NZPSPLA 020

IN THE MATTER OF The Private Security Personnel and Private Investigators Act 2010

<u>AND</u>

IN THE MATTER OF An application for a Certificate of Approval by **GT**

DECISION

- [1] GT applied for a Certificate of Approval (COA), with a temporary COA in the classes of crowd controller, property guard and personal guard. He is not eligible for a temporary COA as he has disqualifying convictions.
- [2] Given his convictions, GT was directed to provide further details about his offending and whether he had undertaken any courses to address his offending. He did so and as a result of that information his COA was granted. However later that same day the Police filed a late objection and on the basis of information they provided, GT's COA was immediately suspended. As the Police objection was filed out of the required time, it has been treated as a complaint.
- [3] An audio-visual hearing was convened, and both parties were provided with time to file any further supporting information. GT has provided the following:
 - (i) Several personal statements in explanation;
 - (ii) A supportive character reference from his Kaumatua;
 - (iii) Four supportive references from family members;
 - (iv) Proof that he can obtain security work; and
 - (v) A letter from his Probation Officer.
- [4] GT's position is that despite his history he is now suitable to be a responsible security worker. He has completed a 10 session Wellness Recovery Action Planning Programme and complied with his parole conditions that are intended to expire in 2023. He has completed his security training and undertaken voluntary work. In essence he has worked hard since his last offending in 2020 to turn his life around. He has a security employer who is willing to employ him whilst being aware of his past and mentor him into the role to give him the best chance at success. GT has the full support of a respected Kaumatua who has been instrumental in his life change.
- [5] The Police are concerned about GT's extensive criminal history. He has a number of convictions, many for offences of violence and dishonesty and he has spent time in Prison. These are convictions that disqualify GT from holding a COA pursuant to ss62(c) and 62 (f)(vi)and(vii) of the Act. His last conviction was in 2021 and they are concerned about the limited time since then in which he has had to prove himself. The Police want to be confident they would be able to work constructively alongside GT should he obtain security work.

- [6] GT has made persuasive submissions supporting his view that he has turned his life around and he clearly has good support. However I remain concerned at his tendency to dismiss the convictions as his past whilst not taking full responsibility for his behaviour at that time. His oral evidence allayed my additional previous concern that he may be unable to work constructively with the Police.
- [7] Having considered all the information before me I am prepared to provide GT with the second chance he is seeking and reinstate his COA. However, it will be subject to conditions to ensure that GT continues on the path he has recently commenced.
- [8] I therefore direct that the suspension on GT's COA is lifted, effective immediately. His COA is to be subject to the following conditions:
 - [i] That GT not come to the attention of Police in any negative way; and
 - [ii] That GT works co-operatively with the Police and other law enforcement agencies.
- [9] Should GT breach either of these conditions or if he should be charged with any offence, the Police may apply to immediately suspend his COA.
- [10] This decision is to be published on the Licensing Authority's website however GT's identify is to be supressed in order that his future employment opportunities are not hindered any further than they are already.



DATED at Wellington this 2nd day of June 2022

K A Lash Deputy Private Security Personnel Licensing Authority