



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
*DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION*

June 14, 2024

**Via Registered Mail** RE41856260309

Harp Media B.V.  
17 Chuchubiweg  
Willemstad  
Curaçao

To Whom it May Concern:

The Department of Consumer Protection (“Department”) has become aware that Harp Media B.V. d/b/a Bovada (“Bovada”), located at 17 Chuchubiweg, Willemstad, Curaçao, is conducting unlicensed online gambling in Connecticut. Bovada’s actions are in violation of Connecticut General Statutes (Conn. Gen. Stat.) §§ 53-278b, 53-278d, and the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 42-110 et seq. (“CUTPA”). The Department, therefore, orders Bovada to cease and desist advertising and offering its games and services to Connecticut customers.

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53-278b prohibits gambling and professional gambling. Gambling is defined as “risking any money, credit, deposit or other thing of value for gain contingent in whole or in part upon lot, chance or the operation of a gambling device . . . .” Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53-278a. Professional Gambling means “accepting or offering to accept, for profit, money, credits, deposits or other things of value risked in gambling . . . .” Id.

Public Act 21-23 authorized online gambling in Connecticut, but only for specific licensed entities. Bovada does not possess an online gaming operator’s license under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 12-857 or any other relevant qualification that would allow Bovada to provide online gaming to Connecticut residents; nor do Bovada’s actions fall within any of the excepted activities to the prohibition on gambling listed in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53-278g.

Bovada’s promotion of unlicensed and illegal gambling services is also an unfair trade practice, which violates CUTPA.

450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 901, Hartford, Connecticut 06103-1840  
General Information (860) 713-6100  
Website: [ct.gov/dcp](http://ct.gov/dcp)  
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Bovada is hereby ordered to immediately cease and desist offering its games and services to Connecticut Customers. Bovada must also continue to allow all Connecticut Customers to withdraw any funds currently held by Bovada. Failure to comply may result in additional action including, but not limited to, civil penalties under CUTPA and/or criminal penalties under Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 53-278b and 53-278d.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Gilman".

Kristofer Gilman

Director of Gaming