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

**DATE:** JUNE 28, 2022

TO: DISTRIBUTION

FROM: CAPTAIN DEANNA CAREY

### SUBJECT: AI-22-010 SHERIFF'S FINDING

On June 28, 2022 at 1048 hours, Deputy Joshua Sacino, #59640, was terminated per Sheriff Gualtieri as a result of AI-22-010.

### DISTRIBUTION:

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri Chief Deputy George Steffen Assistant Chief Deputy Dave Danzig Assistant Chief Deputy Paul Halle **Colonel Paul Carey** Major Adrian Arnold Major Dennis Garvey Major Dennis Komar Major Jennifer Love Director Jennifer Crockett Director Nancy Duggan Director Susan Krause Director Jason Malpass Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel Payroll Purchasing-Uniform Supply

DC/blb

# PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

## DATE: JUNE 28, 2022

# TO: DEPUTY JOSHUA SACINO, #59640

# FROM: SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

## SUBJECT: CHARGES RE: AI-22-010

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, March 31, 2022, 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.
- 2. You violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office General Order 3-1.1, Rule and Regulation 5.14(c), Conduct Unbecoming Members of the Agency.

Synopsis: On March 30, 2022, you were directed by your supervision to participate in a proactive initiative focused on traffic enforcement in the area of Seminole Boulevard. During this time, you purposely ignored these instructions, and for over four hours combined, you sat idle in your agency vehicle and produced no activity.

While you sat idle for an hour and half at 66<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and Seminole Boulevard, your lieutenant and corporal both conducted traffic stops near your location. You did not move or attempt to back them up, even after your lieutenant requested back-up.

Upon completion of the initiative, you were instructed to provide your statistics and related case numbers to your supervisor. You ignored the initial request for this information, and when contacted directly via the Computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system, you responded and informed your supervisor that you were restarting your computer as the reason why you did not respond initially. You then reported to your supervisor that you conducted one traffic stop and provided the motorist with a "verbal warning." When your supervisor requested the case number for the traffic stop on two separate occasions, you again ignored the requests.

After you were questioned about your minimal activity during the traffic initiative, you drove to Walmart, found a vehicle legally parked in the parking lot and on-viewed for a report number in CAD on a suspicious vehicle call. Without exiting your vehicle, or conducting an investigation, you ran the tag of the vehicle, then left the parking lot after clearing the call on a Field Interview Report (FIR).

After reviewing your CAD activity, body worn camera and in-car camera activity for the shift, your supervision held a meeting with you. You were questioned about the traffic stop and the suspicious vehicle. When questioned if the traffic occurred or not, you originally stated it was not a typical traffic stop, and you had pulled up next to a vehicle, made contact with the occupants and gave them a verbal warning for a traffic violation. When confronted further, you admitted that the traffic stop did not occur and you had fabricated the incident. When questioned about the FIR, you told your supervisor it was a "bullshit" FIR and you just needed the activity.

You later completed a report in the agency's record management system (ACISS), documenting the FIR. In the report you stated an anonymous transient flagged you down regarding a suspicious vehicle involved in narcotics activity, you located the vehicle and completed an investigation. Your supervisor later rejected this report, stating, "the report did not reflect what actually took place." You completed a Missing Report List / Disposition memorandum, indicating the report number was cleared incorrectly in CAD, and should be changed to a Miscellaneous Information Report, which deletes the report from ACISS.

In your ACISS report, you intentionally and knowing falsified the narrative, stating a transient flagged you down about a suspicious vehicle possibly involved with narcotics. You admitted there was no transient who flagged you down, that it was just a vehicle legally parked in the parking lot, and you had no reason to suspect anyone related to the vehicle was involved in narcotics activity. You intentionally and willfully attached a citizen and their vehicle to a narcotic-related report that could have adversely impacted them. You did this for self-serving reasons, to conceal your lack of activity and incompetence, with no regard of the consequences this FIR could have for the citizen involved, or for any citizen operating that vehicle in the future.

During your Administrative Interview, you admitted to fabricating the FIR report in ACISS and stated, "It is very serious, and it's criminal grounds and grounds to be fired. It's a serious matter."

During your Administrative Review Board Interview, you testified you did not participate in the traffic initiative and that you were "wasting time" throughout the shift. You admitted that you lied about restarting your computer, lied about conducting a traffic stop and lied about being flagged down by a transient in reference to a suspicious vehicle. You further testified you were "lazy" and sat idle for over four hours during the shift. You admitted to intentionally and knowingly fabricating information into official documents, to include CAD and the ACISS report. You admitted to falsifying the documentation because you were "lazy and stupid."

You admitted to both violations.

### Disciplinary Points and Recommended Discipline Range:

You were found to be in violation of two (2) Level Five Rules and Regulation violations totaling sixty (60) points. These points, which were affected by no modified points from previous discipline, resulted in fifty (60) progressive discipline 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.

CAPTAIN DEANNA CAREY PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BUREAU FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date 6-28.2022 Time 10:46

BG:PDL