

OREGON DPSST
ETHICS BULLETIN

Volume No. 39



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** of certifications by DPSST in **November 2006**.

The Department continues to ensure that certified public safety officers and those seeking certification who abuse the public's trust will be held accountable for their actions.

Case 1

Officer A was discharged for cause and shortly thereafter pled guilty to two counts of Custodial Sexual Misconduct. In this case, Officer A had an inappropriate relationship with an inmate. Officer A signed a Stipulated Order Revoking Certification as a part of the plea agreement. Officer A's conduct ended her 1-year career.

Officer A's Basic Corrections Certification was Revoked.

Case 2

Officer B resigned in lieu of termination and shortly thereafter pled guilty to Recklessly Endangering Another, a misdemeanor crime. In this case, Officer B engaged in an inappropriate relationship with an inmate and in doing so, recklessly created a substantial risk of serious injury to a co-worker by allowing the inmate in to the Control Room. Officer B signed a Stipulated Order Revoking Certification as a part of the plea agreement. Officer B's conduct ended her 1-year career.

Officer B's Basic Corrections Certification was Revoked.

Case 3

Officer C was discharged for cause after an internal investigation revealed that he had violated his Last Chance Agreement. The events that led to the Last Chance Agreement included Officer C being intoxicated while on duty; fellow officers smelled alcohol on Officer C's person and a breath test confirmed that Officer C was intoxicated. Officer C was mailed a Notice of Intent to Revoke. He did not make a timely request for a hearing. DPSST filed a Final Order. Officer C's conduct ended his 9-year career.

Officer C's Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Police Certifications were Revoked.

PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS INFORMATION TO ALL PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS

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Case 4

Officer D was discharged for cause after an internal investigation revealed that he was insubordinate on numerous occasions. In this case, the agency became concerned after Officer D called 911 claiming there were helicopters overhead and that a SWAT team had taken his weapon from him. When his superior officers arrived at his residence to check his welfare, they found Officer D appeared to be affected by alcohol and Officer D denied placing the calls. A subsequent investigation was started and Officer D refused to comply with various orders relating to his administrative leave and agency orders to meet with his superiors. Officer D was mailed a Notice of Intent to Revoke. He did not make a timely request for a hearing. DPSST filed a Final Order. Officer D's conduct ended his 15-year career.

Officer D's Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Police Certifications were Revoked.

Case 5

Officer E resigned and was subsequently convicted in separate incidents of DUUI, Menacing and Contempt of Court. The Menacing conviction involved an act of domestic violence. Any crime involving an act of domestic violence is a mandatory disqualifying event. Officer E was mailed a Notice of Intent to Revoke. He did not make a timely request for a hearing. DPSST filed a Final Order. Officer E's conduct ended his 15-year career.

Officer E's Basic Corrections Certification was Revoked.

Case 6

Officer F resigned in lieu of termination after an internal investigation revealed that he engaged in criminal activity. In this case, after a relationship ended, Officer F repeatedly text messaged his former partner and was seen hiding in the bushes outside his former partner's residence. Officer F was arrested for Stalking; and the charges were subsequently reduced to Telephonic Harassment. In a later incident, Officer F was arrested for DUUI. Shortly after this, Officer F was arrested and booked on a Failure to Appear Warrant. Officer F was notified that his case would be heard before the Corrections Policy Committee and that he could provide in writing any mitigating circumstances he wished to have considered. The Corrections Policy Committee reviewed the matter and recommended revoking his certifications. The Board affirmed the Committee's recommendation. Officer F was mailed a Notice of Intent to Revoke. He did not make a timely request for a hearing. Officer F's conduct ended his 24-year career.

Officer F's Basic, Intermediate, Advanced and Supervisory Corrections Certifications were Revoked.

Case 7

Officer G resigned and pled guilty to the crime of Harassment, after an investigation revealed that he asked more than one citizen to show the presence or absence of a tattoo, causing the citizens to partially disrobe. Officer G voluntarily signed a Stipulated Order Revoking Certifications. Officer G's conduct ended his 9-year career.

Officer G's Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Police Certifications were Revoked.



The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.

Martin Luther King, Jr.