## STATE OF ILLINOIS ILLINOIS GAMING BOARD

IN RE THE DISCIPLINARY ACTION OF:

Kevin Piekarski DC-V-23-331

Licensed Terminal Handler License No. 170502686

# COMPLAINT FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND NOTICE OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Illinois Gaming Board, for its Complaint against Kevin Piekarski, states as follows:

### **NATURE OF ACTION**

- 1. The Illinois Gaming Board (the "Board" or "IGB") brings this action against licensed Terminal Handler Kevin Piekarski ("Piekarski") for misconduct including theft and deceptive acts in violation of the Video Gaming Act (the "VGA"), the Illinois Gambling Act (the "IGA"), and the Board's Adopted Rules for Video Gaming (the "Rules"). Licensed Terminal Operator J & J Ventures ("J & J") terminated Piekarsi as a result of his misconduct.
- 2. Piekarski's conduct violates, among other things, provisions of the VGA, the IGA and the Rules that prohibit Board licensees from engaging in any conduct that would discredit, or tend to discredit, or reflect adversely on the integrity of the Illinois gaming industry.
- 3. The Board brings this action pursuant to Sections 78 and 80 of the VGA; Sections 5(b)(2), 5(b)(13), 5(c)(5), and 17 of the IGA; and Sections 1800.210 and 1800.310 the Rules. 230 ILCS 40/78; 230 ILCS 40/80; 230 ILCS 10/5; 230 ILCS 10/9; 11 Ill. Adm. Code 1800.210; 11 Ill. Adm. Code 1800.310.
- 4. Through this action, the Board seeks to REVOKE Piekarski's license.

5. Additionally, and pursuant to Section 17 of the Illinois Gambling Act, Piekarski's Terminal Handler license is summarily suspended pending issuance of a final Board order in this matter.

#### **PARTIES**

- 6. Piekarski is a licensed Terminal Handler (License No. 170502686). Piekarski was an employee of J& J at all relevant times. As a Board licensee, Piekarski is obligated to comply with the VGA and Rules.
- 7. J & J is a licensed Terminal Operator (License No. 100600273).
- 8. The Board is the Illinois State agency responsible for administering, regulating, and enforcing the system of video gaming in Illinois. Pursuant to Section 78 of the VGA, the Board has jurisdiction over and shall supervise all gaming operations governed by the VGA including, but not limited to, the conduct of licensees.

#### RELEVANT FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 9. As a licensed Terminal Handler employed by J & J, Piekarski collected money deposited by patrons into video gaming terminals ("VGTs") operated by J & J at licensed video gaming locations. Funds deposited into VGTs for patron play belong to J & J.
- 10. On or about March 6, 2023, Piekarski reported to J & J that a bag containing approximately \$9,600 he collected on behalf of J & J from VGTs at various licensed locations was missing from his vehicle and could not be found. The money in Piekarski's bag belonged to J & J.
- 11. On March 7, 2023, J & J investigators interviewed Piekarski. During the interview, Piekarski made several inconsistent and false statements to J &J about what happened to the money bag and the J &J funds he collected.

- 12. Piekarski ultimately admitted to J & J that he stole the money bag containing the \$9,600 he collected from J&J's VGTs at licensed video gaming locations.
- 13. Following Piekarski's admission, J & J retrieved the money bag containing the \$9,600 in J &J funds from Piekarski's vehicle.
- 14. Through his conduct, Piekarski exerted unauthorized control of \$9600 that belonged to J & J intending to permanently deprive J & J of the benefit of the funds.
- 15. J & J terminated Piekarski's employment on March 7, 2023.
- 16. Piekarski paid the annual fee for his Terminal Handler license on October, 14 2023, evidencing his intent to continue to perform Terminal Handler services.

# COUNT I THEFT IN VIOLATION OF RULE 210

- 17. The Board re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 1 through 16 above as if fully alleged herein.
- 18. Rule 210 subjects licensees to discipline for any act or failure to act that is injurious to the safety, morals, good order and general welfare of the people of the State, or that would discredit or tend to discredit Illinois or the Illinois video gaming industry.
- 19. Rule 310 subjects licensees to discipline for any failure to comply with any law or Board Rule.
- 20. Piekarski violated the Illinois Criminal Code of 2012 by stealing the money bag containing \$9,600 in funds that belonged to J & J.
- 21. By stealing the money bag containing \$9,600 in funds that belonged to J & J, Piekarski engaged in activity that is injurious to the good order and general welfare of the people of the State of Illinois.

22. By stealing the money bag containing \$9,600 in funds that belonged to J & J, Piekarski

engaged in behavior that discredits the Illinois gaming industry.

23. By engaging in the conduct described above, Piekarski is subject to discipline under Rule

310.

COUNT II
DECEPTIVE ACTS IN VIOLATION OF RULE 310(a)(21)

24. The Board re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 1 through 16 above as if fully alleged

herein.

25. Rule 310(a)(21) subjects licensees to Board discipline for engaging in, or facilitating, any

deceptive acts or practices including, but not limited to, the use or employment of any deception,

fraud, false pretense, false promise or misrepresentation, or the concealment, suppression, or

omission of any material fact in the conduct of any video gaming operation.

26. Through the conduct described above, Piekarski engaged in deceptive acts.

27. By engaging in the conduct described above, Piekarski is subject to discipline under Rule

310(a)(21).

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing, Piekarski's licensed should be REVOKED.

Piekarski's license is hereby summarily suspended pursuant to 17 of the Illinois Gambling

Act pending issuance of a final Board order.

November 7, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Marcus D. Fruchter

Administrator

Illinois Gaming Board

### NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Pursuant to Rule 715 [11 Ill. Adm. Code 1800.715] the Administrator finds facts sufficient to authorize the issuance of a Disciplinary Complaint against Kevin Piekarski seeking to revoke his Terminal Handler license. Pursuant to Section 17 of the Illinois Gambling Act, your Terminal Handler license is SUMMARILY SUSPENDED until the issuance of a final Board order in this matter.

If you choose to file an Answer, it will not be accepted unless it complies with every requirement listed in Section 720 of the Rules [11 Ill. Adm. Code 1800.720]. If you file an Answer that complies with all requirements under Rule 720, a hearing officer will be appointed to conduct a hearing. The Answer should be mailed to:

OR

Illinois Gaming Board Attn: Legal Department 160 N. LaSalle St., Suite 300 Chicago, Illinois 60601 IGB.LEGAL@illinois.gov

Failure to file an Answer within 21 days of receiving this Complaint will result in the proposed disciplinary action becoming effective and final.

Dated: November 7, 2023

Marcus D. Fruchter Administrator

Illinois Gaming Board