

IN THE MATTER OF

Complaint by The Police under s 74 of the Act against **PETER UELESE** under the Private Security Personnel and Private Investigators Act 2010(the Act)

HEARD virtually on 14 December 2022

DECISION

[1] Police are asking for Peter Uelese's certificate of approval (COA) to be cancelled because he was convicted of assault with intention to injure in November 2022. This conviction is grounds for disqualification under s 62 of the Act and therefore a mandatory ground for the cancellation of Mr Uelese's COA. Mr Uelese's COA has been suspended since June 2021 after the police filed their complaint based on his pending charges.

[2] Mr Uelese also has recent convictions for driving while disqualified, disorderly behaviour, refusing to give a blood test, failing to stop for the police, resisting police and offensive behaviour. Police also consider Mr Uelese is no longer suitable to be a COA holder because he is a patched member of the Rebels which is a criminal gang.

[3] Mr Uelese was also convicted of several offences of violence while living in Australia for which he received a prison sentence. Following his prison sentence Mr Uelese was deported to New Zealand. Mr Uelese wrongly declared in his application for a COA that he had no overseas convictions.

[4] Mr Uelese did not attend the hearing. As there was some doubt as to whether he had been served with the notice of hearing he was given further time to respond to the police complaint and apply for waiver of the grounds for disqualification. Mr Uelese has not filed a response, or applied for waiver, or asked for a further hearing to be convened.

[5] As grounds for disqualification apply to Mr Uelese, I must cancel his certificate of approval if I am satisfied that because of his disqualifying conviction he is no longer suitable to be a responsible security employee.

[6] Mr Uelese's conviction history establishes a pattern behaviour that demonstrates a failure to cooperate with the police and refusal to follow or comply with legal requests or court-imposed sentences. These are not desirable characteristics of a security guard. Mr Uelese membership of the Rebels also shows he is no longer suitable to be a responsible security employee.

Summary & Orders

[7] Police have established that one or more grounds for disqualification apply to Mr Uelese following his recent convictions. I am satisfied that Mr Uelese's recent convictions, his membership of the Rebels, and the false declaration he made in his application for a COA means that Mr Uelese is no longer suitable to be a certificate holder.

[8] I therefore make the following orders:

- a) Mr Uelese's certificate of approval is cancelled effective from the date of this order.
- b) Mr Uelese is to return his certificate of approval to the Licensing Authority within seven days of receipt of this order.

DATED at Wellington this 18th day of January 2023

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