

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

DATE: MARCH 17, 2025
TO: DISTRIBUTION
FROM: CAPTAIN ROBERT OSTERLAND *RO*
Professional Standards Bureau
SUBJECT: SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Deputy Nicholas Young, #61512, will receive the following as a result of AI 24-011:

1. Fifty-six (56) hour suspension to be served on: March 21, 2025 (12 hours), March 22, 2025 (12 hours), March 23, 2025 (12 hours), March 26, 2025 (12 hours), and March 27, 2025 (8 hours).
2. Loss of shift bid and assignment at the discretion of the Patrol Operations Bureau Commander until the January 2026 shift bid.
3. Sign a Last Chance Agreement that results in automatic termination if any substantiated discipline occurs for two years from March 14, 2025.

DISTRIBUTION:

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
Chief Deputy Dave Danzig
Assistant Chief Deputy Paul Carey
Assistant Chief Deputy Dennis Komar
Colonel Dennis Garvey
Major Deanna Carey
Major Joe Gerretz
Major Alyson Henry
Major Nick Lazaris
Major Jennifer Love
Major Jon Tobeck
Director Jennifer Crockett
Director Susan Krause
Director Tom Lancto
Director Jason Malpass
Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel
Payroll
Purchasing-Uniform Supply
Deputy Nicholas Young

**PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: MARCH 14, 2025
TO: DEPUTY NICHOLAS YOUNG, #61512
FROM: SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI
SUBJECT: CHARGES RE: AI 24-011

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 violations:

On, but not limited to, June 6, 2024, 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, Rules and Regulations 5.2, Loyalty.
2. You violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office General Order 3-1.3, Rules and Regulations 3.3, Knowledge of, and Obedience to, Laws Rules and Regulations.

Synopsis: On June 6, 2024, at approximately 0056 hours, while on duty in Madeira Beach, you encountered a provocatively dressed, intoxicated female walking her dog home from a local bar. You provided her with a courtesy transport to her residence—less than one mile away—in your agency-assigned vehicle.

After arriving at her residence, you walked her to the doorway and subsequently entered the residence. While inside, she provided you with specific, actionable information regarding narcotics distribution activities in Madeira Beach. This information included a description of the suspect's vehicle, their home address, and the methods used to obtain and distribute controlled substances. The female also stated she believed the suspect was involved in killing her pet, vandalizing her vehicle, and making threats to cause her harm.

To facilitate the collection of additional law enforcement-related information, you and the female spent time discussing coping techniques, which led to you sharing personal information about issues you have faced in your life. These discussions progressed into conversations about metaphysical practices, including aura cleansing, crystals, Tarot cards, and numerology. During your Administrative Interview, you stated that because of your shared interests in metaphysical topics, you and the female “*kind of connected.*” She subsequently offered to perform a Tarot card reading for you. After exchanging telephone numbers, you agreed to return later in the day after completing your shift.

You remained at the female’s residence for approximately 76 minutes before clearing the call as a Miscellaneous Incident Report (MIR). In the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) closing comments, you entered: “SIG 2 SUBJ. NO MARCHMAN NEEDED. TRANSPORTED HOME TO ROOMMATE.” During the Administrative Review Board (ARB), you acknowledged that although you did not see another person inside the residence, you believed someone was present due to the presence of more than one vehicle in the driveway.

During the ARB, you stated that the narcotics information provided by the female included the suspect’s first name, residence location, and the methods he used to receive and distribute controlled substances. Specifically, you learned that the suspect lived along Boca Ciega Drive in Madeira Beach, drove a white pick-up truck, worked at a body shop, received deliveries of controlled substances from a third-party delivery service, and typically distributed these substances from his residence to bicyclists and pedestrians.

Despite receiving actionable intelligence, you failed to take any follow-up action. Specifically, you did not author an Info Narcotics report or any other agency documentation detailing the information provided. You also failed to memorialize the information in your notepad or any other written record. Additionally, you did not share this intelligence with your Madeira Beach Patrol and Community Policing colleagues—in person, by telephone, or by email—nor did you notify any member of the Narcotics Division. You also failed to provide the female with anonymous reporting options such as Crimestoppers of Pinellas or the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office online crime tip portal.

Furthermore, the female reported that the suspect had made threats to harm her and had been harassing her following an altercation related to her belief that he killed her pet. You did not take any law enforcement action, conduct a follow-up investigation, or request an on-duty deputy to respond and investigate these allegations. During the ARB, you stated that you told her that, “*If you feel like you are in any kind of fear,*” she should call the Sheriff’s Office non-emergency telephone number to make a report.

On June 7, 2024, the day after your initial contact with the female, at approximately 0940 hours, you sent her a text message containing a cell phone recording of a Fleet 3 video. The video depicted a handcuffed male subject you had arrested for disorderly conduct and possession of a controlled substance seated in the backseat of your cruiser. During the ARB, you stated that the video captured banter between you and the arrestee, including him calling you names and making fun of you, and you “...giving it back to him.” You stated you sent the video to the female “for entertainment purposes.”

Three days later, on June 9, 2024, while off duty, you returned to the female’s residence, bringing your agency-assigned laptop. While inside, you logged into your Evidence.com account. Between 2127 and 2356 hours, you streamed six (6) body-worn camera videos for the female to watch. These videos, from 2023 and 2024, were related to law enforcement activity, including arrests, uses of force, and both criminal and non-criminal investigations involving the female or her acquaintances. When asked during the ARB why you played these videos, you stated, “We were just hanging out, and instead of watching television... [I played the videos] for entertainment purposes.”

On June 25, 2024, while on duty, your vehicle’s GPS indicated you were stopped at the female’s residence between 0055 hours and 0125 hours. At approximately 0124 hours, your Fleet 3 system was activated by a signal from your assigned Taser 10. The video recording was stopped by you pressing the button on the Fleet 3 camera approximately one minute later. The video confirmed your vehicle was stationary and parked in front of a structure.

During your Administrative Interview, you stated that while at the female’s residence, you could not recall whether you had performed a function test of your Taser prior to starting your shift, so you conducted one while there. You added that you believed you stepped outside to a private spot to conduct the test because you did not “recall ever activating it inside the house.” You also acknowledged that a Taser 10 function test should not activate the Fleet 3 system. You stated the female had never handled your Taser 10. However, during her sworn testimony, the female stated that you had unholstered your Taser and allowed her to hold it. When asked during the ARB if the female was lying, you responded, “I’m not here to say someone’s a liar, I’m here to talk about myself,” maintaining that she never possessed the Taser.

On August 6, 2024, at 0753 hours, you sent the female a text message containing a photograph of your laptop screen. The image displayed CAD notes from a burglary-in-progress call. The call notes indicated the reporting party believed unknown subjects were inside their residence and attic, and that one or more was sucking on their air conditioner pipes. When asked during the ARB why you sent the photo, you stated it was “just for entertainment,” adding that it “served no legitimate purpose at all.” It is important to note that CAD data is considered Criminal Justice Information

(CJI). Its use, handling, and release are governed by federal and state laws, regulations, and agency policy.

During both your Administrative Interview and the ARB, you admitted that between June 6, 2024, and August 5, 2024, you provided rides for the female and her friends in your agency vehicle on at least two occasions. On one occasion, you picked the female up and drove her to her residence because her feet were sore from her shoes. On another occasion, you picked up the female and a friend from the beach area and drove them to her residence due to approaching inclement weather. In both instances, you provided courtesy transports without following proper procedures. Specifically, you failed to notify the communications center by voice and did not document the transports as required in an MIR.


During your Administrative Interview and the ARB, you admitted to violating General Order 3-1.1, Rule and Regulation 5.2, Loyalty. You were also asked to review General Order 3-2, Code of Ethics / Agency Philosophy, and cite specific elements of the Code of Ethics you violated. You responded: *“What I saw and heard of a confidential nature or that was confided to me in my official capacity was not kept ever secret unless revelation was necessary in the performance of my duty,”* and *“I allowed personal feelings or friendships to influence my decisions.”*

The Administrative Review Board determined that you violated both policies.

Disciplinary Points and Recommended Discipline Range:

You were found to be in violation of one (1) Level Five Rules and Regulations violation, and one (1) Level Three Rules and Regulations violation totaling sixty-five (65) points. These points, which were affected by no modified points from previous discipline, resulted in sixty-five (65) progressive discipline points, which by rule, revert back to sixty (60) points. At this point level, the recommended discipline range is a fifty-six (56) hour 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 NICK LAZARIS #5446
PATROL OPERATIONS BUREAU
FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date 3/17/2025

Time 1115


MEMBER'S SIGNATURE

BG:RHO