

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

**I TE KŌTI MATUA O AOTEAROA
TĀMAKI MAKĀURAU ROHE**

**CIV-2026-CHE-001-RD
[2026] NZHC 001**

BETWEEN

**LAZARBANAGAIN
Applicant**

AND

**THEWILDSLIM
Respondent**

Hearing:

12 February 2026

Counsel:

CynicalMazed for the Applicant

Reasons Provided:

12 February 2026

REASONS FOR THE DECISION OF THE HONOURABLE CHEIF15092009 CJ

NO PUBLICATION BAN

Notice

- [1] These are oral reasons for the judgement. I reserve the opportunity to review those reasons in the event a transcript is ordered for the purpose of grammar, but not for substantive findings or in relation to the law.

Introduction

- [2] LAZARBANAGAIN (the Applicant) commenced this proceeding in the High Court against THEWILDSLIM (the Respondent) alleging defamation.
- [3] The Applicant alleged that statements made by the Respondent were defamatory and sought relief including damages and any other orders the Court considered appropriate.
- [4] The proceeding was listed for hearing on 12 February 2026. The parties were present through counsel, and the matter was called before the Court for determination of preliminary and substantive issues.

Notice of Abandonment

- [5] On 12 February 2026, prior to substantive determination of the proceeding, the Applicant filed a Notice of Abandonment pursuant to the High Court Rules.
- [6] A Notice of Abandonment has the effect of discontinuing the proceeding without the need for further judicial determination of the merits of the claim.
- [7] In light of the Notice of Abandonment, the Court does not determine any factual or legal issues raised in the pleadings and makes no findings on the merits of the Applicant's claims or the Respondent's defences.

Decision

- [8] The proceeding is dismissed without prejudice following the Applicant's Notice of Abandonment.
- [9] No determination is made as to liability, defamation, or damages.
- [10] Costs are reserved. Any application for costs may be filed in accordance with the High Court Rules.

Conclusion

- [11] It is so ordered.

Sealed at Wellington this 12th day of February 2026,



Cheif15092009

Chief Judge of the High Court of New Zealand