

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

DATE: AUGUST 28, 2017
TO: DISTRIBUTION
FROM: CAPTAIN RAY WHITELEY *Rw*
Professional Standards Bureau
SUBJECT: AI-17-015 SHERIFF'S FINDING

On August 25, 2017 at 1550 hours, Deputy Ural Darling, #53951, was terminated per Sheriff Gualtieri, as a result of AI-17-015.

DISTRIBUTION:

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
Chief Deputy Dan Simovich
Assistant Chief Deputy Sean Jowell
Assistant Chief Deputy George Steffen
Colonel Paul Halle
Major Stefanie Campbell
Major Dave Danzig
Major Bill Hagans
Major Rich Nalven
Major Laura Smith
Lieutenant Deanna Carey
Director Jennifer Crockett
Director Nancy Duggan
Director Susan Krause
Director Jason Malpass
Director Julie Upman
Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel
Payroll
Purchasing-Uniform Supply

RW/kmm

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

DATE: AUGUST 25, 2017

TO: DEPUTY URAL DARLING, #53951

FROM: SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

SUBJECT: CHARGES RE: AI-17-015

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, May 15, 2017, 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 May 15, 2017, while assigned to Osceola Middle School as a School Resource Deputy, you engaged in inappropriate conduct during your interaction with an Autistic student. Your actions were captured through video and audio recording.

You responded to a classroom to assist a Behavioral Specialist with the removal of the Autistic child who was throwing books. When you made contact with the child, with whom you've had at least two (2) prior interactions, you directed him to place his hands behind his back and walk toward the Behavioral Specialist's office. As you escorted the child to the office, you had your handcuffs out and continuously threaded them. You did this as you were yelling at the child, "Put your hands behind your back. This is what you've been wanting, right? This is what you want, right? What I told you the last time."

Once you reached the office, you continued yelling, and gave the child approximately three (3) to five (5) books to hold. As the child was holding the books in front of his body, you continued to yell, "Last time I told you to stop that crap. Don't sit down. Get up against the wall right there. Now let me start throwing books. You want me to throw books at you? How 'bout I throw books at you? Huh? You want me to throw these handcuffs on you? – Well, I told you to stop. I am not playing with you anymore."

You still had your handcuffs in your hand as you then yelled to the child, “You see that? What is that? Do you want ‘em to go on your arm? Real tight? The child responds, “No.”

You then yell, “We ain’t even got to first—through first period and you already start with the dumb crap man. We can’t deal with this every day. Throw books now. Throw ‘em. Throw ‘em. Go ahead and throw ‘em and see what happens. You better not throw ‘em. You hold ‘em till I tell you to put ‘em down. You throw ‘em, I’m gonna put these cuffs on you. You understand?—You better not let ‘em fall either.”

The child continues to hold the books as you yell, “You know exactly what you are doing. You know goddamn well not to throw those books while I’m here.”

You then tell the child, “I need to Baker Act you. That’s what I need. I need to take you to the mental hospital. Is that where you want to stay for the rest of your life? Because if I take you, they’re gonna’ keep you forever.”

Once the child calms down, you then direct him to place the books he’s been holding onto on the shelf, one at a time. The child completes this task and you direct him to get a “fidget.” This causes the child to start crying again at which time you tell him, “I’m not fixin’ to play now. I’m fixin’ to get pissed off.”

Your involvement ended after approximately twenty to twenty five (20-25) minutes.

At the conclusion of your contact with this child, you took no law enforcement action, produced no written documentation concerning the incident, and did not advise supervision or the parent of the child of what had occurred.

Your overall conduct and interaction with this Autistic student was threatening, intimidating and unwarranted.

The Administrative Review Board determined you violated the above policy.

Disciplinary Points and Recommended Discipline Range:

You were found to be in violation of one 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 a 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.

Capt. R. Whiteley
CAPTAIN RAY WHITELEY
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BUREAU
FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date 8/25/2017

Time 3:48


SIGNATURE

BG:RN:kmm