

ETHICS BULLETIN

VOLUME H

AUGUST 2021-NOVEMBER 2021

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS—FIRE

It is the responsibility of the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) with direction from the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (Board) to develop talented individuals into public safety professionals who are ethically, physically and emotionally fit, culturally competent, well trained, highly skilled and responsive to the needs of their communities. DPSST certifies Oregon fire service professionals who meet all of the Board-established standards, and denies or revokes the DPSST certification of those who do not meet or fall below the standards.

In an effort to increase the professionalism of the Oregon fire service while continuing to respect its voluntary nature, Oregon fire service applicants for certification who have been convicted of a crime may be subject to review as prescribed in Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 259-009-0120, 259-009-0125, and 259-009-0130. These rules define which criminal convictions will result in a mandatory denial or revocation of DPSST fire service certifications, when a discharge from a fire service agency may fit the Board-established standard for discharge for cause resulting in the revocation of DPSST fire service certifications, or when non-mandatory criminal convictions will trigger a review by the Fire Policy Committee (FPC). The FPC review determines if DPSST certification standards have been violated and, if so, initiates proceedings to deny or revoke the fire service professional's certification.

The Professional Standards Ethics Bulletin has been developed as an educational tool aimed at providing insight and transparency into situations involving fire service professionals that may violate the Board's standards. The bulletin details the conduct and the resulting DPSST action. The names and agencies of the individuals in this report have been omitted to ensure the focus remains on the behavior.

Questions about these incidents or about DPSST's processes and procedures can be directed to DPSST: (503) 378-2100 or oregon.DPSST@dpsst.oregon.gov

PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS INFORMATION TO ALL FIRE SERVICE PROFESSIONALS

<https://www.oregon.gov/dpsst/Pages/default.aspx>

503-378-2100

Fire Service Professional A (FSP A) *was convicted of Assault in the Third Degree, Assault in the Fourth Degree, Recklessly Endangering another Person, and Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants.*

DPSST Staff determined these conviction violated the core values of Professionalism and Integrity. The felony conviction fell within the last ten years and the misdemeanor convictions involved violence against a person, requiring FPC review of these discretionary convictions.

The FPC reviewed and considered the aggravating and mitigating circumstances specific to this case as required by OAR 259-009-0125(7). The FPC found as aggravating circumstances that FSP A made the decision to drive while intoxicated and was heavily intoxicated as demonstrated by their blood alcohol content of a 0.16 or higher, that their children were in the car with them and that they injured another driver and one of their minor children. They also found that he was employed as a Fire Service Professional at the time of the incident as an aggravating circumstance. The FPC found no mitigating circumstances.

The FPC found that FSP A's conduct did warrant the revocation of their certifications and recommended the same to the Board. The Board approved the FPC's recommendation and FSP A was issued a Notice of Intent to Revoke. No hearing was requested and the Default Final Order became effective.

FSP A's certifications are revoked and they are ineligible to reapply for one year after the Board review. Each year the individual can apply again and it will come before the FPC and Board again until 10 years from the conviction date has passed.

UPCOMING COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEETINGS

Fire Policy Committee	2/23/2022
Board on Public Safety Standards and Training	04/28/2022
Telecommunications Policy Committee	05/04/2022
Corrections Policy Committee	05/10/2022
Private Security/Investigator Policy Committee	05/17/2022
Police Policy Committee	05/19/2022

REVOCAION AND DENIAL STATISTICS

Cases Opened	6	Revoked	2
Cases Pending	19	No Action	1
Cases Closed	8	No Revoke	0



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WWW.OREGON.GOV/DPSST](http://www.oregon.gov/dpsst)

“TRAINING FOR EXCELLENCE”

Our mission is to promote excellence in public safety by delivering quality training and developing and upholding professional standards for police, fire, corrections, parole and probation, and telecommunications personnel, in addition to licensing private security providers and private investigators in Oregon.

DPSST also regulates and licenses polygraph examiners, determines sheriff candidates' eligibility to run for office and provides staffing for the Public Safety Memorial Fund. We strive to provide resources and certification programs that public safety officers and local public safety organizations need to maintain the highest professional skill standards, stewardship and service to Oregon's communities and citizens. These services are based at our 236-acre academy and extend across the state through a network of regional training coordinators.

Agency functions are guided by several Oregon Revised Statutes and our authority is defined specifically in Chapter No. 259 of the Oregon Administrative Rules. We are governed by a 24-member Board and five discipline-specific policy committees; we serve more than 41,000 public safety constituents across the state.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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To view the Oregon Administrative Rules for Criminal Justice please visit:
http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars_200/oar_259/259_008.html