

IN THE MATTER OF

The Private Security Personnel and Private Investigators Act 2010

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

Complaint against **ML** and **WT** made under s 73 of the Act

DECISION

- [1] Teddy Livingston on behalf of his client Amelia Bristed has made a complaint against ML in relation to the conduct of one of their investigative staff, WT. WT has a certificate of approval (COA) in the class of private investigator and repossession agent that is valid until 23 July 2023.
- [2] Ms Bristed alleges that WT did not adequately identify himself and harassed her in the course of his work. She says he continued to harass her even after her lawyer had contacted him and asked him not to. She says he refused to advise of his licence/COA number or associated industry body and made threats of Police involvement. Ms Bristed was concerned that WT was not licensed to undertake the work he was.
- [3] [redacted], the director of ML responded to the complaint confirming their repossession instructions with respect to the vehicle Ms Bristed had in her possession, allegedly unlawfully. He also provided evidence of the matter being referred to the Police. WT has advised that he spoke with Ms Bristed twice and that contact was minimal as she did not wish to engage with him. He denies any allegation of misconduct.
- [4] WT's submission was forwarded to Ms Bristed and her lawyer, and they were asked to confirm by 23 August whether they intended to pursue the complaint. No response has been received.
- [5] Given Ms Bristed has failed to engage with the Authority or provide further evidence substantiating her complaint, I dismiss the complaint. WT does have a COA which entitles him to undertake private investigation and repossession work and has done since 2015. On the basis of the evidence provided to me I find no allegation of misconduct or negligence substantiated.
- [6] This decision is to be published although WT and ML's identifying details are to be redacted given no wrongdoing has been found.

DATED at Wellington this 25th day of August 2023



K A Lash
Deputy Private Security Personnel Licensing Authority