NOTE: PUBLICATION OF NAME(S) OR IDENTIFYING PARTICULARS OF COMPLAINANT(S) PROHIBITED BY S 139 OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT 1985.

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF NEW ZEALAND

CA377/2013 [2014] NZCA 78

BETWEEN

AARON PAUL LAURENCE Appellant

AND

THE QUEEN Respondent

Hearing: 5 March 2014

Court: Miller, Goddard and Clifford JJ

Counsel: N Levy for Appellant M H Cooke for Respondent

Judgment: 20 March 2014 at 12.15 pm

JUDGMENT OF THE COURT

A Application for an extension of time granted.

B The appeal is dismissed.

REASONS OF THE COURT

(Given by Clifford J)

[1] The appellant, Mr Laurence, pleaded guilty to some 65 offences involving indecency and objectionable publications. He was sentenced by Collins J to 12 years

and nine months' imprisonment.¹ Mr Laurence subsequently filed a notice of appeal against conviction and sentence on the grounds of a range of complaints regarding police misconduct. The appeal was filed out of time. There being no objection we extend time.

[2] In any event, Mr Laurence subsequently abandoned his appeal, and we dismiss it accordingly.

[3] In doing so we note that Mr Laurence and the Crown agree that Mr Laurence's victim, FL, was aged seven years during the period of the offending, and not between five and eight years as recorded by Collins J in his sentencing notes.² Mr Laurence and the Crown also agree – by reference to that same paragraph – that Mr Laurence was a friend of his victims' father, rather than that his victims were the sons of his former partner.

Result

[4] The extension of time is granted, but the appeal is dismissed.

Solicitors: Crown Law Office, Wellington for Respondent.

¹ *R v Laurence* [2013] NZHC 956.

At [12].