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

DATE:

AUGUST 6, 2025

TO:

DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

CAPTAIN ROBERT OSTERLAND PO

Professional Standards Bureau

SUBJECT: SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Deputy Ronald Scott, #59198, will receive the following as a result of AI 25-008:

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

August 6, 2025 (12 hours), August 7, 2025 (12 hours), August 11, 2025 (12 hours), August 12, 2025 (12 hours), and August 15, 2025 (8 hours).

DISTRIBUTION:

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri

Chief Deputy Dave Danzig

Assistant Chief Deputy Paul Carey

Assistant Chief Deputy Dennis Komar

Colonel Dennis Garvey

Major Deanna Carey

Major Greg Danzig

Major Joe Gerretz

Major Alyson Henry

Major Jennifer Love

Major Jon Tobeck

Director Jennifer Crockett

Director Susan Krause

Director Tom Lancto

Director Jason Malpass

Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel

Payroll

Purchasing-Uniform Supply

Deputy Ronald Scott

PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: JULY 30, 2025

TO: DEPUTY RONALD SCOTT, #59198

FROM: SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

SUBJECT: CHARGES RE: AI 25-008

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, June 2, 2025, 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 committed two (2) separate violations of Pinellas County Sheriff's Office General Order 3-1.1, Rules and Regulations, 5.4, Duties and Responsibilities during a single incident involving distinct actions that occurred on June 2, 2025, at different times, locations, and under separate circumstances.

While assigned as the sole supervisor for Central District Station (CDS) Patrol, Squad 2, B-Nights, you engaged in a series of actions that demonstrated poor judgment and violated agency policy.

During your shift, a deputy assigned to the City of Seminole broadcast over the radio that a traffic stop suspect had "taken off" and that he was "no longer in pursuit." In response, you started driving toward the fleeing suspect's last known location at approximately twice the posted speed limit without activating your emergency equipment.

While en route, you asked the deputy clarifying questions about the suspect's driving behavior, but failed to confirm whether the suspect was actively fleeing or if the incident met the criteria for a pursuit. The deputy confirmed that the suspect had not been driving recklessly and that he had lost sight of the vehicle and was no longer following it. Despite this, you instructed the deputy to "try and keep an eye on them, don't just let them go," a directive that violated the agency's pursuit policy.

Several minutes later, you located the vehicle stopped for a traffic light at a nearby intersection in unincorporated Pinellas County. After the vehicle started moving, you initiated a preemptive Precision Immobilization Technique (PIT), which failed to disable the vehicle. The suspect again fled; however, rather than disengaging, you accelerated your vehicle and followed the suspect, watching as it drove up on the sidewalk adjacent to the roadway to avoid vehicles already stopped at a traffic light.

Although both a sergeant and a lieutenant told you a total of three times to disengage from the fleeing vehicle, you disregarded their instructions. When asked whether the suspect's behavior prior to law enforcement contact met the agency's standard for "extremely dangerous driving," you initially answered, "based off how he's driving now, I'd say go with it." After your lieutenant clarified that the suspect was actively fleeing, you changed your response to "before [the preemptive PIT] he was kinda calm, so I'd say no on the pursuit part." You complied only after your lieutenant issued their second direct order for you to disengage.

Additionally, during your radio transmission, you made a statement indicating you wanted to notify the St. Petersburg Police Department (SPPD) that a fleeing vehicle was possibly entering their jurisdiction. This statement constitutes a violation of the agency's pursuit policy because SPPD utilizes its own computer-aided dispatch (CAD) and radio systems, separate and distinct from those used by the sheriff's office.

During your administrative interview, you admitted to using poor judgment, stating, "I got really wrapped up in this one, which made me make lots of bad judgment calls throughout this entire event."

You admitted to these violations.

Disciplinary Points and Recommended Discipline Range:

You were found to be in violation of two (2) Level Five Rules and Regulations violations totaling sixty (60) points. These points, which were affected by zero (0) points from previous discipline, resulted in sixty (60) progressive discipline points. At this point level, the recommended discipline range is from a fifty-six (56) hour 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 ALYSON HENRY

PATROL OPERATIONS BUREAU FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date

Time

Member's Signature