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STATE OF NEVADA  
BEFORE THE NEVADA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

In the Matter of:  
RICARDO CASTILLO,  
Nevada Horse Race License #6016  
Respondent.

**ORDER ON APPEAL  
SUSTAINING AND  
MODIFYING RULING**

On April 1, 2025, the Board of Stewards entered its Ruling finding Ricardo Castillo violated Nevada Gaming Commission Regulation 30.405. This Ruling was based on four horses under the supervision of Ricardo Castillo, possessing a Nevada Horse Race License as a Trainer, testing positive for prohibited foreign substances. To wit:

1) On Saturday, August 24, 2024, the number five (5) horse, Bnb Hasta La Luna, who finished first (1<sup>st</sup>) in the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) race, was selected for mandatory drug testing at the Elko County Fairgrounds in Elko, Nevada. Test Results indicated levels of the forbidden substances Methamphetamine and Amphetamine in the post-race blood and urine samples.

2) On Saturday, August 31, 2024, the number eight (8) horse, Famous Prizes, who finished first (1<sup>st</sup>) in the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) race, was selected for mandatory drug testing at the Elko County Fairgrounds in Elko, Nevada. Test Results indicated levels of the forbidden substances Methamphetamine and Amphetamine in the post-race blood and urine samples.

3) On Saturday, August 31, 2024, the number six (6) horse, Dr. B, who finished first (1<sup>st</sup>) in the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) race, was selected for mandatory drug testing at the Elko County Fairgrounds in Elko, Nevada. Test Results indicated levels of the forbidden substances Methamphetamine and Amphetamine in the post-race blood and urine samples. Additionally, test results indicated levels of the forbidden substance O-Desmethyltramadol (Tramadol) in the post-race urine sample.

1           4) On Monday, September 2, 2024, the number one (1) horse, Bnb Lightning  
2 McQueen, who finished first (1<sup>st</sup>) in the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) race, was selected for mandatory drug  
3 testing at the Elko County Fairgrounds in Elko, Nevada. Test Results indicated levels of  
4 the forbidden substances Methamphetamine, Amphetamine, and O-Desmethyltramadol  
5 (Tramadol) in the post-race urine sample.

6           Based on its finding that Ricardo Castillo violated Nevada Gaming Commission  
7 Regulation 30.405, the Board of Stewards disqualified the four horses; ordered the  
8 winnings redistributed; fined Ricardo Castillo FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO  
9 CENTS (\$4,000.00); recommended the Nevada Gaming Control Board (Board) revoke  
10 Ricardo Castillo's Nevada Horse Race License effective September 3, 2024; and  
11 recommended the Board bar (suspend) Ricardo Castillo from racing on any track under the  
12 jurisdiction of the Board and Commission for four years from the date of the Ruling. The  
13 Board of Stewards is limited by law to a maximum of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND  
14 NO CENTS (\$1,000) per violation for fines and is not authorized to revoke a license or bar  
15 a person from racing.

16           Ricardo Castillo appealed the Board of Stewards' ruling to the Board.

17           This appeal having been presented to the Board on June 11, 2025, and the Board  
18 having considered the Board of Stewards' Ruling and recommendations and having  
19 reviewed the record for this matter, the Board hereby SUSTAINS the finding of the Board  
20 of Stewards that Ricardo Castillo violated Nevada Gaming Commission Regulation 30.405.  
21 The Board further SUSTAINS the Board of Stewards' Ruling disqualifying the four horses  
22 and ordering the winnings redistributed.

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1 Based on the severity of the violations, the Board hereby MODIFIES the penalties  
2 imposed by the Board of Stewards' Ruling as follows: 1) the total fine amount is MODIFIED  
3 to be ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$100,000.00); 2) the  
4 recommendation that Ricardo Castillo's Nevada Horse Race License be revoked effective  
5 September 3, 2024, is MODIFIED to, in fact, revoke Ricardo Castillo's Nevada Horse Race  
6 License effective September 3, 2024; and 3) the recommendation that Ricardo Castillo be  
7 barred from racing on any track under the jurisdiction of the Board and Commission for  
8 four (4) years is MODIFIED to, in fact, bar Ricardo Castillo from racing on any track under  
9 the jurisdiction of the Board and Commission for fifteen (15) years, commencing September  
10 3, 2024.

11 IT IS SO ORDERED

12 DATED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025.

13 NEVADA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

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16 KIRK D. HENDRICK, Chair

17 Submitted by:

18 AARON D. FORD  
19 Attorney General

20 By:

21   
22 JOHN S. MICHELA  
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