

**COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 22-006  
REGARDING EXCLUSION OF KARLA M. BENITEZ FROM  
EXCURSION GAMBLING BOATS AND FACILITIES IN MISSOURI**

January 19, 2022

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 having been convicted 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, performing any act or having a notorious or unsavory reputation which would adversely affect public confidence and trust in gaming, or having 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 March 1, 2016, Karla M. Benitez pled guilty to one count of Attempted Violation of Laws Pertaining to River Boat Gambling, a Class A Misdemeanor, in violation of §313.830.4(4), RSMo (2014) in the Circuit Court of Pemiscot County, Missouri. On multiple occasions in 2014 and 2015 while employed as a Table Games Dealer at the Lady Luck Casino Caruthersville<sup>1</sup> (the "Casino"), Ms. Benitez knowingly exposed cards in her hand while dealing Blackjack and Mississippi Stud Poker to a patron, and such conduct was a substantial step toward the commission of the crime of violating the laws pertaining to riverboat gambling, and was done for the purpose of committing such crime. The Court suspended the execution of her sentence and ordered Ms. Benitez to complete six months unsupervised probation; and

WHEREAS, based on the same incident which led to her arrest and guilty plea in March 2016, the Casino terminated Ms. Benitez's employment as a dealer on January 21, 2015, and the Commission revoked her occupational gaming license on or about October 2015.

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

SO ADOPTED.

  
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Mike Leara  
Chairman  
Missouri Gaming Commission

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<sup>1</sup> Lady Luck Casino Caruthersville is currently known as Century Casino Caruthersville. The Casino's name was changed in 2019.