

# Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board

## SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT

**Subject:** Inactive Certification

**Mark Dannels**  
Chairman

**Effective Date:** July 20, 2022

**Matt Giordano**  
Executive Director

**Policy Statement #:** 2022-001

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*This Substantive Policy Statement is advisory only. A Substantive Policy Statement does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal procedures of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on the regulated parties or include confidential information or rules made in accordance with the Arizona Administrative Procedures Act. If you believe that this Substantive Policy Statement does impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may petition the agency under Arizona Revised Statutes (“A.R.S.”) Section 41-1033 for a review of the statement. (A.R.S. §41-1091).*

The Board’s administrative rules provide for a category of certification known as *inactive* certification. A peace officers certification becomes *inactive* once a peace officer is terminated by his or her agency. **R13-104(D)**. “Termination” is defined as the end of employment or service of a peace officer through removal, discharge, resignation, retirement, or otherwise. **R13-4-101**.

Importantly, a former peace officer, who holds an *inactive* certification, is still subject to the Board’s jurisdiction. In the event that it is alleged that an individual, while holding an *inactive* certification, has committed a POST rule violation, and it is reported to AZPOST, the Board has the authority to take action.

Additionally, once a certification is *inactive*, the holder of the *inactive* certification shall not function as a peace officer or be assigned the duties of a peace officer. **A.A.C. R13-4-103(A)**. The Board, however, in its administrative rules, provides for reinstatement of an *inactive* certification. Specifically, **A.A.C. R13-4-104(F)** provides that: A peace officer whose certified status is *inactive*, and has not lapsed, may have certification reinstated if the requirements of **A.A.C. R13-4-105** are met for a new appointment, and if appointed in the same peace officer category, or as a specialty peace officer.

The Board’s authority to take action on the holder of an *inactive* certification derives from the Legislature’s mandate that the Board regulate certifications. **A.R.S. §41-1821**.