

**PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIVISION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

TO: DISTRIBUTION

FROM: CAPTAIN ROBERT OSTERLAND *RO*
Professional Standards Division

SUBJECT: SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Deputy Michael Metzger, #58517, will receive the following as a result of AI 26-017:

1. A forty (40) hour Suspension to be satisfied through the forfeiture of accrued leave.

DISTRIBUTION:

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
Chief Deputy Dave Danzig
Assistant Chief Deputy Paul Carey
Assistant Chief Deputy Dennis Komar
Colonel Joe Gerretz
Major Jose Camacho
Major Deanna Carey
Major Greg Danzig
Major Alyson Henry
Major Jon Tobeck
Major Matt Wroe
Director Jennifer Crockett
Director Susan Krause
Director Jason Malpass
Director Kristi Wong
Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel
Payroll
Purchasing-Uniform Supply
Deputy Michael Metzger

RO/blb

**PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: **SEPTEMBER 18, 2026**

TO: **DEPUTY MICHAEL METZGER, #58517**

FROM: **SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI**

SUBJECT: **CHARGES RE: AI 26-017**

An investigation has been conducted by the Administrative Investigations Section, Professional Standards Division, of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office. As a result of this investigation, the Administrative Review Board has determined you committed the following violation:

On, but not limited to, June 12, 2026, while on duty in Pinellas County, Florida, you violated the Pinellas County Sheriff's Civil Service Act, Laws of Florida, 89-404 as amended by Laws of Florida 08-285, Section 6, Subsection 4, by violating the provisions of law or the rules, regulations, and operating procedures of the Office of the Sheriff.

1. You violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office General Order 3-1.1, Rule and Regulation 5.4, Duties and Responsibilities.

Synopsis: On June 12, 2026, while assigned to the 2H4 officer station, you were responsible for video-assisted observation of inmates housed in the unit. Another deputy was assigned as the Guard One deputy and was responsible for conducting physical well-being checks in 2H4 and 2H5. One inmate housed in 2H4 had been placed on Non-Acute Suicide Risk (SR-2) status earlier that day. Under SOP DET 07-03, Suicide/Psychiatric Intervention and Observation, and SOP DET 03-06, Personal Observation, SR-2 inmates are monitored through video-assisted observation in conjunction with physical well-being checks at intervals not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes.

You knew that 2H4 primarily housed inmates on suicide-risk or psychiatric-observation status and were familiar with the inmate involved in this incident and his history of volatility and cutting behavior. You also understood that, as the deputy assigned to the desk, your responsibility was to monitor the cameras for inmate activity between the physical well-being checks.

At approximately 1909 hours, the Guard One deputy completed a physical well-being check of the inmate. At approximately 1916 hours, the inmate stood at his cell door and cut his left arm. Blood became visible on the wall and floor. Over the next several minutes, the inmate moved about the cell, left a trail of blood, and continued manipulating the injury, causing additional blood loss.

During this period, you remained at the officer station with the Guard One deputy. Video shows you using the middle computer monitor and directing the other deputy's attention toward that screen. You were engaged in a personal conversation about firearms and showed the other deputy photographs of a rifle you had built.

The injury remained undetected until approximately 1923 hours, when the Guard One deputy began the next physical well-being check and observed the blood. You then initiated a Code 99. The response team entered the inmate's cell at approximately 1925 hours. The inmate was subsequently diagnosed with an arterial laceration to the left arm and required emergency medical treatment.

During your administrative interview, you acknowledged that your responsibility at the desk was to monitor the cameras and described yourself as the "first line of observation." You admitted that the personal conversation diverted your attention from your camera-monitoring responsibilities and that you did not maintain effective observation between the Guard One checks. When shown the approximately 1920-hour video image, you identified a pool of blood in the inmate's cell and acknowledged that, had you been properly monitoring the cameras, you should have observed it. You also acknowledged that your conduct violated General Order 3-1.1, Rule and Regulation 5.4, Duties and Responsibilities.

During the Administrative Review Board, you again accepted responsibility for the lapse in observation. You confirmed that video-assisted monitoring was your assigned responsibility and acknowledged that the personal conversation and related visual material distracted you from that duty. You further agreed that you were ineffective in performing your assigned responsibilities during the incident.

SOP DET 01-01, Detention & Corrections Deputy, requires deputies to remain security-conscious and alert while supervising inmates. Your failure to maintain effective video-assisted observation allowed the inmate's self-inflicted injury and continued blood loss to remain undetected until the next Guard One check. Your actions violated General Order 3-1.1, Rule and Regulation 5.4, Duties and Responsibilities.

During both your administrative interview and the Administrative Review Board Interview, you admitted to the violation.

Disciplinary Points and Recommended Discipline Range:

You were found to be in violation of one (1) Level Five Rule and Regulation violation totaling fifty (50) points. These points, which were affected by no modified points from previous discipline, resulted in fifty (50) progressive discipline points. At this point level, the recommended discipline range is from a forty (40) hour Suspension to termination.

Disciplinary action shall be consistent with progressive discipline, for cause, in accordance with the provisions of the Pinellas County Civil Service Act.

Col Joseph P. Gerretz

COLONEL JOSEPH GERRETZ
DEPARTMENT OF DETENTION AND CORRECTIONS
FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date 9/25/26

Time 0739

D. J. M. S. 5217
Member's Signature

BG:AEP:RHO:blb