

OREGON DPSST  
*ETHICS BULLETIN*

Volume No. 12



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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 **March and April 2004**.

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**Case 1**

**Officer A** was discharged for cause after an internal investigation revealed that he had engaged in unlawful conduct. On four separate occasions, while on duty and in uniform, Officer A encouraged females to perform oral sex on him. Two of the four females felt compelled to perform this act because of the officer's status or that he was in uniform and carrying a firearm. Officer A also did not take enforcement action on several incidents in which crimes were being committed. Officer A was later convicted of Physical Harassment, Public Indecency, four counts of Coercion, and four counts of Official Misconduct. Officer A signed a Stipulated Order Revoking his Certifications. Officer A's conduct ended his 3-year career.

**Officer A's Basic Police Certification was Revoked.**

**Case 2**

**Officer B** resigned during an internal investigation that revealed that he engaged in conduct which included planting contraband in an inmate's cell, spraying capsaicin pepper spray on an inmates bed sheets and toothbrush and defacing an inmate's mail, among other admissions. This case was presented to the Corrections Policy Committee to determine if Officer B no longer met the moral fitness standards. The Corrections Policy Committee recommended that Officer B's certification be revoked and the Board affirmed this recommendation. Officer B's conduct ended his 2-year career.

**Officer B's Basic Corrections certification was Revoked.**

**Case 3**

**Officer C's** certification was revoked after he was convicted of Public Indecency, a mandatory disqualifying crime. A female citizen reported seeing Officer C seated in a vehicle masturbating and watching her as she passed his vehicle. The female citizen took down the license plate and later identified the driver/owner of the vehicle in a photo line up. Officer C's conduct ended his 4-year career.

**Officer C's Basic Corrections Certification was Revoked.**

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#### **Case 4**

**Officer D's** certification was revoked after he was convicted of Initiating a False Report, a mandatory disqualifying crime. Officer D falsely reported a burglary of his residence and responding officers immediately noticed inconsistencies in the crime scene. Officer D reported a large number of items stolen that include police-related items and attempted to obtain insurance proceeds. Officer D was also convicted of Attempt Theft in the First Degree. Officer D's conduct ended his 5-year career.

**Officer D's Basic Police Certification was Revoked.**

#### **Case 5**

**Officer E** was arrested for DUUI, Failure to Perform the Duties of a Driver and Reckless Driving. Officer E then retired from the police department and later pled guilty to the DUUI; entering a diversion program. Two months later, Officer E was arrested and convicted of Theft in the Second Degree when he shoplifted on numerous occasions in the store in which he was working. Four months later, Officer E was arrested and later convicted of Unlawful Discharge of a Weapon, a Class C Felony. While he was intoxicated, Officer E fired his weapon in his apartment, called 911, and told responding officers a masked intruder had entered his apartment. **Officer E's conduct resulted in a revocation of his 24-year police certification.**

#### **Case 6**

**Officer F** resigned his position as a police officer after he was indicted for Theft in the First and Third Degree. One month later he was arrested for Initiating a False Report when he told officers his wife had scratched his face and later recanted the story; admitting that he had inflicted the injury on himself. Officer F was convicted of Initiating a False Report and received a deferred sentence on the Theft conviction. Officer F's conduct ended his 6-year career.

**Officer F's Basic and Intermediate Police Certifications were Revoked.**

#### **Case 7**

**Officer G** was discharged for cause after an internal investigation revealed that he had violated agency policies and sustained an allegation that he had inappropriately touched a female. Officer G's conduct ended his 8-year career.

**Officer G's Basic Corrections certification was Revoked.**

#### **Case 8**

Statute allows the revocation of a public safety officer's certification regardless of the employment status of the officer at the time of the misconduct. Former Officer H's certification was revoked after he was convicted of three counts of Rape in the Third Degree, three counts of Rape in the Second Degree, and two counts of Sodomy in the Third Degree. Former Officer H's conduct resulted in the revocation of his certification he had held for 4 years.

**Officer H's Basic Police Certification was Revoked.**

#### **Case 9**

**Officer I** was discharged for cause after an internal investigation revealed that he violated agency policies when he had numerous inappropriate contacts with female citizens. Officer I's conduct ended his 8-year career.

**Officer I's Basic Police Certification was Revoked.**