

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

DATE: APRIL 12, 2021

TO: DISTRIBUTION

FROM: CAPTAIN DEANNA CAREY *DC*
Professional Standards Bureau

SUBJECT: SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Sergeant Bryan Bingham, #54878, received the following as a result of AI-21-001:

1. Demotion to Deputy

DISTRIBUTION:

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
Chief Deputy George Steffen
Assistant Chief Deputy Dave Danzig
Assistant Chief Deputy Paul Halle
Colonel Paul Carey
Major Adrian Arnold
Major Dennis Garvey
Major Dennis Komar
Major Jennifer Love
Major Jesse Napier
Director Jennifer Crockett
Director Nancy Duggan
Director Susan Krause
Director Jason Malpass
Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel
Payroll
Purchasing-Uniform Supply

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

DATE: APRIL 9, 2021

TO: SERGEANT BRYAN BINGHAM, #54878

FROM: SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

SUBJECT: CHARGES RE: AI-21-001

An investigation has been conducted by the Administrative Investigation Division, Professional Standards Bureau, 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, January 15, 2021, 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 5.10, Converting Agency Property – Members shall not willfully convert to their own use any agency property.

Synopsis: On January 15, 2021, you participated in training at the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Range, as an adjunct instructor. During this training, you approached a supervisor in the Training Division and asked if practice ammunition was still being issued to members. You were advised that the issuance of practice ammunition was permissible "within reason and depending on what it is." You were neither authorized to obtain a specific quantity of ammunition, nor did you request a specific quantity of ammunition during this conversation.

Later on this date, as a sergeant, you approached a deputy who had access to the ammunition room and requested that the deputy provide you with ammunition. You requested cases and boxes of various calibers of ammunition and later, obtained over 5,000 rounds of ammunition. Due to the excessive quantity of ammunition requested by you, a training corporal was summoned to the ammunition room. You informed this corporal that the Training Division lieutenant, who was no longer present, had approved the issuance of ammunition to you. At the time of this ammunition request, you were the highest ranking member present and used your position as a sergeant to obtain over 5,000 rounds of ammunition.

After the issuance of this ammunition, you removed the ammunition utilizing a handcart and placed this ammunition in your agency vehicle. You took the ammunition to your home and stored it in the garage of your private residence. In total, the ammunition consisted of the following quantities:

- Federal Speer Lawman .45 ACP – (20) boxes – Total of 1000 rounds
- Federal Speer Gold Dot .45 ACP – (20) boxes – Total of 1000 rounds
- Federal Speer Lawman .380 ACP – (20) boxes – Total of 1000 rounds
- Federal Speer Lawman 9mm – (18) boxes – Total of 1000 rounds
- Federal American Eagle .223 caliber – (25) boxes – Total of 500 rounds
- Federal Speer Gold Dot .380 ACP – (6) boxes – Total of 300 rounds
- Federal Speer Gold Dot 9mm – (4) boxes – Total of 200 rounds
- Federal Speer Gold Dot .223 – (2) boxes – Total of 40 rounds
- Federal 12 gauge – (2) boxes – Total of 5 rounds

During your Administrative Review Board, you testified you intended to utilize this ammunition for “personal training” at a family owned location out of state. You admitted that the amount of this ammunition was “excessive” and that you have never been issued this quantity before. You admitted that you believed there may have been an issue with the quantity of ammunition taken by you and acknowledged you should have contacted a higher ranking supervisor in the Training Division to obtain specific permission for taking such a large amount of ammunition, especially after being told any amount taken had to be reasonable. Taking over 5,000 rounds of ammunition for personal use at an out of state family owned location is not reasonable. You testified, “In the grand scheme of things, it was too much.”

You used your agency tenure and position of authority as a sergeant to obtain an excessive quantity of ammunition that would not be issued for personal use.

The Administrative Review Board determined you committed this violation.

Disciplinary Points and Recommended Discipline Range:

You were found to be in violation of one (1) Level Five Rules and Regulations 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 five (5) days 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.

George Steffen *SLT* *04/12/21*
CHIEF DEPUTY GEORGE STEFFEN
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF DEPUTY
FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date *April 12, 2021*

Time *11:15 hours*

[Signature]
SIGNATURE

BG:SLT:kmm