

IN THE MATTER OF

An application by **SHAUN FUNNELL**
to add the classes of crowd controller,
property guard and personal guard to
his Individual Licence.

DECISION

[1] In September 2020 Shaun Funnell applied to add the classes of crowd controller, and property guard to his individual licence. Mr Funnell has held an individual licence in the classes of repossession agent and private investigator since February 2017. To add classes to an individual licence Mr Funnell needed to provide evidence that he had the required training in the classes he wanted to add to his licence and that he had at least 12 months experience in those classes within the last five years.

[2] Attached to Mr Funnell's application to add classes was a letter from Pro Security signed by Mr Wright verifying Mr Funnell's experience as a crowd controller and property guard. The letter said that Mr Funnell's employment started 14 months ago, and he had been a valued member of their team and excellent in all situations as a bouncer. The letter raised several concerns as Pro Security was only granted its licence on 2 September 2020 and Mr Funnell did not hold the required COA or licence to work as a bouncer.

[3] I therefore referred the matter to the Complaints, Investigation and Prosecution Unit (CIPU) for investigation. Contrary to what Mr Funnell put in his application to add classes to his licence, Mr Funnell told the CIPU investigator that he had just helped Pro Security on a casual basis mainly in host responsibility. He advised that they "talked up" the supporting letter so he could get the endorsement to his licence.

[4] CIPU concluded that Mr Funnell had breached s 44 of the Act by working as a crowd controller without the required licence or certificate and had submitted an embellished or false letter in support of his application. They consider a formal warning is the appropriate response to these breaches. I agree with that conclusion.

[5] However, from the information outlined in CIPU report, I conclude that it is unlikely that Mr Funnell has the required 12 months experience in the class of crowd controller. In addition, there is no evidence that Mr Funnell has any experience in the classes of property guard or personal guard.

[6] Mr Funnell's application to add the classes of crowd controller, property guard and personal guard to his individual licence is accordingly declined. He does however qualify for a certificate of approval in those classes as he has completed the required training. Therefore, if Mr Funnell were to file an application for a certificate of approval in the classes of crowd controller, property guard and personal guard, it is likely to be granted.

DATED at Wellington this 10th day August 2021

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 crest with a crown and two figures holding a shield. The text around the perimeter of the seal reads 'THE PRIVATE SECURITY PERSONNEL LICENSING AUTHORITY'.

P A McConnell
Private Security Personnel Licensing Authority