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

DATE:

MAY 24, 2023

TO:

DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

CAPTAIN DEANNA CAREY PNO

Professional Standards Bureau

SUBJECT: SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Deputy Daniela Martin Sanchez, #60393, will receive the following as a result of AI-23-009:

1. Forty (40) hour Suspension to be served on:

June 5, 2023 (11.5 hours), June 6, 2023 (11.5 hours), June 9, 2023 (11.5 hours) and June 10, 2023 (5.5 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 Daniela Martin Sanchez

DC/amr

PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE:

MAY 19, 2023

TO:

DEPUTY DANIELA MARTIN SANCHEZ, #60393

FROM:

SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

SUBJECT:

CHARGES RE: AI-23-009

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, November 13, 2022, 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 General Order 3-1.1, Rule and Regulation 5.4 Duties and Responsibilities.

Synopsis: On November 13, 2022, an inmate housed at the Pinellas County Jail experienced a serious medical event and was later pronounced deceased. On February 14, 2023, the Death Review Board met and reviewed the circumstances surrounding the inmate's death. The board referred the case to the Administrative Investigation Division (AID) for further investigation.

The inmate in this incident was housed in North Division because he was on Respiratory Isolation due to some medical symptoms he had experienced two days prior. At the time of the inmate's death, you were temporarily assigned to Housing Unit 4H2, conducting chow relief. During this time, the inmate pressed the intercom call button located within his cell. Once pressed, it sent a visual alert notification to a computer monitor at the officer station desk. Seconds later, the inmate experienced a fatal medical event and collapsed to the cell floor. While on the cell floor, the inmate briefly raised his arms and then ceased all movement, remaining in an unnatural position on the floor.

During the aforementioned timeframe, you were at the officers station, engaged in an animated conversation with two other members. The intercom call notification from the inmate was flashing and clearly visible on the monitor. You did not respond to the intercom call, nor did you attempt to engage with the inmate until the next well-being check was conducted approximately five minutes later.

During your Administrative Interview, you testified, "I didn't see the light flash" and could not recall what was occurring at the time that would hinder you from seeing it. However, video showed you in what was described as a non-work-related conversation, but still you denied you were distracted from your duties at the time. When asked why you did not see the notification, you stated, "...the intercom is not a priority for us to check." When asked why you did not see the inmate collapse to the floor, you testified, "I was having a conversation." You stated, "I wouldn't change anything that I did" during the incident.

During your Administrative Review Board, you admitted this conversation was distracting and influenced your lack of responsiveness to the inmate.

During this incident, you did not demonstrate an awareness of the inmates for which you were responsible for their care and custody. Your attention was focused primarily on a personal conversation and not your duties as a deputy.

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 a 40 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

SIGNATURE

BG:YMT:blb