

COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 21-018
REGARDING EXCLUSION OF MATTHEW R. PETERSON FROM
EXCURSION GAMBLING BOATS AND FACILITIES IN MISSOURI

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 his 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 September 10, 2020, Matthew R. Peterson pled guilty to one count of the felony of Bank Fraud, in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 1344, and one count of the felony of Money Laundering in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) in the United States District Court Western District of Missouri. The Court accepted his plea and on March 10, 2021, sentenced Mr. Peterson to a total term of 97 months for each count to be served concurrently in the Federal Bureau of Prisons, followed by five years' supervised release on the bank fraud count and three years' supervised release on the money laundering count, to run concurrently. The Court entered a forfeiture against Mr. Peterson in the amount of \$25,500 and ordered him to pay \$2,516,010.70 in restitution. Under the terms of his release, Mr. Peterson is prohibited from entering any gambling establishment or engaging in any type of gambling, including off-shore or Internet gambling.

Beginning on or around 2012 and continuing to or about November 2016, Mr. Peterson knowingly and intentionally devised and executed a scheme and artifice to defraud various financial institutions and other entities as to a material matter and to obtain monies and funds owned by and under the custody and control of various financial institutions and other entities by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representation, promises, and omissions, and a scheme to defraud investors and prospective investors, and thereby caused investors to transfer or wire money and otherwise deposit money into bank accounts under his control, for the purpose of defrauding investors. As a result, Mr. Peterson fraudulently obtained approximately \$6 million of investor funds from at least 37 investors. Banks, credit card companies, and companies specializing in loans to businesses incurred losses of approximately \$461,000 as a result of his scheme.

The false statements made to induce investors to turn over their money to Mr. Peterson included statements, representations, and promises that he was an expert in sports gambling, and that his clients' monies would be invested in sports gambling. Mr. Peterson

diverted approximately \$565,000 of investor money to himself for his own personal use, including his personal gambling activities on sports betting and slot machines.

WHEREAS, Mr. Peterson has a gambling history at Argosy Riverside Casino, with lifetime wagers totaling \$56,675 and losses totaling \$37,604 from 2003 through 2016. Significantly, in 2013 and 2015, he wagered \$35,455 and lost \$22,384.

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