

Mr Daniel Jack Baronian Licensee Idrink	Mr Matt Weber A/Director of Compliance & Enforcement Unit NSW Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport
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Our ref: DOC25/161918

25 June 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

**Decision regarding a complaint about Mr Daniel Baronian under section 139 of the *Liquor Act 2007***

**Our decision**

We are satisfied that the ground of complaint is established and have determined to:

1. **disqualify** Mr Daniel Baronian from holding a licence, or from being the manager of licensed premises or the close associate of a licensee under section 141(2)(f) of the *Liquor Act 2007* (the Act), for a period of ten (10) years.

**Background**

On 21 November 2023, Liquor and Gaming NSW (L&GNSW) received a complaint from the Australian Border Force (ABF) involving Mr Baronian who currently holds a '*Liquor – Producer Wholesale*' licence under the name 'Idrink'.

The complaint stated that on 22 September 2023, Mr Baronian was convicted and sentenced at the Downing Centre District Court for two Commonwealth offences under the *Criminal Code (Cth) Act 1995*:

- dishonestly intending to cause a loss, and
- dishonestly intending to cause a gain.

As a result of the convictions, he received an aggregate sentence of 3 years' imprisonment, commencing on 22 September 2023 and expiring on 21 September 2025, to be served by way of an intensive correction order with a condition that he complete 750 hours of community service.

Mr Baronian and his co-accused committed the offences between 1 January 2018 and 5 December 2019. Mr Baronian used his liquor licence in a scheme whereby spirits which were declared for export were not exported and sold locally instead. He and his co-accused then exported beer instead of the spirits. This allowed Mr Baronian and his co-accused to claim back duties which had originally been paid on the spirits, thus defrauding the Commonwealth government. The total amount of fraudulent activity summed to over \$50million.

L&GNSW made a disciplinary complaint to the Authority in relation to Mr Baronian as a result of his offending and convictions.

**Ground of complaint**

The ground of complaint is that:

- the licensee is not a fit and proper person to be the holder of a licence under section 139(3)(i) of the Act.

### **Submissions and consultation**

On 28 October 2024, a show cause notice was issued to the licensee and L&GNSW. One submission was received in response as detailed below:

Submission from Mr Baronian received 25 November 2024:

- Mr Baronian's commitment to ensuring his future conduct will reflect the utmost honesty, transparency, and integrity
- Mr Baronian's actions following his conviction to reform culture and operations within Ildrink as well as his commitment to ensuring the actions leading to his conviction will not be repeated
- Mr Baronian's business provides steady employment for multiple full-time staff and contractors
- A request that no disciplinary action be taken as he is committed to restoring trust with the community and regulatory authorities.

### **Our findings**

Mr Baronian's convictions for serious offending falls well below the standard of behaviour expected of a licensee and demonstrates an abuse of his liquor licence privileges and a significant failure to comply with the obligations of the Act.

Mr Baronian's engagement in dishonest conduct reflects that he lacks the necessary character, honesty and integrity required of a licensee under the Act. We are of the view that allowing Mr Baronian to retain his liquor licence is not in the public interest and does not align with the community's expectations of licensees in the liquor industry.

In consideration of these serious convictions, we are of the view that disciplinary action is warranted.

### **Relevant legislation**

#### **Prescribed grounds of complaint**

We are satisfied that the complaint was made validly and that the established ground of complaint is a prescribed ground under section 139(3)(i) of the Act.

### **The material we considered**

In determining the disciplinary complaint, the following material was considered:

- disciplinary complaint from L&GNSW, received 22 July 2024
- response from the licensee, received 25 November 2024

### **If you are dissatisfied with this decision**

The respondent or complainant may apply to NCAT for a review of this decision under the *Administrative Decisions Review Act 1997*.

For more information, please contact the NCAT Registry at 1300 006 228 or visit the NCAT website.

This decision may be published on the website.

### **If you have any questions**

Please contact the Office of ILGA at [office@ilga.nsw.gov.au](mailto:office@ilga.nsw.gov.au) if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Loy', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jeff Loy  
**Chair, Disciplinary Matters Committee**  
**NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority**