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 intellectual, physical and moral fitness standards, and for denying, suspending or revoking the certification of those who do not meet or fall below these standards.

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.

Upcoming Board & Policy Committee Meetings

Board on Public Safety Standards & Training—10/26/17
Telecommunications Policy Committee—11/1/17
Corrections Policy Committee—11/14/17
Police Policy Committee—11/16/17
## September Statistics

### Currently Certified Law Enforcement in Oregon:
- Police: 5,358
- Corrections: 4,066
- Tele/EMD: 915/876
- P & P: 629
- OLCC: 33

### Professional Standards Cases Opened in September:
- Police: 12
- Corrections: 21
- Tele/EMD: 2
- P & P: 2
- OLCC: 0
- Instructor: 0

### Professional Standards Cases Pending as of September 30, 2017:
- Police: 79
- Corrections: 83
- Tele/EMD: 11
- P & P: 5
- OLCC: 4
- Instructor: 1

### Cases Closed in September:
- Revoked: 0
- Deny: 0
- No Revoke: 0
- No Deny: 0
- No Action: 3

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To view prior ethics bulletins visit [HTTP://WWW.OREGON.GOV/DPSST/PAGES/PUBLICATIONS.ASPX](HTTP://WWW.OREGON.GOV/DPSST/PAGES/PUBLICATIONS.ASPX)
NO CASES TO REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER.

How can there be nothing to report with over 180 pending cases? A couple reasons!

First, a professional standards case will not appear in the Ethics Bulletin until the review of the conduct is completed and DPSST’s action is confirmed by the Board and/or one of its five recommending Policy Committees. The Policy Committees and the Board are scheduled to meet on a quarterly basis, which means that, on average, professional standards reviews involving discretionary misconduct can take about a year to finalize.

Secondly, a new administrative rule took effect August 1, 2017, significantly altering the way in which DPSST Professional Standards cases are handled. Some major changes include:

- The requirement that Policy Committee members review and affirm staff recommendations to administratively close professional standards cases that don’t appear to meet the threshold for Board review/action.
- All discharges that appear to violate the Board’s moral fitness standards are required to be reviewed by the Policy Committee and Board. However, discharges involving behavior occurring on-duty that involves deliberately obtaining false confessions, initiating false arrests, creation and use of falsified evidence (including false testimony), intimidation, brutality, corruption, and sexual abuse are mandatory disqualifiers and do not require Policy Committee/Board review.
- DPSST will not accept the voluntary surrender of public safety certification(s) until a professional standards review has been completed.

The language of the administrative rules governing DPSST criminal justice certifications can be found here. For detailed overview of all changes to the rule please visit our YouTube video titled “Denial/Revocation/Suspension: Recommended Changes to the Administrative Rules Governing Criminal Justice Certification: https://youtu.be/kMY8fkzMm2M (NOTE: This video has not been updated to reflect the implementation date of 8/1/17.)

Finally, the number of pending cases can be slightly misleading. DPSST will not initiate a professional standards review until any employment (i.e. arbitration) or criminal matters have been completely resolved. A large portion of DPSST’s pending cases reported each month are awaiting resolution by another entity. Once resolved, DPSST’s certification review will occur.
NEW & NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

F.A.Q.’s

Q. How can I learn more about DPSST’s certification review process or the laws and rules that govern my certification?
A. We are actively working on more training videos detailing the history and purpose of the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training, the Policy Committee/Board review process, certification denial/suspension/revocation processes and how DPSST handles citizen complaints. DPSST staff is also happy to provide on-site training when requested.

Requests for training, questions or comments can be directed to DPSST’s Criminal Justice Professional Standards Unit by calling 503-378-2100 or emailing Oregon.dpsst@state.or.us.

Q. How do I find out who represents me on the Board or Policy Committee?
A. Board and Policy Committee rosters can be found on DPSST’s webpage by clicking the “Boards and Committees” link and selecting “Rosters”. Meeting calendars, agendas and previous meeting minutes can also be found on this page.

Q. Do I need to report a criminal arrest or citation to appear?
A. Yes. Anyone certified by DPSST’s is required by rule to report any criminal arrest or criminal citation within 5 business days. The notification must include the date of the arrest or citation, location, reason for the arrest or citation, and the arresting or citing agency. NOTE: This does not supersede or negate any employer imposed requirements to report criminal activity or traffic violations.

Q. Am I required to report traffic violations to DPSST?
A. No you do not need to report traffic violations, but you are required to report traffic crimes. DPSST requires public safety professionals to report arrests or previous convictions of felonies, misdemeanors, and violations that are/were punishable as a crime. To be punishable as a crime there must be the option for the court to impose a term of imprisonment as a penalty. Generally speaking, most traffic violations are punishable by fines and therefore do not meet the definition of a crime.

Q. Do I have to report arrests or citations to appear, even though I’m not currently employed?
A. Yes. DPSST criminal justice certifications are permanent certifications. The certifications of officers/professionals who leave certified employment may lapse, however, they do not expire. Individuals certified in a criminal justice discipline in Oregon remains certified and subject to the Board’s certification standards unless their certifications are relinquished or revoked. As a result the moral fitness rules continue to apply even after leaving a certified public safety position and the requirement that criminal arrests and citations to appear be reported remains intact.

How Are We Doing?

The Criminal Justice Ethics Bulletin is the most read document published by DPSST. We’d like you to tell us what we can do to make it better by completing the following survey. We thank you in advance for your insight.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/dpsstcjethicsbulletin
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.

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