

OREGON DPSST
ETHICS BULLETIN

Volume No. 1



The Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) has the legislative mandate to establish and enforce the physical, mental, and moral fitness standards for all law enforcement officers, telecommunicators and emergency medical dispatchers in the state.

This requirement also defines the procedure for the Department and Board to use when denying or revoking certification of an officer, telecommunicator or emergency medical dispatcher who has fallen below the moral fitness standards.

The Ethics Bulletin is published to provide insight into the types of misconduct that could result in revocation or denial of certification. The following is a summary of misconduct resulting in revocation or denial of certification(s) by DPSST from November 1996 through July 2001.

DISCHARGED FOR CAUSE - 62 certifications have been revoked or denied for various occurrences of "discharged for cause." Following are examples of actions that resulted in revocation:

- Use of profanity
- Excessive anger to inmates
- Damaging property
- Misappropriation of property
- Allowing contraband
- Assisting in preventing an arrest
- Prohibited activity on duty
- Conduct detrimental to agency
- Supplying contraband for voyeurism
- Unscheduled/unplanned absences from work
- Sleeping on the job
- Inattention to inmate safety
- Untruthfulness
- Drug use
- Lied on application
- Domestic violence
- Unauthorized or excessive force
- Failure to perform duties of driver
- Playing softball instead of showing up for work
- Tampering with evidence
- Misconduct with drug informer
- Unbecoming conduct
- Disclosure of surveillance equipment
- Misuse of position
- Unauthorized canine presence in patrol vehicle
- Sexual relationship with subordinate
- Inappropriate internet usage
- Campaign finance fraud
- Using OC spray on children
- Unlawful tape recording
- Criminal trespass
- Urination on private property
- Providing false information to judge to ensure early release of inmate
- Use of narcotics while on duty
- Falsifying overtime
- Falsifying records as to patient vital signs
- Embezzlement of funds
- Stalking
- Violation of smoking policy

DISCRETIONARY DISQUALIFIERS - 11 certifications have been revoked or denied for the following misconduct resulting in convictions classified as discretionary disqualifiers:

- Assault 4
- Sexual Abuse 3rd degree
- Harassment
- Menacing
- Criminal mischief - Personal use of LEADS/NCIC/NLETS
- Fail to perform duties of driver
- Furnishing alcohol to minor
- Impropriety - Inappropriate touching while on duty
- Resisting arrest
- Criminal trespass
- Smuggling tobacco into institution to inmates
- Failed to come forward concerning inappropriate/unauthorized treatment of inmates

MANDATORY DISQUALIFIERS - 39 certifications have been revoked or denied for the following misconduct resulting in convictions classified as mandatory disqualifiers:

- ◆ Coercion
- ◆ Theft of services
- ◆ Tampering with public records
- ◆ Forgery
- ◆ Delivery of marijuana
- ◆ Possession of controlled substance
- ◆ Bribe receiving
- ◆ Sexual intercourse with inmate
- ◆ Domestic abuse
- ◆ Sexual abuse 1st degree
- ◆ Misapplication of entrusted property
- ◆ Threatened to charge without basis
- ◆ Contributing to sexual delinquency of a minor
- ◆ Unauthorized exercise of official duties with intent to obtain a benefit
- ◆ Attempted use of a child in display of sexual explicitly and content
- ◆ Burglary
- ◆ Menacing
- ◆ Campaign finance fraud
- ◆ Embezzlement of funds
- ◆ Pawning two city-owned guns
- ◆ Sodomy
- ◆ Rape
- ◆ Attempted murder
- ◆ Obtain controlled substance unlawfully
- ◆ Theft 1st degree - Taking a handgun
- ◆ Illegal possession of a machine gun

Case Example:

A reserve deputy was hired full time by an agency. The agency was aware that the officer had convictions on his record, which included driving under the influence, driving while suspended and harassment, but asked DPSST to allow the officer to attend the basic academy. After attending the academy the officer requested certification by filing a form F-7. In response to question 18 "Have you ever been convicted of any crime?" the officer answered "No", a false statement in violation of Oregon Revised Statute and Oregon Administrative Rule. Falsification of the F-7 resulted in DPSST denying certification and the agency terminating the officer from his certifiable position.