

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS GAMING BOARD**

IN RE THE DISCIPLINARY ACTION OF:

J2 BEVERAGES, LLC d/b/a Rumors

Licensed Establishment No. 120712651

DC-V-22-04

COMPLAINT FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The Illinois Gaming Board, for its Complaint against J2 Beverages, LLC. states as follows:

NATURE OF ACTION

1. The Illinois Gaming Board (the “Board” or “IGB”) brings this action against licensed video gaming location J2 Beverages, LLC d/b/a Rumors (“Rumors”) for its behavior in violation of the Video Gaming Act (the “VGA”) and the Board’s Adopted Rules for Video Gaming (the “Rules”).
2. The Board brings this action pursuant to Sections 45 and 78 of the Video Gaming Act (“VGA”), 230 ILCS 40/1 et seq., and Section 310 of Board’s Adopted Rules (the "Rules"), 11 Ill. Adm. Code 1800.110 et seq.

PARTIES

3. Rumors is a licensed establishment under the Video Gaming Act. As a licensed establishment, Rumors, its employees, and its agents are required to comply with the VGA and the Rules at all times.
4. 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. The Board's jurisdiction extends to every person, association, corporation, partnership, and trust involved in video gaming operations in Illinois.

5. At all relevant times, Angela Sappington ("Sappington") partially owned Rumors and was its VG Manager.

VIOLATION OF RULE 310
ILLEGAL GAMBLING

6. On February 22, 2018, Sappington created or helped create a Facebook page entitled "Midwest Racing."

7. The Midwest Racing Facebook page showed that Rumors had been involved in a NASCAR betting pool since the beginning of the 2018 NASCAR season.

8. Sappington used the Midwest Racing Facebook page to distribute completed pools, announcing the pool winners, and informing group members to "Get your money in by the drop of the green flag to be in."

9. On November 17, 2019, Gaming Board agents visited the Rumors during a NASCAR race.

10. At the conclusion of the race, Sappington told a female patron nearby that "Brandi" had won again.

11. Sappington posted on the Midwest Racing Facebook page earlier that a "Brandi" had NASCAR driver Kyle Busch as one of her drivers for the day. Kyle Busch won the race on this day.

12. Sappington informed Board agents that the NASCAR pool had been running since July of 2018 when they purchased the location from Justin Boente but that the pool was not part of the bar.

13. Sappington stated that Rumors' part time bartender, operated the NASCAR pool and the owners of Rumors helped him out from time to time because he was not adept at using Facebook.

14. Sappington detailed how the Facebook group and NASCAR pool operated including the following facts: for a new member to join the group an existing member would have to drop out; the group had a cap of 18 people; the pool members come into the bar, pay the bartender, and then the money is kept in an envelope marked "race money" in a draw by the register; and the pool had been operated for 36 weeks.

15. Sappington took Board agents to the register in the bar area, opened a draw, removed an envelope, which included \$180.00 wrapped up with a list of the group members who had paid to be in the pool.

16. Rule 310 provides that licensees shall be subject to a disciplinary action for "any act or failure to act by themselves or by their agents or employees that is injurious to the public health, safety, morals, good order and general welfare of the people of the State of Illinois, or that would discredit or tend to discredit the Illinois video gaming industry or the State of Illinois."

17. Rule 310 also provides that "[f]ailing to comply with or make provision for compliance with the Act, this Part, any federal, State or local law or regulation, or a control system or protocol mandated by the Board" may be grounds for discipline.

18. Rule 210 describes the general duties of licensees, and provides that each licensee has an ongoing duty to comply with all federal, State, or local laws and regulations.

19. Under the Criminal Code of 2012, gambling is a class A misdemeanor. 720 ILCS 5/28-1(c).

20. Gambling is defined to include when a person “knowingly sells pools upon the result of any game or contest of skill or chance[.]”

21. By conducting illegal gambling, Rumors is in violation of Rule 210(a) and 310(a)(1), thus subject to discipline.

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing, Rumor’s should be FINED \$5,000.

Dated: July 18, 2022

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel Gerber
General Counsel
Illinois Gaming Board

***ISSUED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE ADMINISTRATOR OF
THE 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 J2 Beverage LLC. and with the proposed discipline of a \$5,000 FINE.

J2 Beverage LLC, d/b/a Rumors. shall be FINED \$5,000 for violations of the Video Gaming Act and the Adopted Rules, as set forth in Disciplinary Complaint No. DC-V-22-04 unless it files an answer to the Disciplinary Complaint within 21 days from the date of service of the complaint.

Payments should be sent to:

Illinois Gaming Board
Revenue Accounting Unit
801 South Seventh Street, Suite 400 - South
Springfield, Illinois 62703

OR Made Electronically By [Clicking Here](#)

If Rumors chooses 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. Failure to file an Answer within 21 days of receiving this Complaint will result in the proposed disciplinary action becoming effective and final. The Answer should be mailed to:

Illinois Gaming Board
Attn: Legal Department
160 N. LaSalle St., Suite 300
Chicago, Illinois 60601

OR

IGB.LEGAL@illinois.gov

Failure to pay the fine or file an Answer within 21 days of receiving this may result additional discipline, up to revocation of your license.

Dated: July 18, 2022



Daniel Gerber
General Counsel
Illinois Gaming Board