

[2020] NZPSPLA 006

Case number 001904 / 2015

**IN THE MATTER OF**

The Private Security Personnel and  
Private Investigators Act 2010

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

Complaint by The Police under s 74 of  
the Act against **JOSHUA WATSON**

**HEARD** by telephone on 3 June 2020

**APPEARANCES**

Sergeant J Moody for NZ Police  
J Watson – no appearance

**DECISION**

[1] The Police have laid a complaint against Joshua Watson as he has been convicted of lighting fires after setting fire to four rubbish bins. The Police also have concerns about Mr Watson mental health as he has posted messages on social media about suicidal and terrorist thoughts.

[2] A conviction for lighting fires under s 36 of the Summary Proceedings Act is not grounds for disqualification under s 62 of the Act. However, the events that resulted in that conviction together with the other conduct about which the Police gave evidence raise questions as to Mr Watson's suitability to be a security employee.

[3] Section 83(1)(ab) of the Act states that it is grounds for a complaint, and discretionary grounds for cancelling a certificate, if the holder is no longer suitable to carry on the class of business to which his certificate relates because of his character, circumstances or background.

[4] Mr Watson did not attend the hearing and has not responded to the Police complaint. Based on the evidence provided by the Police I am satisfied that Mr Watson is no longer suitable to be a responsible security employee. I consider the appropriate penalty is to suspend Mr Watson's certificate of approval.

[5] Mr Watson's certificate of approval is therefore suspended until 14 September 2020 when it will expire. Mr Watson may apply for a new certificate after 14 September 2020. However, to be granted a new certificate he will need to provide evidence that he has addressed the mental health and other concerns raised by the Police in the complaint hearing.

**DATED** at Wellington this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2020



P A McConnell  
**Private Security Personnel Licensing Authority**