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

DATE:

**JUNE 16, 2023** 

TO:

**DISTRIBUTION** 

FROM:

CAPTAIN DEANNA CAREY

Professional Standards Bureau

SUBJECT: SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Deputy Angel Santiago, #60676, will receive the following as a result of AI-23-008:

1. Fifty-six (56) hour Suspension to be served on:

June 21, 2023 (11.5 hours), June 22, 2023 (11.5 hours), June 26, 2023 (11.5 hours), June 27, 2023 (11.5 hours), and June 30, 2023 (10.0 hours).

## DISTRIBUTION:

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri

Chief Deputy Paul Halle

Assistant Chief Deputy Dave Danzig

Assistant Chief Deputy Dennis Komar

Colonel Paul Carey

Major Adrian Arnold

Major Dennis Garvey

Major Joe Gerretz

Major Nick Lazaris

Major Jennifer Love

Director Jennifer Crockett

Director Susan Krause

Director Tom Lancto

Director Jason Malpass

Director Michelle Posewitz

Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel

Payroll

Purchasing-Uniform Supply

Deputy Angel Santiago

DC/amr

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

**DATE:** JUNE 9, 2023

TO: DEPUTY ANGEL SANTIAGO, #60676

FROM: SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

SUBJECT: CHARGES RE: AI-23-008

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, February 3, 2023, while off 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 5.2, Loyalty.
- 2. You violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office General Order 3-1.3, Rule and Regulation 3.1, Standard of Conduct.

Synopsis: On February 3, 2023, while you were off duty, you were involved in a road rage incident. While driving eastbound on SR 580 in Safety Harbor, you noticed too late that the lane you were in merged and had to slow down to get behind the vehicle in the lane next to you. You perceived the vehicle "brake checked" you after you merged and you momentarily lost control of your vehicle, swerving into the curb lane. The driver of the other vehicle observed you "flailing" your arms around as you accelerated past him and transitioned back into the median lane in front of him before brake checking him twice. As the other driver pulled into the median turn lane, you stopped your vehicle in traffic, got out of your vehicle and approached the other driver because you were angry.

As you approached the driver's side window, you displayed your agency badge and credentials and began to yell at the other driver about the perceived brake checking. Even after the other driver denied brake checking you, and was simply slowing for traffic ahead, you continued to argue with him while standing at his window until law enforcement deputies arrived. During part of this exchange, you temporarily had possession of the other driver's cell phone when it was put in the vicinity of your face.

During your Administrative Interview, you testified that after the perceived brake check, "I just wanted to catch up to him. I wanted to just get in front of him and...just have him own up to what he did. I was pissed off." You admitted stopping your vehicle in traffic to confront the other driver was "not a smart thing to do. It's not safe." You testified when you approached the other driver your intention was to "let him have it verbally" so he could "own up" to what he did.

During the Administrative Review Board, you stated, "I let my anger get the best of me that day." You admitted, "I didn't represent the agency well that day."

You admitted to these violations.

## Disciplinary Points and Recommended Discipline Range:

You were found to be in violation of one (1) Level Five Rules and Regulations violation and one (1) Level Three Rules and Regulations violation totaling sixty-five (65) points. These points, which were affected by no modified points from previous discipline, resulted in sixty (60) progressive discipline points. At this point level, the recommended discipline range is a fifty-six (56) hours 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.

**COLONEL PAUL CAREY** 

DEPARTMENT OF DETENTION AND CORRECTIONS

FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date

Time /8:

SIGNATURE

**BG:GFK**