

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

**DATE:** MARCH 28, 2018

**TO:** DISTRIBUTION

**FROM:** CAPTAIN RAY WHITELEY *RW*  
Professional Standards Bureau

**SUBJECT:** SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Deputy John Decker, #53236, will receive the following as a result of AI-17-039:

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

April 9, 10 and 13, 2018 (12 hours/day) and April 14, 2018 (4 hours/day).

**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 Lora Smith  
Lieutenant Deanna Carey  
Director Jennifer Crockett  
Director Nancy Duggan  
Director Susan Krause  
Director Jason Malpass  
Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel  
Payroll  
Purchasing-Uniform Supply  
Deputy John Decker

RW/kmm

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

**DATE:** MARCH 26, 2018  
**TO:** DEPUTY JOHN DECKER, #53236  
**FROM:** SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI  
**SUBJECT:** CHARGES RE: AI-17-039

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 August 22, 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: You engaged in the pursuit of a vehicle without any justification or facts to support that the pursuit was compliant with policy.

You acknowledged that you did not know the Sheriff's Office pursuit policy when you engaged in the pursuit. As a result, the pursuit was determined to be in direct violation of Pinellas County Sheriff's Office policy.

Specifically, you responded to a retail theft in progress. Responding deputies attempted to stop the suspect vehicle and successfully deployed a single stop stick. However, they did not initiate a pursuit.

You then initiated and engaged in pursuit of the suspect vehicle as it fled the occurred location. You advised dispatch of the pursuit, your location, speed and the road conditions. When supervision asked you to verbally verify charges, you failed to respond. You admitted you were not aware of criminal charges which would justify the pursuit. You continued to pursue the vehicle until instructed by supervision to terminate.

You acknowledged you engaged in pursuit of the vehicle which was unauthorized and in violation of policy as the vehicular pursuit did not involve a forcible felony, an imminent and/or continuous threat, or any extremely dangerous driving.

You admitted to this violation.

INS 18-0012

Disciplinary Points and Recommended Discipline Range:

You were found to be in violation of one Level Five Rule and Regulation, 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, recommended discipline range is 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.

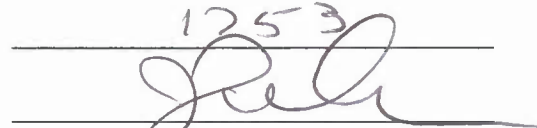


MAJOR RICHARD NALVEN  
PATROL OPERATIONS BUREAU  
FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date 3/27/18

Time 1253

  
SIGNATURE

BG:EMB:kmm