

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** of certifications by DPSST in **December 2006**.

The Department continues to ensure that certified public safety officers and those seeking certification who abuse the public's trust will be held accountable for their actions.

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**Case 1**

**Officer A** resigned in lieu of termination after an internal investigation which culminated in a guilty plea to two counts of Official Misconduct in the First Degree. This case stemmed from a single incident in which Officer A asked two females to view private portions of their body, for no legitimate purpose. Officer A was served with a Notice of Intent to Revoke Certification. He did not make a timely request for a hearing. Officer A's conduct ended his 9-year career.

**Officer A's Basic Police Certification was Revoked.**

**Case 2**

**Officer B** was discharged for cause and was subsequently convicted of Official Misconduct in the First Degree. In this case, Officer B stole thousands of dollars from the Governor's 2006 Oregon Food Bank Drive by not turning in donations raised through the sale of commemorative badges. Officer B signed a Stipulated Order Revoking Certifications. Officer B's conduct ended his 11-year career.

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

**Case 3**

**Officer C** resigned and was subsequently found guilty of Official Misconduct in the First Degree and Tampering with a Public Record. As a part of the plea bargain, Officer C stipulated to the permanent revocation of his DPSST certification. In this case, Officer C was the agency head and in an effort to protect his son, changed a police report and failed to provide evidence collected by the investigating officer. Officer C's conduct ended his 35-year career.

**Officer C's Basic, Intermediate, Advanced, Supervisory, Management and Executive Police Certifications were Revoked.**

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Page 1 of 2

#### Case 4

**Officer D** pled guilty to Theft in the Second Degree in 1995. The crime occurred when Officer D was a juvenile; however he was convicted as an adult. When Officer D subsequently entered Oregon public safety, a routine records check did not reveal the conviction; the court had not entered the conviction into the LEDS criminal justice system. DPSST was subsequently informed of this conviction by an outside party. Theft in the Second Degree is a mandatory disqualifying crime, for purposes of denial or revocation of certification. DPSST was required to issue a Notice of Intent to Revoke Certifications based on the mandatory disqualifying conviction. Officer D made a timely request for a hearing. DPSST filed a Motion for Ruling on Legal Issues (Summary Judgment) with the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), asserting that there was no genuine issue as to any material fact that is relevant to resolution of the legal issue for which a decision is sought. Prior to the ALJ making a ruling, Officer D voluntarily signed a Stipulated Order Revoking Certification. Officer D's prior conduct ended his 2-year career.

**Officer D's Basic Police Certification was REVOKED**

#### Case 5

**Officer E** resigned and was subsequently convicted of Sexual Abuse in the First Degree. In this case, Officer E touched a female child, under the age of fourteen, in a sexual manner. Officer E voluntarily signed a Stipulated Order Revoking Certifications. Officer E's conduct ended her 4-year career.

**Officer E's Basic and Intermediate Corrections Certification were REVOKED.**

#### Case 6

**Officer F** was discharged for cause after an internal investigation revealed that he failed to respond appropriately to a domestic violence call, did not make an arrest when he was required by law to do so, did not complete the report in a timely manner and failed to collect appropriate evidence. Progressive discipline prior to this event had included being counseled and disciplined for misconduct such as surfing pornographic websites from an agency computer while on duty and repeated failure to timely complete person crime reports in which there were named suspects. Officer F was issued a Notice of Intent to Revoke Certifications. Officer F made a timely request for a hearing. DPSST filed a Motion for Ruling on Legal Issues (Summary Judgment) with the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), asserting that there was no genuine issue as to any material fact that is relevant to resolution of the legal issue for which a decision is sought. Prior to the ALJ making a ruling, Officer F voluntarily signed a Stipulated Order Revoking Certifications. Officer F's conduct ended his 11-year career.

**Officer F's Basic, Intermediate and Advance Police Certifications were REVOKED.**

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#### Five-Year Snapshot of DPSST Professional Standards cases

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Cases Opened	73	134	221	206	420
*Cases Closed	53	93	220	232	385
Of the cases closed - Denials	1	3	1	5	1
Of the cases closed – Revocations	24	41	63	71	62

\*Cases may be administratively closed without denial or revocation action following agency review and a determination that they do not meet the criteria for denial or revocation action. Other cases may be closed following Policy Committee and Board determination that certification should not be revoked or denied.

Current open cases pending: 147

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Page 2 of 2