

**IN THE MATTER OF**

A complaint under s 74 of The Private Security Personnel and Private Investigators Act 2010 (the Act) against **XIANG ZHOU**

**HEARD** remotely on 18 April 2024

**APPEARANCES**

Snr Constable Tangney for NZ Police  
X Zhou - no appearance

**DECISION**

[1] Police are asking for Xiang Zhou's certificate of approval to be cancelled as he was convicted of obtaining by deception on 18 March 2024. Mr Zhou was sentenced to six months community detention and ordered to pay reparation of \$31,335. Police also have concerns about Mr Zhou's suitability to be a certificate holder as he is associated with the King Cobras.

[2] An offence of obtaining by deception fits within the definition of an offence of dishonesty as set out in s 4 of the Act. Mr Zhou's conviction is therefore grounds for disqualification under s 62(f)(vi) of the Act and a mandatory ground for cancelling Mr Zhou's COA under s 82 of the Act.

[3] Police also advise that when they were carrying out the investigation into Mr Zhou, they found paraphernalia at his residence relating to the organised crime gang of the King Cobras. This included branded clothing and accessories which Mr Zhou would be unlikely to have in his possession unless he was associated with the King Cobras.

[4] I am therefore satisfied that Mr Zhou's conviction is a ground for disqualification and because of the nature of his conviction and his association with the King Cobras Mr Zhou is no longer suitable to hold a certificate.

[5] I therefore make the following orders:

- Mr Zhou's certificate of approval is cancelled effective immediately.
- Mr Zhou must return his COA to the PSPLA within 7 days of receipt of this order. Failure to do so is an offence under the Act for which he could be prosecuted.

**DATED** at Wellington this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024

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**