

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF NEW ZEALAND
CHRISTCHURCH REGISTRY**

**I TE KŌTI MATUA O AOTEAROA
ŌTAUTAHI ROHE**

CRI-2019-009-2468

THE QUEEN

v

BRENTON HARRISON TARRANT

Hearing: 13 July 2020

Counsel: M Zarifeh and B Hawes for Crown
S Tait and J Hudson for Defendant

Date of Minute: 13 July 2020

MINUTE OF MANDER J

[1] The defendant was remanded until today 13 July pending the setting of an appropriate date for his sentencing. This morning, the date of *24 August 2020* was confirmed.

[2] At this morning's call the defendant's counsel, Messrs Tait and Hudson, also took the opportunity to apply for leave to withdraw as Mr Tarrant's counsel. Mr Tait advised me that they had received instructions to withdraw because Mr Tarrant wished to exercise his right to represent himself at sentencing.

[3] I obtained confirmation from Mr Tarrant that he wished to dispense with the services of his lawyers in favour of exercising his right to represent himself. Being satisfied that Mr Tarrant understood his rights to legal representation but now wished to waive those rights in preference to representing himself, leave was granted to Messrs Tait and Hudson to withdraw as counsel for Mr Tarrant.

[4] This development does not affect the sentencing of the defendant which will proceed on 24 August.

[5] Because Mr Tarrant wishes to represent himself at sentencing, I will be appointing a lawyer to fulfil the role of standby counsel. The role of standby counsel is to assist the defendant if and to the extent the defendant wishes to accept that counsel's assistance. Counsel is to standby to assume the task of representing the defendant should the defendant later decide he wishes to be legally represented.

Solicitors:
Crown Solicitor, Christchurch
Shane Tait Barrister, Auckland