WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services Access to the Public Records of the Reports of Decisions

This Reports of Decisions document was retrieved from the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services website. These records are open to public view under Wisconsin's Open Records law, sections 19.31-19.39 Wisconsin Statutes.

Please read this agreement prior to viewing the Decision:

• The Reports of Decisions is designed to contain copies of all orders issued by credentialing authorities within the Department of Safety and Professional Services from November, 1998 to the present. In addition, many but not all orders for the time period between 1977 and November, 1998 are posted. Not all orders issued by a credentialing authority constitute a formal disciplinary action.

• Reports of Decisions contains information as it exists at a specific point in time in the Department of Safety and Professional Services data base. Because this data base changes constantly, the Department is not responsible for subsequent entries that update, correct or delete data. The Department is not responsible for notifying prior requesters of updates, modifications, corrections or deletions. All users have the responsibility to determine whether information obtained from this site is still accurate, current and complete.

• There may be discrepancies between the online copies and the original document. Original documents should be consulted as the definitive representation of the order's content. Copies of original orders may be obtained by mailing requests to the Department of Safety and Professional Services, PO Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935. The Department charges copying fees. *All requests must cite the case number, the date of the order, and respondent's name* as it appears on the order.

• Reported decisions may have an appeal pending, and discipline may be stayed during the appeal. Information about the current status of a credential issued by the Department of Safety and Professional Services is shown on the Department's Web Site under "License Lookup."

The status of an appeal may be found on court access websites at: http://ccap.courts.state.wi.us/InternetCourtAccess and http://www.courts.state.wi.us/wscca

•Records not open to public inspection by statute are not contained on this website.

By viewing this document, you have read the above and agree to the use of the Reports of Decisions subject to the above terms, and that you understand the limitations of this on-line database.

Correcting information on the DSPS website: An individual who believes that information on the website is inaccurate may contact <u>DSPS@wisconsin.gov</u>

STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

VINCENT ASHFORD AND ASHFORD SECURITY SERVICES, RESPONDENTS. FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER0007943

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 RAL 014

:

:

:

:

The parties to this action for the purpose of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Vincent Ashford Milwaukee, WI 53218

Ashford Security Services Milwaukee, WI 53218

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 8366 Madison, WI 53708-8366

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 7190 Madison, W1 53707-7190

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). The Department has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Department in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Vincent Ashford (Birth Year 1967) is permitted by the State of Wisconsin as a private security person, having permit number 35440-108, first issued on March 21, 2008 and current through August 31, 2022. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53218.

2. Respondent Ashford Security Services is permitted by the State of Wisconsin as a private detective agency, having permit number 17283-62, first issued on September 25, 2018

and expired as of September 1, 2021. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Department is in Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53218.

3. Respondent Vincent Ashford is identified in Department records as the responsible licensee in charge of Respondent Ashford Security Services.

4. On September 12, 2019, the Department received a complaint alleging that Respondent Vincent Ashford was working as a private security person for a business, "S.P.," located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and that Ashford's private security credential was expired. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) subsequently opened Case Number 19 RAL 014 for investigation.

5. Respondent Vincent Ashford's private security person credential expired on September 1, 2018.

6. On October 29, 2018, Respondent Vincent Ashford signed a contract with S.P. to provide security services for S.P.

7. On October 24, 2019, Respondent Ashford renewed his credential.

8. On February 19, 2020, the Department emailed Respondent Ashford to ask if he had practiced private security while his credential was expired.

9. On February 19, 2020, Respondent Ashford spoke to the Department investigator by phone and stated that his credential was only expired for about 30 to 45 days.

10. On March 11, 2020, Respondent Ashford spoke to the Department investigator by phone and stated that he worked during the time of expiration for Greg Williams and "Williams Security," later determined to be GT Private Detective Agency (license number 16928-62).

11. On July 13, 2020, Respondent Ashford emailed the Department and provided a statement regarding the complaint, a copy of his contract with S.P., and a copy of his payroll information from his employment at GT Private Detective Agency.

12. Respondent Ashford stated that he did not update his permits "accidentally," because of emergencies regarding his wife, who has had stage four cancer for ten years and needed multiple surgeries and rounds of chemotherapy.

13. The payroll information provided by Respondent Ashford showed that Ashford was hired by GT Private Detective Agency as a contractor on September 3, 2018. The documentation also showed that GT Private Detective Agency issued checks to Respondent Ashford on October 12, 2018, May 10, 2019, May 24, 2019, August 2, 2019, August 16, 2019, August 20, 2019, and September 13, 2019.

14. Respondent Ashford Security Services' private detective agency credential expired on September 1, 2021.

15. In resolution of this matter, Respondents consent to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.26(6), and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent Vincent Ashford violated Wis. Stat. § 440.26(1)(a)2. and engaged in conduct reflecting adversely on his professional qualification pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 35.01(4m) by acting as a private security person when his private security permit was expired.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent Vincent Ashford engaged in conduct reflecting adversely on professional qualification pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 35.01(18) by providing false information to the Department or its agent.

4. As a result of the above violations, Respondents are subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.26(6)(a)2. and 4. and Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 35.01. Respondent Ashford Security Services is also subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 35.02.

<u>ORDER</u>

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent Vincent Ashford is REPRIMANDED.

3. Respondent Ashford Security Services is REPRIMANDED.

4. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent Vincent Ashford shall pay one-half of the COSTS of this matter, for a total of \$577.

5. Payment of costs (made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services) shall be sent by Respondents to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor Division of Legal Services and Compliance Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190 Telephone (608) 266-2112; Fax (608) 266-2264 <u>DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov</u>

You may also submit this information online via DSPS' Monitoring Case Management System at: <u>https://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov/</u>

6. In the event Respondents violate any term of this Order, Respondents' credentials (numbers 35440-108 and 17283-62), or Respondents' right to renew their credentials, may, in the discretion of the Department or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondents have complied with the terms of the Order. The Department may, in addition

and/or in the alternative, refer any violation of this Order to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further investigation and action.

7. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

by:

ember of the Department

4-20-202 Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

VINCENT ASHFORD AND ASHFORD SECURITY SERVICES, RESPONDENTS.

STIPULATION

ORDER0007943

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 RAL 014

Respondents Vincent Ashford and Ashford Security Services and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services stipulate as follows:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondents consent to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.

2. Respondents understand that by signing this Stipulation, Respondents voluntarily and knowingly waive the following rights:

• the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondents, at which time the State has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;

• the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against Respondents;

- the right to call witnesses on Respondents' behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
- the right to testify on Respondents' own behalf;
- the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision;
- the right to petition for rehearing; and
- all other applicable rights afforded to Respondents under the United States Constitution,
- the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Respondents are aware of Respondents' right to seek legal representation and have been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation.

4. Respondents agree to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondents waive all rights to any appeal of the Department's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Department, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the

Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Department, the parties agree not to contend that the Department has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Department ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Department in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondents, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Department may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Department should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

7. Respondents are informed that should the Department adopt this Stipulation, the Department's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondents in recommending the Department adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Vincent Ashford

Vincent Ashford, Responder Milwaukee, WI 53218 Credential No. 35440-108

Servies hll.aurx

Ashford Security Services, Respondent By: Vincent Ashford, Responsible Licensee Milwaukee, WI 53218 Credential No, 17283-62

00

Megan Reed, Attorney Division of Legal Services and Compliance P.O. Box 7190 Madison, WI 53707-7190

03/30/2022 Date