

**IN THE MATTER OF**

The Private Security Personnel and  
Private Investigators Act 2010

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

An application for a Certificate of  
Approval by **ATELI TAUPALE**

**DECISION**

[1] Mr Taupale has 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 had two assault convictions in the last seven years which is grounds for disqualification under s 62 of the Act.

[2] The Police object to Mr Taupale because of these and other convictions. Since 2014 Mr Taupale has six separate convictions for making threats, assault and other family violence offending. He also has five convictions for breach of community work and failure to answer bail. His most recent convictions were in February 2018 for drunk driving and failing to stop.

[3] Mr Taupale did not declare his convictions in his application form. In explanation he said that he did not understand what the word conviction meant and thought it only covered prison sentences. He accepts that his offending was unacceptable but says that since then he has been striving to push forward. Mr Taupale has also provided references that show that he is a hard worker and talented musician.

[5] However, Mr Taupale has not provided any evidence that he has attended any counselling or courses or taken other steps to deal with his violent offending or his alcohol issues. Being able to control your temper and respond non-violently when faced with conflict or under pressure is essential to be a responsible crowd controller or property guard. His conviction history shows that he has been unable to do this

[4] Based on the evidence before me I am not satisfied that Mr Taupale is suitable to be a responsible security employee. His application is accordingly declined.

**DATED** at Wellington this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March 2019

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 the coat of arms of New Zealand in the center, surrounded by the text 'THE PRIVATE SECURITY PERSONNEL LICENSING AUTHORITY' in a circular border.

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