

BEFORE THE KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING

1999 N. AMIDON, SUITE 350 • WICHITA, KANSAS 67203 Tel (316) 832-9906 • Fax (316) 832-9679

In the Matter of)	
AARON PLUM #29948)	Case No. 2023-0001
)	

SUMMARY ORDER OF REVOCATION

Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-537

The above-captioned matter comes on for Commission action through a summary proceeding under the Kansas Administrative Procedures Act, K.S.A. 77-537, regarding the law enforcement certification of AARON PLUM (Respondent).

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 1. The Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training (Commission) granted full-time certification to Respondent, certification number 29948.
- 2. Respondent was employed as a full-time law enforcement officer with the Kansas Highway Patrol from June 5, 2017 to December 6, 2022.
- 3. On March 12, 2022, Respondent was drinking and playing billiards at a bar. W.B. was playing pool with Respondent's friend, J.S., and was in the same vicinity as Respondent. W.B.'s jackets were on a table next to where Respondent and his friends were sitting. J.S. invited W.B. to go shoot pool with the group at another bar but W.B. declined. After the

- group left, W.B. attempted to close out his tab and discovered that his jackets, which contained his debit card, were missing.
- 4. W.B. went to the bar where J.S. invited him to determine if anyone in the group picked up his jackets by mistake. W.B. located the group and asked if anyone took his jackets. Eventually, J.S. leaned in and whispered that if someone in the group had taken the jackets, it was Respondent. W.B. confronted Respondent about taking his jackets but Respondent repeatedly denied doing so. J.S. identified Respondent's vehicle to W.B. Upon looking in Respondent's vehicle, W.B. saw his jackets on the front passenger seat. According to a witness, when confronted with this information, Respondent initially denied it was his vehicle, but finally returned W.B.'s property. Respondent told W.B. that the jackets were just lying there, he made a dumb mistake, and didn't know what he was thinking. W.B. recovered his property, which included two jackets, a cell phone, a debit card, and cigars. Upon learning that Respondent was a law enforcement officer, W.B. repeatedly asked him for his badge number but Respondent refused to provide it.
- 5. Based on the information in paragraphs three and four, Respondent was criminally charged in Shawnee County District Court, Case Number 2022-CR-893, with one count of misdemeanor criminal deprivation of property, contrary to K.S.A. 21-5803. Respondent entered a diversion agreement in the case.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Criminal Conduct

6. Pursuant to K.S.A. 74-5616(b)(5), the Commission may revoke the certification of any police or law enforcement officer who engages in conduct which, if charged as a crime, would constitute a felony crime under the laws of this state, a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence as defined in the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Act at the time the conduct occurred, or a misdemeanor crime that the Commission determines reflects on the honesty, trustworthiness, integrity or competence of the applicant as defined by rules and regulations of the Commission.

- 7. K.A.R. 106-2-2a(a)(28) states that, pursuant to K.S.A. 74-5616, and amendments thereto, an applicant or officer shall not engage in conduct, whether or not charged as a crime or resulting in a conviction, that would constitute criminal deprivation of property, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5803, and amendments thereto.
- 8. Respondent's conduct constitutes a misdemeanor crime that the Commission determines reflects on his honesty, trustworthiness, integrity, or competence as defined by rules and regulations of the Commission. Respondent's conduct constitutes criminal deprivation of property.

Good Moral Character

- 9. 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.
- 10. K.S.A. 74-5605(b)(5) states that each applicant for certification shall be of good moral character sufficient to warrant the public trust in the applicant as a police officer or law enforcement officer.
- 11. 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.
- 12. Pursuant to K.A.R. 106-2-4(b), any single incident or event may suffice to show that a licensee lacks or has failed to maintain good moral character.
- 13. Respondent's conduct shows that he has failed to maintain good moral character sufficient to warrant the public trust in him as a law enforcement officer.

Summary Proceedings

14. 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.

<u>ORDER</u>

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

ACCORDINGLY, THE KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS'
STANDARDS AND TRAINING CERTIFICATE OF AARON PLUM 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 16 day of Aug., 2023.

KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING

Jeff Hefrig

Chair, Commission Investigative Committee

If Henry

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 day of day of the above and foregoing Summary Order of Revocation was deposited in the United States mail, certified, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, and deposited in the United States mail, with tracking, postage prepaid, addressed to:

AARON PLUM

Kansas Commission on Peace Officers'

Standards and Training