



DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

City of Danville

Lt. Colonel Christopher K. Wiles
Interim Chief of Police

Major Timothy W. Jones
Assistant Chief Operations Division

Major David E. Whitley
Assistant Chief Services Division

November 1, 2023

Dear Business Owner/Operator:

This letter is to inform you that the possession, operation, use, and the allowing of use of any skill game device is **NOT** legal in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Skill game devices are defined in the state code as gambling devices and the playing or offering to play is considered illegal gambling. Please refer to the Code of Virginia § 18.2-325(b) and the attached reference sheet.

As a reminder, enforcement action on the operation of certain skill game devices was paused pursuant to a court-ordered injunction in December of 2021. This injunction only covered skill game devices that were regulated and taxed by Virginia ABC prior to July 1, 2021.

On October 13, 2023, the Virginia Supreme Court vacated the lower court's decision and lifted the injunction preventing the enforcement of the relevant code sections. With the lifting of this injunction, the operation of all skill game devices is illegal and enforceable.

Any person who illegally gambles, conducts illegal gambling operations, permits its continuance, and/or illegally possesses gambling devices is subject to significant criminal and civil penalties. In the event of a citation, a subsequent offense may lead to the seizure of the skill gaming devices.

Following the Supreme Court's ruling and based upon the provisions of the Code of Virginia that prohibit playing or offering play of skill games, the Danville Police Department in cooperation with the Danville Commonwealth's Attorney **will resume enforcement of the illegal gambling code sections related to skill games beginning on December 16, 2023.**

Please contact Special Investigations Captain S.C. Bray at braysc@danvilleva.gov or 434-799-6508, Extension 3164 if any further information is needed.

Regards,

Christopher K. Wiles, Lieutenant Colonel
Interim Chief of Police

Michael J. Newman
Commonwealth's Attorney

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