

**IN THE MATTER OF**

The Private Security Personnel and  
Private Investigators Act 2010

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

A Complaint made by **THE POLICE**  
against **ASTON ARANUI** under s 73  
of the Private Security Personnel and  
Private Investigators Act 2010 (the  
Act)

**HEARD** by telephone on 27 July 2020

**APPEARANCES**

Constable Jerry Shorn – NZ Police  
A Aranui - No appearance

**DECISION**

[1] The Police filed a complaint against Aston Aranui as they consider he is unsuitable to hold a certificate due to him having committed a violence related offence while he was working as a security guard.

[2] Mr Aranui pleaded guilty to a charge of reckless disregard for the safety of others causing injury to a person after an incident where he assaulted a patron at a bar where he was working. A conviction on this charge would have been grounds for disqualification under s 62 of the Act. However, Mr Aranui was discharged without conviction on 13 November 2019 and therefore has no disqualifying convictions.

[3] The Police however say Mr Aranui's actions amount to misconduct under the Act which is a discretionary ground for the cancellation of a licence. I agree that a reasonable person would consider assaulting a patron while working as a crowd controller to be disgraceful and therefore amounts to misconduct.

[4] If Mr Aranui had responded to the Police complaint and provided evidence that he had undergone non-violence counselling or further de-escalation training I am unlikely to have cancelled his certificate. However, Mr Aranui has neither provided any response to the Police complaint nor attended the hearing into the complaint. I also note that Mr Aranui has received a recent warning from the Police for an unrelated breach of the Act.

**Conclusion & Orders:**

[5] Based on the evidence before me I conclude it is appropriate to cancel Mr Aranui's certificate. I therefore make the following orders:

- Mr Aranui's certificate of approval is cancelled effective from Friday 31 July 2020

- Mr Aranui is to return his certificate to the Authority within 7 days of the date of the cancellation of his certificate.
- If Mr Aranui wants to apply for a new certificate, he will need to declare the cancellation of his current certificate of approval and provide evidence of non-violence or de-escalation training.

**DATED** at Wellington this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July 2020

The image shows a handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'P A McConnell'. To the right of the signature is a circular official seal. The seal features a central coat of arms with a crown on top, flanked by two figures. The text 'THE PRIVATE SECURITY PERSONNEL LICENSING AUTHORITY' is written around the perimeter of the seal.

P A McConnell

**Private Security Personnel Licensing Authority**