

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

DATE: AUGUST 13, 2020

TO: DISTRIBUTION

FROM: CAPTAIN RAY WHITELEY ^{RW}
Professional Standards Bureau

SUBJECT: SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Deputy Zoe Gambel, #59482, will receive the following as a result of AI-20-009:

1. Forty (40) hours Suspension, reduced by Education Based Discipline (Review of General Order 15-2), is amended to an eight (8) hours Suspension to be served on:

August 18, 2020.

DISTRIBUTION:

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
Chief Deputy Dan Simovich
Assistant Chief Deputy Paul Halle
Assistant Chief Deputy George Steffen
Colonel Sean McGillen
Major Stefanie Campbell
Major Paul Carey
Major Dave Danzig
Major Bill Hagans
Major Dennis Komar
Lieutenant Deanna Carey
Director Jennifer Crockett
Director Nancy Duggan
Director Susan Krause
Director Jason Malpass
Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel
Payroll
Purchasing-Uniform Supply
Deputy Zoe Gambel

RW/kmm

**PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: AUGUST 7, 2020

TO: DEPUTY ZOE GAMBEL, #59482

FROM: SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

SUBJECT: CHARGES RE: AI-20-009

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, February 23, 2020, 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 violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office General Order 3-1.1, Rule and Regulation 5.4, Duties and Responsibilities.

Synopsis: You engaged in the pursuit of a vehicle which violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Policy.

While on duty and patrolling within the City of North Redington Beach, you observed a vehicle with a non-functioning license plate light. You attempted to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle near 171 Avenue and Gulf Boulevard, reference the infraction.

The vehicle made a U-turn and quickly accelerated. It was at this time you engaged in pursuit of the vehicle which drove recklessly by weaving in and out of traffic, passing vehicles in the shared center turn lane, and eventually travelling into lanes of oncoming traffic.

The suspect vehicle exhibited this driving behavior as it continued southbound through the City of Redington Beach, into the City of Madeira Beach, and east over the Tom Stuart Causeway. You continued to pursue the suspect vehicle until reaching the intersection of Gulf Boulevard and Madeira Way.

Throughout much of this incident you drove in the shared center turn lane at high rates of speed, through areas of heavy vehicular traffic, passing multiple southbound vehicles. Your highest documented speed was 97 miles-per-hour on Gulf Boulevard, which is a posted at 35 miles-per-hour zone. Your spotlight was turned on and either aimed toward opposing traffic, or the suspect vehicle, during the pursuit.

This pursuit lasted 1 minute and 38 seconds and covered 2 miles. Your siren was activated for 46 seconds of that time. During this incident, you were told twice by supervision to discontinue your pursuit, however, you did not terminate the pursuit until you received a phone call from a co-worker, who believed your pursuit did not comply with policy.

This incident was video and audio recorded by the vehicles digital recorder.

You acknowledged that your pursuit of this vehicle was unauthorized and not permitted by policy, as it did not involve a forcible felony, an imminent and/or continuous threat to a person's safety or extremely dangerous driving.

You admitted to this violation.

Disciplinary Points and Recommended Discipline Range:

You were found to be in violation of one (1) Level Five Rules and Regulations violation totaling fifty (50) points. These points, which were affected by no modified points from previous discipline, resulted in fifty (50) progressive discipline points. At this point level, the recommended discipline range is from five (5) days 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 DENNIS KOMAR
PATROL OPERATIONS BUREAU
FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date AUG 12, 2020

Time 1655

Zi W. Deputy
SIGNATURE