## March 13, 2024

## Chairman Plousis Acknowledges March 2024 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month

Governor Murphy, by <u>Proclamation</u>, has designated March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in New Jersey, coinciding with National Problem Gambling Awareness Month. While most gamble as a form of entertainment with no problems and are considered social gamblers, there are many others who develop problems with gambling or are at risk for addiction. Problem gambling touches the lives of all it affects – not just those with a gambling problem.

The month-long observance offers an opportunity for organizations such as the <u>Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey</u>, led by its Executive Director, Felicia Grondin, to educate the general public and health care professionals about the warning signs of problem gambling as well as to promote awareness of the resources available both locally and nationally for anyone with concerns about problem gambling.

The Council's statewide campaign this year is aptly themed "Betting on Change: Confronting the Surge in Problem Gambling". While March is the designated Problem Gambling Awareness Month, the Council offers critical information, support and resources year-round.

With easy access to gambling through online wagering, the Division of Gaming Enforcement, through its <u>Responsible Gaming Initiative</u>, and the appointment of Deputy Attorney General Jamie McKelvey, has notably enhanced

its efforts to coordinate with the gaming industry to identify and provide help to at-risk patrons.

The <u>Commission applauds</u> the efforts of both the Council on Compulsive Gambling and the Division to support and promote responsible gaming throughout the State, and nationally, and to reach out to those suffering from, or affected by, a gambling disorder. On behalf of the Commission, we look forward to continuing to support their critical work in this area in the years ahead.