

IN THE MATTER OF

A complaint under ss 73 & 74 of The Private Security Personnel and Private Investigators Act 2010 (the Act) against **RUPERT MAGELE & BLADE GROUP LIMITED**

Heard on the papers

DECISION

[1] On 23 August 2023 Rupert Magele was sentenced to three years and one month imprisonment after being convicted on multiple charges of evading the assessment and payment of GST, PAYE, and income tax. Mr Magele was the sole director of Blade Group Limited which was involved in providing security to hospitality venues and to three MIQ motels during the COVID pandemic security.

[2] Mr Magele holds a current certificate of approval in the guarding classes. Blade Group holds a company licence in the guarding classes, repossession agent and document destruction agent. Blade Group however went into receivership and liquidation on 31 March 2021 and was removed from the company register in August 2022.

[3] Having been sentenced to a term of imprisonment is grounds for disqualification under s 62(c) of the Act and a mandatory ground for the cancellation of Mr Magele's certificate and Blade Group's security licence. Mr Magele has neither applied for waiver of the grounds for disqualification nor provided any submissions as to why his certificate and licence should not be cancelled. In addition, he has not filed any opposition to dealing with the complaint on the papers.

[4] Based on the evidence before me I am satisfied that grounds for disqualification now apply to Mr Magele and that because of this he is no longer suitable to be a certificate holder or a company officer of a company licence holder.

[5] I therefore make the following orders.

- Mr Magele's certificate of approval is cancelled effective immediately.
- Blade Group Limited's company licence is cancelled effective immediately.

DATED at Wellington this 22nd day of December 2023



P A McConnell
Private Security Personnel Licensing Authority