

# BEFORE THE KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING

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In the Matter of

KELLY MEEHAN #32890 Case No. 2023-0053

# **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 KELLY MEEHAN (Respondent).

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 1. The Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training (Commission) granted full-time certification to Respondent, certification number 32890.
- 2. Respondent was employed as a full-time law enforcement officer with the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) from August 16, 2021, to April 21, 2023.
- 3. E.B., a civilian employee of the SCSO, confided to another employee that she had sexual relations with several SCSO deputies while they were on duty. Respondent was one of the deputies identified by E.B. The SCSO opened a professional standards investigation regarding the allegations.

- 4. Respondent was interviewed about his relationship with E.B. on January 6, 2023. During the interview, Respondent repeatedly denied having engaged in any sexual contact with E.B. Respondent stated that the last time he spoke to E.B. was on January 4, 2023. However, Respondent made statements during the interview that he should not have known unless he had spoken with E.B. about her interview, which was conducted on January 5, 2023. When confronted with this, Respondent eventually admitted that he had a conversation with E.B. just prior to coming to his interview but claimed that E.B. did not discuss her interview with him.
- 5. As Respondent's professional standards interview was ending, he stated that he would like to change his statement. Respondent then confirmed that he had been in a sexual relationship with E.B., and that some of their sexual contact occurred while he was on duty as a SCSO deputy. Respondent admitted that he lied in the interview several times before amending his statement.
- 6. The SCSO determined that Respondent gave a false statement during a professional standards investigation. Further, the District Attorney of the Eighteenth Judicial District determined that the results of the investigation uncovered discoverable impeachment information that Respondent provided false statements during an official investigation, and, as such, relevant defense counsel would be required to be notified pursuant to Brady/Giglio. The SCSO determined that the Brady/Giglio designation has resulted in Respondent being unable to provide credible testimony in a court of law.
- 7. On August 31, 2023, Commission Investigator George Brown conducted an interview with Respondent. During the interview, Respondent admitted that he and E.B. had engaged in sex while he was on duty. Respondent admitted that after receiving notice of his SCSO professional standards interview, he suspected that it may be related to E.B. and called her. According to Respondent, E.B. told him that she had been interviewed, that she told the SCSO that nothing had happened with Respondent, that she gave information about other people, and that he was "fine." Respondent admitted that he lied in the SCSO professional standards interview. However, once a private conversation between Respondent and E.B.

was described to him in the interview, Respondent said he "wasn't going to go down as a liar" and told the SCSO everything he knew about the investigation and what he had done.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

#### False Statement in Official Communication

- 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.
- K.A.R. 106-2-3(j)(1) defines unprofessional conduct as, except for a legitimate law enforcement purpose, intentionally using a false statement in any official document or official communication.
- 10. Pursuant to K.A.R. 106-2-1(g), "Official document or official communication" means information created or transferred, in any medium, in the course of performing the duties of an officer required by law or by policies or procedures of an appointing authority or in response to an internal or criminal investigation conducted by a law enforcement agency or training school.
- 11. Respondent was repeatedly and intentionally dishonest during an internal investigation conducted by a law enforcement agency. Respondent only began telling the truth during the SCSO professional standards investigation once he was confronted with information that he believed only he and E.B. would know. Respondent's dishonesty was not in furtherance of a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

#### Good Moral Character

 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.

- 13. 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.
- 14. 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.
- 15. 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.
- 16. 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

17. 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 above Statement of Facts and Conclusions of Law, the Commission orders , that the Kansas Law Enforcement Officer Certification of KELLY MEEHAN be revoked.

ACCORDINGLY, THE KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING CERTIFICATE OF KELLY MEEHAN 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 15 day of November, 2023.

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KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING

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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 15th day of November, 2023, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Summary Order of Revocation was deposited in the United States mail, with tracking, postage prepaid, addressed to:

KELLY MEEHAN

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Rose Kelley

Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training