## COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 23-049 REGARDING EXCLUSION OF DONNA THOMPSON FROM EXCURSION GAMBLING BOATS AND FACILITIES IN MISSOURI

## June 28, 2023

WHEREAS, pursuant to 11 CSR 45-15.030, the Missouri Gaming Commission (the "Commission") has the authority to place a person on the Exclusion List for the conviction of a felony in any jurisdiction of any crime involving moral turpitude or of a crime involving gaming, violating any provision of Chapter 313, RSMo or any rule promulgated by the Missouri Gaming Commission, or performing any act or having a notorious or unsavory reputation which would adversely affect public confidence and trust in gaming, or has her name on any valid and current exclusion list from another jurisdiction in the United States; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 11 CSR 45-15.010, placement on the Exclusion List prohibits such person from entering or having contact of any kind with any Missouri riverboat gaming operation; and

WHEREAS, on February 7, 2023, Donna Thompson pled guilty to one count of felony Wire Fraud, in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 1343, and one count of felony Mail Fraud, in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 1341, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri. The Court accepted her plea on May 17, 2023, and sentenced Ms. Thompson to a total term of twelve (12) months and one (1) day for each count to be served concurrently in the Federal Bureau of Prisons, followed by three years supervised release on each count, to run concurrently. The Court entered a special assessment against Ms. Thompson in the amount of \$200.00, and ordered her to pay \$159,903.42 in restitution. Under the terms of her release, Ms. Thompson is prohibited from entering a casino or any gambling establishment, or engaging in any type of gambling, including lotteries, on-line wagering, and sports betting.

Beginning on or around February 2016 and continuing to or about April 2022, Ms. Thompson and co-defendant Maureen Woodson knowingly and intentionally participated in a scheme to defraud and obtain money from Flordell Hills, Missouri, in an approximate amount of \$663,604.88, by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises. As a part of their scheme, defendants Thompson and Woodson issued approximately six hundred fourteen (614) Flordell Hills checks to themselves, in the total amount of approximately \$531,355.79, without the authority and knowledge of Flordell Hills and the Mayor, Treasurer, or Board of Aldermen. Approximately three hundred sixty-eight (368) of these checks, in the total amount of \$376,026.71, were issued to Ms. Woodson, and approximately two hundred forty-six (246) of those checks, in the amount of \$155,329.08, were issued to Ms. Thompson. Flordell Hills funds were used to pay for personal expenses that totaled approximately \$132,249.09, and were used for such personal expenses as retail vendor charges, entertainment, restaurants, home rental payments, and personal taxes owed to the Internal Revenue Service.

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson has a gambling history at Hollywood Casino, with wagers totaling \$196,167.91 and losses totaling \$22,613.85 from 2016 through 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby finds that Donna Thompson is eligible for permanent placement on the Exclusion List, and the Commission directs the Executive Director to issue a Notice of Exclusion to Donna Thompson.

SO ADOPTED.

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Mike Leara, Chairman Missouri Gaming Commission