New Board Members Elected to Lead NCPG

The members of the National Council on Problem Gambling recently elected several new members of the Board of Directors.

Michael Burke and Dolores Chiechi were elected to their first terms on the Board of Directors. Judge Mark Farrell, Nan Horner and Chip Polston were re-elected. They will all serve three-year terms from 2017 to 2020.

Michael Burke is the Executive Director for the Michigan Association on Problem Gambling. He is a lawyer who has spent his life working with addicts. His book on addiction, *Never Enough: One Lawyer’s True Story Of How He Gambled His Career Away*, is published by the American Bar Association. He has also served on the Boards of Brighton Hospital, Livingston County United Way, the Michigan Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counsellors and the State of Michigan Health Professional Recovery Program. Burke holds an Affiliate Member seat on the Board.

Dolores A. Chiechi serves as the Executive Director and Lobbyist for the Recreational Gaming Association (RGA), the only organization in Washington that serves and represents non-tribal card room licensees, employees and the vendors that service the industry. Ms. Chiechi leads the RGA in its efforts to represent members’ interests before the Washington State Legislature and the Washington State Gambling Commission. Ms. Chiechi is an active advocate for responsible gaming policies; she has served on the board of the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling (ECPG) since 2007 and in 2013 was elected Vice President. Prior to this, she was invited to serve on Governor Locke’s Task Force on Problem Gambling in 2004 to help develop legislation for a state program, funded by the gaming industry, to promote problem gambling awareness and provide treatment. Upon passage of the legislation, she joined the Problem Gambling Advisory Committee to the Department of Health and Social Services Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse (now the Department of Behavioral Health Resources). She has served as its chair for over 7 years. Chiechi also holds an Affiliate Member seat.

Judge Farrell served as the Senior Justice in the Amherst NY Criminal and Civil Court for 20 years, retiring in December 2013. Judge Farrell implemented the first suburban Drug Treatment Court in the country in 1996, the only Gambling Treatment Court in the world in 2001 and the first suburban Veterans Treatment Court in the nation in 2009. Farrell is a graduate of the National Drug Court Institute and attended the National Judicial College. He has been President of the New York State Magistrates Association and teaches in the Schools of Social Work and Law at his alma mater. He graduated from The University at Buffalo, receiving an undergraduate degree in 1969 and a JD in 1972. Farrell served as a JAG in the USAF during the Vietnam era and was an Area General Courts Martial Defense Counsel for the southeastern United States. Farrell was re-elected to an Individual Member seat.

Nan Horner is Executive Vice President, Chief Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer for Empire Resorts, Inc. She was Deputy Chief Counsel for the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board and was named the
Board’s first Director of the Office of Compulsive and Problem Gambling. She serves on NCPG’s Membership Committee, is a member of the International Masters of Gaming Law and its Responsible Gaming Committee. Nan has been involved in the gaming industry as an attorney since 1996. She was an adjunct professor of law at Rutgers University School of Law where she also received her Juris Doctorate. Nan graduated cum laude from Richard Stockton College. Horner holds an Organizational Member seat on the Board.

Chip Polston holds bachelor’s degrees in broadcasting and political science, and a master’s in education. He serves as the Kentucky Council on Problem Gambling’s representative to the NCPG, as chair of the NCPG’s Awards committee, and previously served on the NCPG’s Communications committee. He has been a member of the NASPL Responsible Gaming Committee for 11 years, and for the past five years on the World Lottery Association’s (WLA’s) responsible gaming workgroup, a six-member panel that addresses responsible gambling practices for the global community. Polston was re-elected to an Affiliate Member seat.

NCPG also wishes to thank retiring Board members Maureen Greeley and Tom Moore.

Maureen Greeley is Executive Director of the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling and served as the Problem Gambling Program Manager for the Washington Lottery. During her tenure on the NCPG Board she served in numerous leadership roles including two terms as President from 2013-2015, and currently serves as Chair of the Affiliates Committee.

Dr. Tom Moore is the Executive Director of the Oregon Council on Problem Gambling. He is the longtime chair of NCPG’s Bylaws committee and as a veteran serves on the Military Committee. Dr. Moore has been engaged in the behavioral health care field since 1972 as a direct service provider, manager, and executive; and in research, evaluation, and consultation with Herbert & Louis, LLC.

Board members serve three year terms, with a limit of two terms. Each of NCPG’s three membership groups holds seats on the Board, and nominations are made within the groups. Nominees must be current members of their group and have served on a NCPG committee. Voting for every seat is done by the entire membership. Five of the 15 Board seats are elected each year.

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NCPG is the national advocate for problem gamblers and their families. NCPG is neutral on legalized gambling and works with all stakeholders to promote responsible gaming. For more information on the 29th National Conference on Problem Gambling, visit www.ncpgambling.org/conference.

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call the National Problem Gambling Helpline Network at 800.522.4700 for confidential help.

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