

OREGON DPSST  
*ETHICS BULLETIN*

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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 **June 2005**.

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**Case 1**

**Officer A** was found guilty of five misdemeanor criminal convictions after an undercover investigation revealed that he had unlawfully pursued a cougar with dogs, unlawfully hunted game birds during a closed season, unlawfully hunted game birds in a prohibited manner and failed to validate a bobcat record card. Each of these crimes are Misdemeanors. Officer A's case was taken to the Police Policy Committee, which unanimously voted to revoke his certification based both on the criminal convictions and on violating the established moral fitness standards for Oregon public safety officers. The Board reviewed the case and affirmed the Policy Committee's recommendation. Officer A requested a hearing, and he then requested, and was granted, two separate continuances by the Administrative Law Judge. Officer A ultimately signed a Stipulated Order Revoking his certification. Officer A's conduct ended his 5-year career.

**Officer A's Basic Police Certification was Revoked.**

**Case 2**

**Officer B** resigned after an internal investigation revealed that he had engaged in an inappropriate relationship with a female inmate. Officer B was notified that his case was being prepared to be presented to the Corrections Policy Committee based on violating the established moral fitness standards for Oregon public safety officers. Officer B voluntarily signed a Stipulated Order revoking his certification. Officer B's conduct ended his 3-year career.

**Officer B's Basic Corrections Certification was Revoked.**

**Case 3**

**Officer C** resigned and was subsequently convicted of five counts of Incest, felonies in the State of Oregon. Officer C's conduct ended his 15-year career.

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

#### **Case 4**

**Officer D** resigned and was subsequently convicted of two counts of Sexual Abuse in the First Degree and one count of Official Misconduct. The victim in this case was a 14-year old male, at the time of the abuse. Officer D voluntarily signed a Stipulated Order revoking his certification. Officer D's conduct ended his 15-year career.

**Officer D's Basic Police Certification was Revoked.**

#### **Case 5**

**Officer E** resigned and was subsequently convicted of Official Misconduct in the First Degree. Officer E placed orders through a vendor in exchange for gifts, using his position for private gain. Officer E's conduct ended his 4-year career.

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

#### **Case 6**

**Officer F** was discharged for cause after an internal investigation revealed that she demonstrated a pattern of disrespectful, antagonistic, and unprofessional conduct toward staff members and inmates. Officer F received progressive discipline, which included written warnings, a one-step pay reduction, a 30-day suspension, yet her inappropriate behaviors continued. Officer F's behavior culminated when she told her Sergeant and Lieutenant that they were "crazy" when she was asked to perform an assignment. Officer F's conduct ended her 9-year career.

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

#### **Case 7**

**Officer G** was discharged for cause after an internal investigation revealed that he did not search a prisoner's belongings prior to booking her, had knowledge that there was a \$2600 dress that store security suspected the prisoner had stolen in the prisoner's belongings, and he made no attempt to return the property to the store. During the investigation, Officer G lied to investigators. Officer G's conduct ended his 9-year career.

**Officer G's Basic Police Certification was Revoked**

#### **Case 8**

**Officer H** resigned after DPSST conducted an investigation of her agency that revealed that Officer H, in a supervisory position, had falsified a portion of the training records that she submitted on behalf of her certified staff members over the past five years. The certified staff had not seen the training records submitted, and many of them were unaware of the required annual maintenance training requirements. DPSST sent this investigation to the Oregon Department of Justice for review and received confirmation that this matter should be forwarded to the Telecommunications Policy Committee for review under the falsification and moral fitness guidelines. Officer H voluntarily signed a Stipulated Order revoking her Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Telecommunications Certifications, her Basic Emergency Medical Dispatch Certification, and her Multidisciplinary Certification. Officer H's conduct ended her 13-year career.

**Officer H's Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Telecommunications Certifications, her Basic Emergency Medical Dispatch Certification, and her Multidisciplinary Certification were Revoked.**

