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**Údarás Forfheidhmithe Corparáideach**  
**Corporate Enforcement Authority**

## **Press Statement**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **MAN CONVICTED OF SEVEN COMPANY LAW OFFENCES & ORDERED TO PAY €30,000 IN COMPENSATION**

Arising from an investigation by the Corporate Enforcement Authority (“CEA”), Mr. Robert Browne (53), with an address at Treanlawn, Killoe, Co. Longford, appeared before Dublin Circuit Criminal Court today.

Judge Pauline Codd convicted Mr. Browne and sentenced him to a two year suspended sentence on foot of pleas of guilty to seven counts of Providing False Information contrary to s. 876 of the Companies Act 2014. Judge Codd further ordered Mr. Browne to pay €30,000 in compensation and afforded him six months to pay.

Mr. Browne had pleaded guilty to one count of Providing False Information contrary to s. 876 of the Companies Act 2014 on the 20 October 2022. He pleaded guilty to a further six counts of the offence today.

The charges follow an investigation by the CEA in relation to the unauthorised and unlawful use of an Auditor’s Registration Number in the submission of annual returns to the Companies Registration Office.

**ENDS//**

**CORPORATE ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY**

**19<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

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## Note to Editors

- The Corporate Enforcement Authority (“CEA”) is an independent statutory agency tasked with promoting compliance with, and enforcing, company law, and the exercise of certain supervisory functions in relation to liquidators and receivers. The legislation underpinning the establishment of the CEA is the [Companies \(Corporate Enforcement Authority\) Act 2021](#) (“CEA Act”), which amended the Companies Act 2014.
- Commencement Orders providing for the commencement of the CEA Act and the establishment of the CEA were signed by An Tánaiste, Dr. Leo Varadkar, T.D., on 5 and 6 July 2022, respectively.
- The CEA is staffed by, amongst others, a multi-disciplinary team of legal, accounting, and digital forensics professionals, together with seconded members of An Garda Síochána. All staff of the CEA, including seconded members of An Garda Síochána, may be referred to as CEA Officers.