



Patrick Chester – EPIC Global Solutions



Kitty Martz – Voices of Problem Gambling Recovery



Chaz Donati – Find Your More

Focus on the Future – Portland, Oregon

May 2, 2024 8:30 am – 10:00 am

Voices of Recovery

Trigger Warning

Please note, the speakers are sharing their true and authentic stories, how *they* wish to share them. Some of the topics and/or imagery may be triggering for some.

Please feel free to step out to take a break or a breath of fresh air as needed. Please take care of yourself.





The Silent Battle...



****LVH SUPERBOOK***
BBB05-2FD5-D4AB
\$2,200.00 Straight Bet
TOTAL POINTS BY:
5399 SEAHAWKS
-110 OUR 22.5
Event Date 2/2/2014
Win \$2,000.00 to pay \$4,200.00
Ticket Cost \$2,200.00
Internal ID: 28734 External ID: 102014499
01328 W000120 Book 23Jan2014 19:19:19
BBB05-2FD5-D4AB

SUPERBOOK***
05-3021-D4AB
bet
NG YARDS BY:
5
114
\$2,100.00
lost \$1,100.00
External ID: 102014499
Book 23Jan2014 19:19:19
-3021-D4AB





*Married in 2006, living
my best life...*

- First son born in 2009
- Owned my own business, working as a general contractor
- Living a secret life behind the scenes
- My wife believed in me
- Crossed over to the dark side....



Theft...

Lies...

Danger..

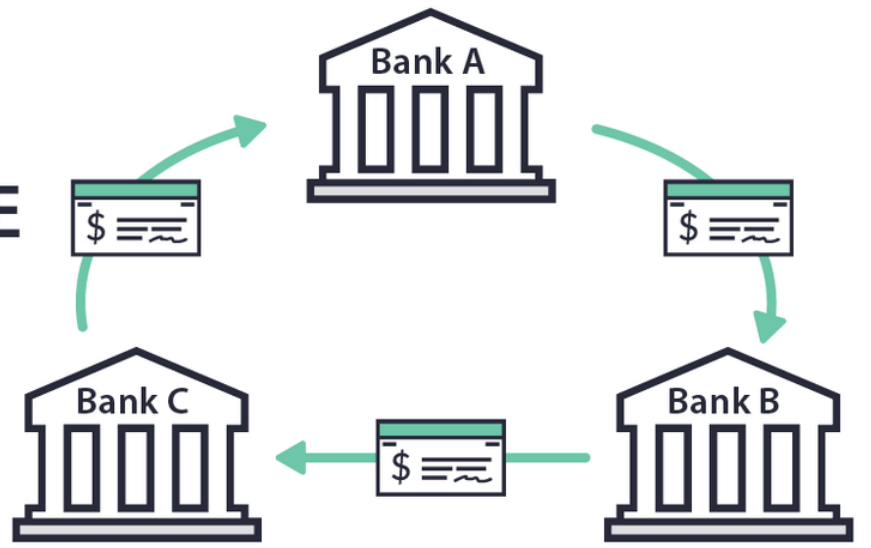
2013 - Felony Charges

14k...

2014, over 1 Million in debt

Rock Bottom.....

CHECK KITING SCHEME



KOMONNEWS NEWS WEATHER REFINED CHIME IN

Police recover nearly \$100K in stolen machinery

by Tracy Vedder | Wed, December 31st 2014, 12:00 AM PST

Machinet-1420078932.j4z.mp4

EVERETT, Wash. -- A unique crime-fighting task force has had a knock-out 36-hour stretch, recovering nearly \$100,000 in stolen property. And it's not your ordinary stolen property, it's heavy machinery, like construction tractors.

The machines on the Sound Tractor lot in Everett, a Kubota dealer can sell anywhere from \$20,000 to well over \$100,000. And that makes the black market, as owner Larry Fransson puts it, "super hot."

And that means plenty of work for SNOCAT, the Snohomish County...

SUPER BOWL XLIX ARIZONA



Super Bowl XLIX, 2015



\$45,000 BET, LOSER...





February, 2015 – 1.3 million in debt. Over 500k owed to former clients

Business license revoked by State of Washington



Intervention, sent off to treatment

Sentencing day March 27th, 2015

Felony record, friendships destroyed, family in ruins





■ Big Impacts: Kitty



1998

-
- Attunement
 - SCARF – David Rock Model
 - Status
 - Certainty
 - Autonomy
 - Relatedness
 - Fairness
 - Neurodiversity
 - Arousal
 - Co-occurring cross addictions
 - Early wins
 - Availability
-

Keys to Recovery



PROBLEM GAMBLING RECOVERY

Everyone's recovery path is unique. However we notice that people who do the following are usually successful:

See your counselor at least once a week

Establish firm money barriers

Do something for your recovery every day

Involve your family in treatment and recovery

Don't go more than 72 hours without talking to another human being about your recovery

Maintaining Recovery



<https://www.ada.gov/2023/08/Certification-Manual-FINAL-June-2023-Final-1.pdf>



Voices of Recovery

FROM LOSSES TO LESSONS

**My recovery journey to getting my
life back**

Speaker - Chaz Donati



3 STAGES TO MY LIFE SO FAR...

The Beginning



The Addiction



The Recovery



THE BEGINNING



Childhood

- First exposure to sports playing hockey in Colorado at age 5
- Couldn't watch television without it being sports related
- Played hockey and baseball mainly, but participated in soccer, basketball, golf, and swimming
- Fell in love with competition
- Family vacations, living life to its fullest

High School

- Started casually betting with friends – poker nights, competitions, etc.
- Turned into small money games here and there – golf course, poker, blackjack nights, etc.
- First debit card, which allowed for online sports betting

College

- First exposure to bookies (17 years old entering college)
- Living on my own, no supervision, no concept of repercussions or getting in trouble
- Started to take off during the 2008 MLB World Series
 - Lost every bet, first thought “Let’s win it all back”
- The addiction was beginning, at 18 years old

THE ADDICTION



Bookies

- Started experiencing owing bookies money
 - Stressful situations being in college
- Find another bookie to win to pay another one off
- Started searching and asking people if they knew anyone
- Every day threats and phone calls for 8+ years

Debt / Relationships

- Started accumulating credit card debt, using that to pay people off
- Working full time, balancing life
- 3 great relationships were ruined
 - 2 directly, 1 indirectly
- Started losing hope with friends and family
 - Missing trips, borrowing money, etc.

Mental Health

- BODYARMOR
- Took until 2020 to really ask for help
 - Covid betting
- No motivation, physical and mental health deteriorating
- Suicidal thoughts for 30 straight days
- Bauer

WHERE DID THIS CHAZ GO?



THE RECOVERY



Therapy

- GA meetings weren't working, I was still betting (every so often, comes in waves)
- Youngest one
- Found a licensed therapist, she ultimately saved my life

Find Your MORE

- Self made concept (motivation, opportunity, routine, energy)
- Small dosages of success turning into a lifestyle

IRONMAN's

- April 2022 my perspective changed, I started finding hope in recovery through endurance training / competition
- Mental and physical competition within yourself

Documenting the Journey

- Content creation via Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube
- Coaching programs
- Podcasting
- Speaking

SPORTS BETTING BY THE NUMBERS

- Currently, 38 states (plus Washington DC and Puerto Rico) offer legal sports betting in some format. There are 30 states that have online sports betting via either smartphone apps or websites. Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico also allow online betting.
- In 2018, the Supreme Court struck down PASPA, the federal ban on sports betting. This decision allows each state to determine whether it wants to legalize sports betting within its borders.
- Nearly every US state legislature has at least introduced a sports betting legalization bill at some point since 2018. More are expected to revisit or introduce new legislation in 2024.
- Sports betting eclipsed a new revenue high of \$10.92 billion, up an insane 44.5% from 2022
- New York comes in the #1 spot with nearly \$1.7 billion in sports betting activity for 2023
 - More than 3.8 million unique player accounts made over 1.2 billion bets in New York last year in 2023
 - 1 out of every 4 adult New Yorkers bet on mobile apps
 - Highest tax rate for sports betting in the U.S. at a stunning 51% on mobile gross gaming revenues. It has generated an impressive tax revenue of \$862 million from mobile sports betting alone in 2023

CLOSING STATEMENT

When we are presented with a second chance, third chance, or even a fourth chance...Find Your MORE

MOTIVATION

What motivates us? Are you using it the right way?
How do we keep it and turn into consistency for our lives?

OPPORTUNITY

How do we identify opportunities? Can it be as simple as catching up with friends and family on a phone call? Lunches? Yes man/woman? (Jim Carrey movie)

ROUTINE

Every person is different, but what does your routine look like? Self care? Working out? Planning trips / adventures?

ENERGY

Where do we put our energy? Is it showing other people a lifestyle, or are you truly wanting to put energy into YOURself and YOUR passions and goals?



Find a concept that works for you, then go out and live by that concept