PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BUREAU INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE:

DECEMBER 19, 2019

TO:

DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

CAPTAIN RAY WHITELEY

Professional Standards Bureau

54882 12/18/2019 FOR CPT WHITELEY

SUBJECT: SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Deputy Derrick Boateng, #59809, will receive the following as a result of AI-19-006:

1. A forty (40) hours Suspension, reduced by Education Based Discipline (Review of General Order 15-2), is amended to a twenty-four (24) hours Suspension to be served on:

December 28, 2019 and December 29, 2019 (12 hours/day).

DISTRIBUTION:

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri

Chief Deputy Dan Simovich

Assistant Chief Deputy Sean Jowell

Assistant Chief Deputy George Steffen

Colonel Dave Danzig

Major Stefanie Campbell

Major Bill Hagans

Major Paul Halle

Major Sean McGillen

Major Larry Nalven

Lieutenant Deanna Carey

Director Jennifer Crockett

Director Nancy Duggan

Director Susan Krause

Director Jason Malpass

Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel

Payroll

Purchasing-Uniform Supply

Deputy Derrick Boateng

RW/kmm

PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 13, 2019

TO: DEPUTY DERRICK BOATENG, #59809

FROM: SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

SUBJECT: CHARGES RE: AI-19-006

An investigation has been conducted by the Administrative Investigation Division, Professional Standards Bureau, of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office. As a result of this investigation, the Administrative Review Board has determined you committed the following violation:

On, but not limited to, July 31, 2019, while on duty in Pinellas County, Florida, you violated the Pinellas County Sheriff's Civil Service Act Laws of Florida, 89-404 as amended by Laws of Florida 08-285, Section 6, Subsection 4, by violating the provisions of law or the rules, regulations, and operating procedures of the Office of the Sheriff.

1. You violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office General Order 3-1.1, Rule and Regulation 5.4, Duties and Responsibilities.

Synopsis: You engaged in the pursuit of a vehicle which violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Policy.

While on-duty within the City of Belleair Beach, you learned that a stolen vehicle had been detected by a stationary License Plate Reader (LPR), positioned along Gulf Boulevard in the vicinity of the Clearwater/Belleair Beach City Limits.

You subsequently began driving north on Gulf Boulevard and in the direction of the LPR, in an attempt to locate the stolen vehicle. Shortly after entering the City of Clearwater, you observed the stolen vehicle travelling southbound towards you on Gulf Boulevard. At this point, the stolen vehicle appeared to be driving normally, and in compliance with the applicable traffic laws.

Several seconds after passing the stolen vehicle, without activating your emergency equipment, you made a U-turn to travel southbound on Gulf Boulevard. Almost immediately after you completed your U-turn, and prior to activating any of your emergency equipment, the stolen vehicle began to flee, driving recklessly, weaving in and out of traffic.

Within seconds of completing the U-turn, you activated your emergency lights and began to pursue the stolen vehicle, however, you did not activate your siren until approaching 16th Street in the City of Belleair Beach.

This pursuit started in the vicinity of Belle Isle Avenue and Gulf Boulevard in the City of Belleair Beach, and it ended in the 500 block of Gulf Boulevard in Indian Rocks Beach, totaling approximately 3.33 miles. Gulf Boulevard consists of a two-lane road with a shared center turn lane.

Your pursuit of the stolen vehicle traveled through areas of heavy vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic. Throughout much of the pursuit, you drove in the shared center turn lane at high rates of speed, passing multiple southbound vehicles.

During the pursuit, you were advised by a sergeant and a deputy not to pursue the stolen vehicle. You testified you were "caught up" in the situation and weren't aware of the radio transmissions.

You acknowledged that your pursuit of this stolen vehicle was unauthorized and not permitted by policy, as it did not involve a forcible felony, an imminent and/or continuous threat to a person's safety or extremely dangerous driving.

You admitted to this violation.

Disciplinary Points and Recommended Discipline Range:

You were found to be in violation of one (1) Level Five Rules and Regulations violation totaling fifty (50) points. These points, which were affected by no modified points from previous discipline, resulted in fifty (50) progressive discipline points. At this point level, the recommended discipline range is from five (5) days Suspension to Termination.

Disciplinary action shall be consistent with progressive discipline, for cause in accordance with the provisions of the Pinellas County Civil Service Act.

MAJOR PAUL HALLE

PATROL OPERATIONS BUREAU FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date Time

SIGNATURE