



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

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In the Matter of )  
 )  
**DAKOTA FREEMAN** )  
 #31392 )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

**Case No. 2023-0141**

**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 DAKOTA FREEMAN (Respondent).

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

1. The Kansas Commission on Peace Officers’ Standards and Training (Commission) granted full-time certification to Respondent, certification number 31392.
2. Respondent was employed as a full-time law enforcement officer with the Ottawa Police Department (OPD) from July 15, 2019, to October 18, 2023.
3. Respondent was involved in several off-duty incidents in which the Spring Hill Police Department (SHPD) responded, prompting the OPD to open an investigation into his conduct.
4. On September 1, 2023, Respondent’s neighbor, A.B., fled in her vehicle during the attempted repossession of the vehicle, possibly battering a tow truck driver in the process.

The SHPD investigated. Respondent informed the SHPD officer that he told A.B. not to return to the scene. At the request of the SHPD officer, Respondent later called A.B. and she spoke with the officer. The statements in which Respondent repeatedly told the SHPD officer that he initially instructed A.B. not to come back were recorded on the officer's bodycam. However, during the OPD investigation, Respondent submitted a written statement on October 10, 2023, that said, "I never told any party not to return to the scene." During an OPD interview on October 13, Respondent then stated that he told A.B. not to bring the vehicle back but never told her that she should not come back. Respondent's statements on October 10 and 13 contradict his statements to the SHPD officer on September 1.

5. The OPD determined that Respondent committed multiple additional policy violations, including: assisting A.B. in concealing her vehicle while the lienholder was attempting to repossess it and knowingly driving it with an expired tag; following a reckless driver while off-duty and arriving at a residence where an overdose was taking place wherein his passenger, A.B., caused a scene with the SHPD officers who were investigating; becoming "blackout" drunk at a bar to the extent he did not remember being battered; and being confrontational with a SHPD officer on a call regarding an ATV that did not concern him.
6. In an interview with Commission Investigator Michael Oliver on December 12, 2023, Respondent denied telling A.B. not to return to the scene on September 1, 2023.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

#### False Statement in Official Communication

7. 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.
8. 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.

9. 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.
10. Respondent repeatedly told the SHPD on September 1, 2023, that he told A.B. not to return to the scene. However, Respondent later denied doing so in the OPD internal investigation. Respondent’s dishonesty was not in furtherance of a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

False Statement in Commission Investigation

11. Pursuant to K.S.A. 74-5616(b)(3), the Commission may revoke the certification of a police or law enforcement officer who provides false information or otherwise fails to cooperate in a Commission investigation to determine a person’s continued suitability for law enforcement certification.
12. Respondent provided false information in a Commission investigation when denying that he told A.B. not to come back. His assertion is directly contradicted by his statements to the SHPD responding officer on September 1, 2023.

Good Moral Character

13. 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.
14. 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.
15. 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.

16. 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.
17. 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

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**

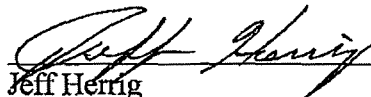
Based on the above Statement of Facts and Conclusions of Law, the Commission orders that the Kansas Law Enforcement Officer Certification of DAKOTA FREEMAN be revoked.

ACCORDINGLY, THE KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING CERTIFICATE OF DAKOTA FREEMAN 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 day of Feb, 2024.

KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS'  
STANDARDS AND TRAINING

  
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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 February, 2024, 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:

DAKOTA FREEMAN



  
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Staff  
Kansas Commission on Peace Officers'  
Standards and Training