

AZ POST

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The Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (AZ POST) is mandated by the legislature to establish and enforce the physical, mental, and moral fitness standards, for all peace officers, in the state. The Board meets the charge to protect the public by overseeing the integrity of Arizona's law enforcement officers by reviewing cases and taking action against the certification of individuals who violate the AZ POST Rules. The following is a summary of the actions taken by the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board at its January, February and March public meetings. Each action is considered on its own facts and circumstances.

The Board publishes this bulletin to provide insight into the Board's position on various types of officer misconduct. As always, the Compliance Specialist for your agency is available to discuss any matter and to assist you with any questions you might have.

REVOCATIONS:

Case 2023-023. A K9 officer did not enter training records in a timely manner over a period of several months. During a subsequent administrative investigation, he was dishonest about the completion of the K9 training records.

SUSPENSIONS:

Case 2023-067. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a six month (6) suspension. After the officer had separated from his agency, he worked traffic control and security jobs for a company that only employs off-duty law enforcement officers. Since the officer's certification was inactive, he was prohibited from performing the functions of a police officer, which includes traffic control.

Case 2023-050. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a twelve month (12) suspension. After the officer was terminated for working off duty employment, in violation of agency policies, he then worked traffic control and security jobs for a company that only employs off-duty law enforcement officers. Since the officer's certification was inactive, he was prohibited from performing the functions of a police officer, which includes traffic control.

Case 2023-129. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for an eighteen month (18) suspension. The officer, while off-duty, was in a non-injury car accident, and was arrested for driving extremely impaired. His BAC was .272.

Case 2023-051. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a twelve month (12) suspension. The officer, who was assigned to be lethal cover on an arrest team, threatened to use deadly force in an unreasonable and unnecessary manner.

Case 2023-141. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a six month (6) suspension. After the officer had separated from his agency, he worked traffic control and security jobs for a company that only employs off-duty law enforcement officers. Since the officer's certification was inactive, he was prohibited from performing the functions of a police officer, which includes traffic control.

Case 2023-115. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a thirty-six month (36) suspension. The patrol sergeant failed to activate his body worn camera during a traffic stop, failed to call out the traffic stop to police dispatch and he also asked questions and made comments to the female occupants which were inappropriate.

Case 2023-062. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a six month (6) suspension. After the officer had separated from his agency, he worked traffic control and security jobs for a company that only employs off-duty law enforcement officers. Since the officer's certification was inactive, he was prohibited from performing the functions of a police officer, which includes traffic control.

Case 2023-154. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for an eighteen month (18) suspension. The officer had worked off duty jobs, without completing off duty waiver forms, and without notifying dispatch of the off duty jobs. These off duty assignments were with companies not on the approved list for off duty work.

Case 2023-153. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for an eighteen month (18) suspension. . The officer had worked off duty jobs, without completing off duty waiver forms, and without notifying dispatch of the off duty jobs. These off duty assignments were with companies not on the approved list for off duty work.

Case 2021-155. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a twenty four month (24) suspension. The officer failed to properly conduct an investigation involving domestic violence.

Case 2023-102. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a nine month and ten day suspension. A suspect, who was under arrest, was transported to a hospital for injuries that required medical attention. The suspect spit into the face and mouth of the officer while the suspect was in the act of being restrained to a hospital bed. The officer reacted by delivering closed fist strikes to the head of the suspect.

2023-136. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a twelve month (12) suspension. The officer failed to complete follow-up paperwork associated with arrests of impaired drivers. Specifically, he failed to complete admin per se packets, even though he had received the blood alcohol result/scientific examination reports.

2023-065. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a ninety day (90) suspension. The deputy violated his agency's vehicle pursuit policy in that he initiated a pursuit with a civilian observer in the car. The deputy also failed to timely respond to a supervisor's command to terminate the pursuit.

2022-102. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a twenty four month (24) suspension. The officer, while off-duty, was in a serious injury car accident, and was arrested for driving extremely impaired. His BAC was .28.

2023-140. The Board accepted the findings of fact and conclusions of law and suspended the officer's certification for a period if thirty six (36) months. The officer accessed a criminal history database for non-law enforcement purposes. This behavior resulted in the filing of felony charges by the county attorney's office. Ultimately, the officer completed a felony diversion program.

DENIAL OF CERTIFICATION:

Case 2023-111. The Board accepted an administrative law judge's findings of fact and conclusions of law and permanently denied peace officer certification. The police applicant had provided false information in the hiring process.

Case 2023-193. At final action, the Board adopted the findings of fact and conclusions of law and permanently denied peace officer certification. Academy staff had noticed similarities between a recruits report and another recruits report completed for a report writing class. The recruit was dishonest to academy staff about using another recruits report to write his own report.

Case 2023-188. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a twenty-four month (24) denial of certification, after which date, the recruit may be eligible to reapply for certified status. A recruit class was issued team physical training discipline that required all recruits to complete physical conditioning. The recruit was dishonest to academy staff about completing all of the required repetitions of the exercises.

Case 2023-130. The Board accepted a proposed consent agreement for a twenty-four month (24) denial of certification, after which date, the recruit may be eligible to reapply. The recruit was dishonest to academy staff about accounting for lunch receipts.

VOLUNTARY RELINOUISHMENTS:

Respondents, without admitting any allegations made against them, permanently relinquished their Arizona peace officer certifications. The Board accepted the voluntary relinquishments/denials of peace officer certification for the following cases:

| 2022-047 | 2022-168 | 2024-003 | 2024-016 |
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| 2023-187 | 2023-110 | 2022-132 | 2024-026 |
| 2023-202 | 2023-117 | 2023-036 | 2024-027 |
| 2023-204 | 2023-127 | 2023-151 | 2024-047 |
| 2023-219 | 2023-135 | 2023-229 | 2024-048 |
| 2022-011 | 2023-241 | 2023-245 | 2024-049 |