702-2024**
 from the Board's Casino :
 Self-Exclusion List :

STAFF DECISION AND ORDER¹

1. On April 4, 2024, the above captioned Petition to be Removed from the Board's Casino Self-Exclusion List was filed by the Board Clerk.²
2. Petitioner states they are seeking relief because they want to go to sporting events with family and friends and are in a way better spot financially. Also states they did it because they were persuaded by an ex and thought they signed up for one year not five years.
3. According to the Board's records, on October 15, 2022, Petitioner completed the necessary application to voluntarily place themselves on the Casino Self-Exclusion List, for a period of five (5) years.
4. On April 24, 2024, the Board's Office of Enforcement Counsel (OEC) filed an Answer and Objection to the removal of Petitioner from the Casino Self-Exclusion List.

¹ On November 14, 2023, the Board adopted Resolution 2023-3-OCC that delegated authority to the Board's Director of Hearings and Appeals to review and rule upon Petitions to be Removed from the Board's Self-Exclusion Lists.

² With additional changes to the forms of legalized gaming authorized by the Legislature in 2017, individuals may now voluntarily self-exclude themselves from all or some of those forms of legalized gaming, including casino gaming, (land-based gaming activities at licensed facilities, including retail sports betting), interactive (internet-based) gaming, video-based gaming at Video Gaming Terminal (VGT) licensed facilities and fantasy contest gaming. In response, the Board has created the Casino Self-Exclusion List (which includes sports wagering), the Interactive Gaming Self-Exclusion List, the Video Gaming Self-Exclusion List, and the Fantasy Contest Self-Exclusion List. Prior to this time, only physical, casino-based gaming was permitted in the Commonwealth and what was then known simply as the Voluntary Self-Exclusion List is now designated as the Casino Self-Exclusion List.

5. When Petitioner chose to place themselves on the Casino Self-Exclusion List, Petitioner agreed to the following statements in the application for placement on the self-exclusion list, under the penalty of perjury:

a. That one or all of the following apply: (a) I am a person who has a gambling disorder; (b) my gambling behavior is currently causing problems in my life; (c) my gambling behavior may in the future, without intervention, cause problems in my life; (d) my gambling behavior has, in the past, caused problems in my life.

b. That I am of sufficient mental capacity to understand and appreciate the nature of my voluntary self-exclusion. I am not currently under duress. I am not currently under the influence of any alcoholic beverages, controlled substances or prescription medications that would prevent me from making a sober and informed decision.

c. That I am excluding myself from the gaming related activities in my chosen self-exclusion list, under my own free will and volition and without any undue influence or coercion from a third party.

d. That I cannot revoke, rescind, withdraw, or request removal from this self-exclusion agreement prior to the conclusion of the period of self-exclusion that I have selected above. At the conclusion of the period of my casino self-exclusion, I may request to be removed from the casino self-exclusion list by following the online removal process or by scheduling an appointment.

e. That licensees and operators may choose to ban Petitioner from other types of gambling and/or their gambling and non-gambling venues, including casinos, sports wagering at casinos and/or at freestanding sports wagering locations, VGT establishments, hotels, restaurants, and Fantasy and iGaming (including sports wagering)

websites, both in Pennsylvania and in other jurisdictions, and it is my responsibility to learn the policies of each licensee and operator by contacting them online or over the phone, NOT in person. The terms and existence of any such responsible gaming policy could change, and the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board is not responsible for keeping me informed of such changes.

f. That Petitioner understood that they must check with a company to see if they can make a bet or enter a facility BEFORE entering a property, making any bet, or gambling in any matter.

g. That by signing the Self-Exclusion Form Petitioner agreed that they had sufficient opportunity to read the entire self-exclusion documentation and understood and agreed to its terms and agreed to be bound by the terms. In addition, Petitioner acknowledged that the information provided in the Form was, to the best of Petitioner's knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

6. In accordance with the Act and the Board's Regulations governing Casino Self-Exclusion List removals, Petitioner is not eligible to be removed from the Casino Self-Exclusion List until after October 15, 2027.

7. Petitioner's failure to read and fully understand the Casino Self-Exclusion documents before signing and submitting them to the Board to be placed on the Casino Self-Exclusion List does not provide a basis for early removal from the chosen Self-Exclusion List. Furthermore, Petitioner has not provided any extenuating circumstances that would provide good cause to be removed from the Casino Self-Exclusion list prior to the expiration of the period chosen by Petitioner.

THEREFORE, on this date of April 25, 2024, based upon the above cited facts, Petitioner's request to be removed early from the Board's Casino Self Exclusion List is **DENIED**. Petitioner will remain on the Board's Casino Self Exclusion List at this time.³



Linda S. Lloyd
Director of Hearings and Appeals

Pursuant to 1 Pa. Code. §35.20, you have ten (10) days from the date of this Order to file an appeal of this Staff Decision to the Board. Any appeals should be directed to the Board Clerk via email to boardclerk@pa.gov, or mailed to 303 Walnut Street, Strawberry Square, 5th Floor Commonwealth Tower, Harrisburg PA 17101, or faxed to 717-265-7416.

³ At the expiration of the time period chosen, Petition may contact the Board's Office of Compulsive and Problem Gambling and request to be removed from the list, or Petitioner may go to the Board's website and complete the request to be removed on-line.