

# Professional Standards Ethics Bulletin

## Criminal Justice



### STATISTICS:

#### Currently Certified Law Enforcement in Oregon:

) Police	5320
) Corrections	4062
) Tele/EMD	901/867
) P & P	606
) OLCC	38

#### Professional Standards Cases Opened: 19

) Police	9
) Corrections	8
) Tele/EMD	1
) P & P	1
) OLCC	0

#### Professional Standards Cases Pending as of February 28: 128

##### Mandatory Disqualifiers

) Police	24
) Corrections	12
) Tele/EMD	0
) P & P	2
) OLCC	1

##### Discretionary Disqualifiers

) Police	47
) Corrections	33
) Tele/EMD	6
) P & P	0
) OLCC	3

#### Cases Closed: 14

) Revoked	5
) Deny	0
) No Revoke	0
) No Deny	0
) No Action	9

To increase the public's trust, the Oregon legislature has mandated the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training establish minimum standards that are required to be met and maintained by Oregon's providers of public safety, including police officers, corrections officers, parole and probation officers, telecommunicators (9-1-1), emergency medical dispatchers, public safety instructors and OLCC regulatory specialists. The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training is responsible for certifying public safety professionals who meet all of the Board-established standards, and for denying or revoking the certification of those who do not meet or fall below the standards.

In addition to physical and intellectual standards, the Board has adopted minimum standards of moral fitness. Public safety professionals and applicants for public safety positions who have been convicted of a crime or have engaged in behavior that is deemed to fall below the minimum standards are subject to review as prescribed in Oregon Administrative Rule 259-008-0070. The sole purpose of this review is to determine if the Board's standards of moral fitness have been violated and if proceeding to deny or revoke public safety certification should be initiated. The review specifically looks for behavior that appears to involve dishonesty, disregard for the rights of others, misuse of authority, gross misconduct, misconduct, insubordination and incompetence.

The Professional Standards Ethics Bulletin has been developed as an educational tool aimed at providing insight and transparency into situations involving public safety professionals that may violate the Board's standard of moral fitness. 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 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@state.or.us](mailto:oregon.dpsst@state.or.us).

The following cases have resulted in consideration of **revocation or denial** of certifications by DPSST in **February 2017**.

**Officer A** worked as a police officer from 1994 until 2016 when Officer A resigned in lieu of termination. Officer A was the subject of a criminal investigation related to allegations of a personal relationship with a suspect's spouse and engaging in an affair with another individual on duty. In lieu of criminal charges, Officer A resigned and signed a voluntary stipulation order relinquishing their police certifications for life.

**Officer A's Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Police certifications are Revoked.**

**Officer B** worked as a police officer from 1999 to 2015. DPSST received an F-4 stating that Officer B had been discharged for cause. Officer B was charged and convicted of Strangulation, Official Misconduct in the First Degree, and Coercion. The crimes/convictions stemmed from Officer B forcing a co-worker, while on-duty, to have sex. As part of Officer B's sentencing, Officer B was required to voluntarily surrender their DPSST certification. DPSST received a voluntary stipulation order from Officer B relinquishing their police certifications. Officer B's misconduct ended their 16 year career.

**Officer B's Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Police certifications are Revoked.**

**Telecommunicator C** resigned during an investigation involving allegations that Telecommunicator C manipulated information in police reports from a specific police officer. A criminal investigation was also conducted regarding the allegations although it did not result in criminal charges. Telecommunicator C was advised that their case would be presented to the Telecommunicator Policy Committee (TPC) and given an opportunity to provide mitigation. Telecommunicator C chose to Voluntarily Relinquish their certifications in lieu of the TPC review.

Telecommunicator C's misconduct ended their 8 year career.

**Telecommunicator C's Basic and Intermediate Telecommunicator and Basic Emergency Medical Dispatcher certifications are Revoked.**

**Officer D** worked as a corrections officer from February 2008 to 2013. DPPST received an F-4 stating Officer D resigned. Officer D was charged and convicted of the following crimes involving domestic violence; Assault in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, Harassment – Physical, and Interference with Making a Report. Officer D resigned while the criminal investigation and court case were ongoing. DPSST issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to Revoke and Officer D failed to request a hearing within 20 days, causing the NOI to default to a Final Order. Officer D's misconduct ended their 5 year career.

**Officer D's Basic Corrections certification is Revoked.**

**Officer E** worked as a police officer from 2007 to May 2016. DPSST received an F-4 stating Officer E was discharged for cause. Officer E engaged in misconduct on-duty by having sexual relations with a civilian, while in uniform and working, and utilized agency issued equipment to perpetuate the affair. When confronted about the affair by the agency Officer E was dishonest and destroyed evidence related to the misconduct. DPSST issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to Revoke and Officer E failed to request a hearing within 20 days, causing the NOI to default to a Final Order. Officer E's misconduct ended their 9 year career.

**Officer E's Basic Police certification is Revoked.**

**PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS INFORMATION TO ALL PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS**

[www.dpsst.state.or.us](http://www.dpsst.state.or.us)

503-378-2100

DPSST has developed a training to help our constituent partners and members of the public navigate the proposed changes to the standards that govern the denial, revocation and suspension of criminal justice certifications in Oregon. The training is approximately 33 minutes in length and includes instructions on how to add this training event to a DPSST Training Record.

The video can be viewed by searching for DPSST Professional Standards on YouTube or by copying this link: <https://youtu.be/kMY8fkzMm2M>

These proposed changes will be open for public comment from March 1 until close of business on March 21, 2017 as required by Oregon law. Any questions or concerns about any of these recommendations can be directed to DPSST Administrative Rules Coordinator Jennifer Howald (503-378-2432/Jennifer.Howald@state.or.us) or Professional Standards Division Director Linsay Hale (503-378-2427/Linsay.Hale@state.or.us).

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