



**BEFORE THE KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS’  
STANDARDS AND TRAINING**

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In the Matter of	)	
	)	
<b>MICHAEL BRIDGES</b>	)	<b>Case No. 2020-0112</b>
#26131	)	
_____	)	

**SUMMARY ORDER OF REVOCATION**  
Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-537

The above-captioned matter comes on for action by the Kansas Commission on Peace Officers’ Standards and Training (Commission) through a summary proceeding under the Kansas Administrative Procedures Act, K.S.A. 77-537, regarding the law enforcement certification of MICHAEL BRIDGES (Respondent).

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

1. The Commission granted Respondent a full-time law enforcement certification, certification number 26131.
2. Respondent was employed as a full-time law enforcement officer with the Wyandotte County Sheriff’s Office (WCSO) from December 14, 2010 to December 4, 2019.
3. Respondent worked in the Court Transport division of the WCSO for approximately five years preceding his separation from the agency.

4. In September 2019, RM met with correctional staff after being convicted of a drug felony and ordered to serve her underlying sentence. During the interview, RM disclosed that her boyfriend is a deputy with the WCSO. The correctional staff confirmed the relationship through RM's intake documents and social media accounts belonging to RM and Respondent, then reported the information to the WCSO. The WCSO administration also received a report that Respondent had inappropriate contact with AM, a former inmate on probation, who Respondent met during a court transfer. As a result of these reports, WCSO opened an investigation into Respondent's relationships with RM and AM.
5. The WCSO investigation revealed that Respondent was previously in an intimate relationship with RM. RM lived at Respondent's house and was arrested numerous times throughout their relationship for drug use. Respondent and RM communicated with each other while she was incarcerated, and Respondent deposited money in RM's jail account.
6. Respondent met AM while he was on-duty in his role as a deputy for the WCSO Court Transport division. While AM was at the courthouse for a court date on a criminal case, Respondent approached AM and gave her his phone number. The WCSO and Commission investigations revealed that Respondent texted AM frequently; Respondent repeatedly requested that AM come to his house; Respondent went to AM's residence on numerous occasions, where they would kiss in his car; Respondent took AM to the Renaissance Festival and to lunch; Respondent was in AM's residence on at least one occasion; Respondent gave money to AM to pay her phone bill; Respondent would wait for AM when she had a court date every Wednesday, which made her uncomfortable; AM wanted Respondent to leave her alone, tried to hint that to her, and eventually stopped communicating with her.

7. The WCSO conducted an interview with Respondent on November 6, 2019. Throughout the interview, Respondent was intentionally evasive, misleading, and dishonest. Respondent repeatedly denied an allegation when asked but would quickly change his response when confronted with additional information or evidence. Respondent was dishonest regarding the frequency and manner of his communication with RM while she was incarcerated. Respondent initially denied that he had ever been to AM's residence; denied that he gave AM money; denied that he met AM while on-duty and at court; denied that he and AM kissed; and denied the frequency and extent of his contact with AM. However, Respondent later admitted to all these allegations, which were corroborated by an interview with AM and other supporting evidence, during a Commission interview. Respondent's deception during the WCSO interview is too extensive to enumerate but remained pervasive throughout.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

##### Unprofessional Conduct – Dishonesty in Official Communication

8. Pursuant to K.S.A. 74-5616(b)(7), the Commission may revoke the certification of any police or law enforcement officer who has engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by rules and regulations of the Commission.
9. K.A.R. 106-2-3(j)(1) defines unprofessional conduct as, except for a legitimate law enforcement purpose, intentionally using a false or deceptive statement in any official document or official communication.
10. Respondent was intentionally dishonest during the WCSO investigation into his conduct. His dishonesty was not related to a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

Unprofessional Conduct – Exploiting Position as an Officer to Establish Relationship

11. Pursuant to K.S.A. 74-5616(b)(7), the Commission may revoke the certification of any police or law enforcement officer who has engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by rules and regulations of the Commission.
12. K.A.R. 106-2-3(h) defines unprofessional conduct as exploiting or misusing the position as an officer to establish or attempt to establish a financial, social, sexual, romantic, physical, intimate, or emotional relationship.
13. Respondent used his position as a Court Transport officer to meet AM. Respondent then pursued AM, exploited his position to contact her, and made her uncomfortable.

Good Moral Character

14. Pursuant to K.S.A. 74-5616(b)(1) the Commission may revoke the certification of a police or law enforcement officer who fails to meet and maintain the requirements of K.S.A. 74-5605 or 74-5607a, and amendments thereto.
15. K.S.A. 74-5605(b)(5) states that each applicant for certification shall be of good moral character to warrant the public trust in the applicant as a police officer or law enforcement officer.
16. K.A.R. 106-2-4(a) defines good moral character as including the personal traits or qualities of integrity, honesty, upholding the laws of the state and nation, conduct that warrants the public trust, and upholding the oath required for certification as specified in K.A.R. 106-3-6.
17. Respondent's conduct shows that he lacks the personal qualities of integrity, honesty, upholding the laws of the state, conduct that warrants the public trust, and upholding the oath required for certification.

Summary Proceedings

18. Under K.S.A. 77-537, the Commission may conduct these summary proceedings, subject to Respondent's request for a hearing. The Commission finds that the use of summary proceedings in these circumstances does not violate any provisions of law and the protection of the public interest does not require the Commission to give notice and opportunity to participate to any person other than Respondent.

**ORDER**

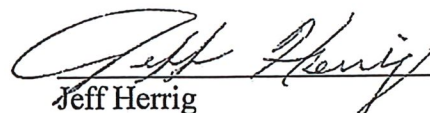
Based on the Statement of Facts and Conclusions of Law, the Commission orders that the Kansas Law Enforcement Officer Certification of MICHAEL BRIDGES be revoked.

ACCORDINGLY, THE KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING CERTIFICATE OF MICHAEL BRIDGES IS HEREBY REVOKED.

FURTHER, Respondent is ordered to surrender and return to the Commission all evidence of his certification as a law enforcement officer.

DATED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020.

KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS'  
STANDARDS AND TRAINING



Jeff Herrig  
Chair, Investigative Committee

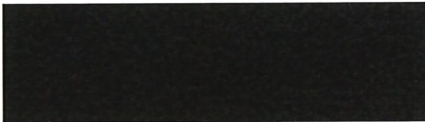
**NOTICE OF RELIEF FROM THIS SUMMARY ORDER**

Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-537, the Summary Order is subject to your request for a hearing. If you desire a hearing, you must direct a written request for a hearing to the Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training, 1999 N. Amidon, Suite 350, Wichita, Kansas 67203. This written request must be filed within fifteen (15) days from the date indicated in the Certificate of Service below. If a written request for hearing is not so made, this Summary Order becomes final and effective upon the expiration of the time for requesting a hearing.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Summary Order of Revocation was deposited in the United States mail, certified, return receipt requested, and deposited in the United States mail, first class postage prepaid, addressed to:

MICHAEL BRIDGES



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eva Smith".

Eva Smith  
Kansas Commission on Peace Officers'  
Standards and Training