

Name: **Caleb C.**

City, State: **N/A**

Age: **62**

Occupation: **Accountant**

His Story: **Its been nearly 20 years since this accountant's gambling addiction landed him on the front page of all the local newspapers-now hear his story and find out how he is helping others avoid his fate**



CALEB'S FIRST PERSON ACCOUNT OF HIS STORY

I am a 62 year old recovering compulsive gambler. For the first 32 years of my life gambling for me was an occasional affair for social enjoyment and for fun. At age 32, I had everything going for me, I was the owner of a successful local CPA firm, was financially sound, had a great reputation among my clients, peers, and the community, was a board member of a local college, was elected statewide to a professional organization of CPA's as well as having a good family and lovely home.

In my 33rd year I made a trip to Las Vegas and won some money playing blackjack and I was elated. During the next two years I visited the casinos 3 or 4 times a year and I was winning a great deal of money. Suddenly my luck changed and I began to lose steadily and more and more heavily. My gambling expanded to horse racing, local card games, illegal sports gambling and the frequency of my gambling accelerated. I could not get back to my winning ways and over the next six years I consumed all my assets while still trying to maintain the image I wanted others to see of a successful CPA. When I ran out of my money I began to misappropriate client funds to satisfy my need to be in action.

In 1989 I was indicted, arrested and sent to prison for taking my clients money. It was all over the local news and I was destroyed as a CPA. Through a friend I learned about GA and I started attending meetings in 1989 and am still attending our local meeting each week. I haven't had the need to make a bet since January 12, 1989.

My gambling addiction cost me my CPA license, my reputation, my family, all my tangible assets, my freedom, and nearly took my life.

My prison time is completed and I am making restitution to those I harmed. Today I have an accounting practice with my son and I am involved with helping others recover from an addiction to gamble and I am living my life gambling free one day at a time.

If you are a compulsive or pathological gambler there is hope if you have a desire to stop gambling.

Disclaimer: the above story appears in its original form and has not been edited for content. The above story does not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of The National Council on Problem Gambling.