

OREGON DPSST
ETHICS BULLETIN

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The Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (BPSST) 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 cases of misconduct resulted in **revocation and denial** of certifications by DPSST in **February 2006**.

Case 1

Officer A was discharged for cause after an internal investigation revealed that she had an inappropriate relationship with an inmate. Officer A provided an inmate with her personal cell phone number and sent money to the inmate, through his father. During the investigation, Officer A lied to investigators. The inmate ultimately admitted to his relationship with Officer A. Officer A was served with a Notice of Intent to Revoke. Officer A did not make a timely request for a hearing. Officer A's conduct ended her 1-year career.

Officer A's Basic Corrections Certificate was Revoked.

Case 2

Telecommunicator B resigned in lieu of termination after an internal investigation revealed that she gained knowledge that her daughter had an outstanding warrant and based on this knowledge, Telecommunicator B attempted to intervene by destroying the information that was sent to her agency and made calls to obtain further information on the outstanding warrant. Telecommunicator B voluntarily signed a Stipulated Order Revoking Certifications. Telecommunicator B's conduct ended her 6-year career.

Telecommunicator B's Basic and Intermediate Telecommunicator Certificates were Revoked.

Case 3

Officer C was discharged for cause after an internal investigation revealed that he had a third in a series of traffic accidents while operating a police vehicle. Officer C had received progressive discipline involving traffic-related incidents. Officer C voluntarily signed a Stipulated Order Revoking Certifications. Officer C's conduct ended his 2-year career.

Officer C's Basic Police Certificate was Revoked

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Case 4

Officer D resigned after an internal investigation revealed that he befriended an inmate he supervised. When the inmate was paroled, Officer D used the agency computer to access the parolee's home phone number, residence and place of employment. Officer D also drove to the parolee's place of employment and warned her that he was being investigated and that she would be interviewed by the investigators. Officer D's case was taken to the Corrections Policy Committee, which unanimously voted to deny his certifications based on violation of the established moral fitness standards for Oregon public safety officers. The Board reviewed the case and affirmed the Policy Committee's recommendation. Officer D was issued a Notice of Intent to Revoke Certifications and did not make a timely request for a hearing. Officer D's conduct ended his 3-year career.

Officer D's Basic Corrections Certification was Revoked

Case 5

Officer E resigned after an internal investigation revealed that he engaged in an inappropriate relationship with an inmate and lied about the relationship when he was interviewed by the investigators. When the inmate was interviewed, she admitted to the relationship with Officer E, produced two addresses that was confirmed to belong to Officer E; a post office box and his home address. Numerous correspondence between Officer E and the inmate were also confiscated. Officer E's case was taken to the Corrections Policy Committee, which unanimously voted to deny his certifications based on violation of the established moral fitness standards for Oregon public safety officers. The Board reviewed the case and affirmed the Policy Committee's recommendation. Officer E was issued a Notice of Intent to Revoke Certifications and did not make a timely request for a hearing. Officer E's conduct ended his 1-year career.

Officer E's Basic Corrections Certification was Revoked

Case 6

Officer F resigned and was subsequently convicted of possession of cocaine and four counts of violating Oregon's sexual harassment law. This case stemmed from another criminal investigation in which a colleague of Officer F's introduced underage females to Officer F. The other officer was convicted of multiple sex abuse and drug charges. Officer F was served with a Notice of Intent to Revoke. Officer F did not make a timely request for a hearing. Officer F's conduct ended his 2-year career.

Officer F's Basic Police Certificate was Revoked.

What is I.A.E.T.?

"Members of the International Association of Ethics Trainers share and provide ideas, research, lesson plans, stories, articles, humor, encouragement, and anything else that will help the heroic men and women of law enforcement to safeguard the Honor, Integrity and Trust of our noble cause, because what affects one of us affects all of us".

For more information on this training resource, please visit IAET's website at:

<http://www.ethicstrainers.com/index.htm>

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