

IN THE MATTER OF

An application for a Certificate of Approval by **ROPATI LEU** under the Private Security Personnel and Private Investigators Act 2010

DECISION

- [1] Ropati Leu has applied for a Certificate of Approval (COA), with a temporary COA, in the classes of crowd controller, property guard and personal guard. He was initially granted a temporary COA as he wrongly declared he had no overseas convictions. However, when the Authority were advised that he did have overseas convictions, his temporary COA was suspended on 20 April 2022.
- [2] The Police object to Mr Leu's application as he was convicted of multiple offences while living in Australia, some of which resulted in prison sentences. Having been sentenced to a term of imprisonment is grounds for disqualification under s 62 of the Act and makes Mr Leu ineligible for a temporary COA. Mr Leu is also facing active charges in New Zealand for wilful damage and disorderly behaviour which are next to be heard in court on 26 July 2022. The Police further have other concerns regarding their interactions with him in the last year and his potential gang associations.
- [3] As directed by the Authority, Mr Leu did respond to the objection advising that he has turned his life around since returning to New Zealand in 2021. He also included a reference from his current employer. He did not address why he wrongly declared he had no overseas convictions or the alleged gang associations and did not provide all documents as sought.
- [4] An audio-visual hearing was set down for today to progress the Police objection. Mr Leu was advised that if he did not attend, his application was likely to be declined. Unfortunately, Mr Leu did not attend the hearing, however the Police did and maintain their objection.
- [5] Accordingly based on the information I have available to me, I cannot be satisfied that Mr Leu is suitable to be a security worker at this time. Therefore, his temporary COA is cancelled immediately and his COA application, declined. Should Mr Leu apply again, he should specifically address what changes he has made to his life to ensure his period of offending is over.
- [6] A copy of this decision is to be published on the Licensing Authority's website.

DATED at Wellington this 16th day of June 2022



K A Lash
Deputy Private Security Personnel Licensing Authority