

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

DATE: OCTOBER 8, 2021
TO: DISTRIBUTION
FROM: CAPTAIN DEANNA CAREY *Lt. [Signature] #56037*
Professional Standards Bureau *For Captain Carey*
SUBJECT: SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Deputy Dakota Dellechiaie, #60126, will receive the following as a result of AI-21-006:

1. Forty (40) hours Suspension to be served on:

October 20, 2021 (12 hours), October 21, 2021 (12 hours), October 25, 2021 (12 hours) and October 26, 2021 (4 hours).

DISTRIBUTION:

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
Chief Deputy George Steffen
Assistant Chief Deputy Dave Danzig
Assistant Chief Deputy Paul Halle
Colonel Paul Carey
Major Adrian Arnold
Major Dennis Garvey
Major Dennis Komar
Major Jennifer Love
Major Jesse Napier
Director Jennifer Crockett
Director Nancy Duggan
Director Susan Krause
Director Jason Malpass
Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel
Payroll
Purchasing-Uniform Supply
Deputy Dakota Dellechiaie

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

DATE: OCTOBER 1, 2021

TO: DEPUTY DAKOTA DELLECHIAIE, #60126

FROM: SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

SUBJECT: CHARGES RE: AI-21-006

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 22, 2021, 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 that violated Pinellas County Sheriff's Office policy.

While on-duty and patrolling in the unincorporated area of Clearwater, you were traveling southbound on U.S. Highway 19 North when you observed a vehicle that appeared to be travelling in excess of the speed limit. The vehicle accelerated away from you before you attempted a traffic stop, so you began to follow the vehicle which was traveling at a significant distance in front of you. You continued to follow the vehicle in excess of the posted speed limit of 55 miles per hour while traveling southbound on US Highway 19 North.

You made a radio transmission notifying dispatch of the vehicle and stated the vehicle was possibly travelling in excess of 100 miles per hour. As you were attempting to catch up the vehicle, you passed several civilian motorists at speeds up to 132 miles per hour while only activating your emergency equipment once for a brief time. During this timeframe, you advised dispatch you had the vehicle "paced at 120, still pulling away."

The driver of the vehicle took further evasive action by exiting onto Frontage Road and then merging onto northbound US Highway 19 North after making a u-turn at Belleair Road. You continued northbound while exiting and re-entering US Highway 19 North until reaching Sunset Point Road. Your speeds while on Frontage Road exceeded 100 miles per hour, while the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour. This included going through a red light at Drew Street at a high rate of speed without emergency equipment and without attempting to clear the intersection prior to proceeding through it.

You continued to pursue the vehicle eastbound on Sunset Point Road while reaching speeds of at least 102 miles per hour without any emergency equipment activated. The vehicle then proceeded northbound through the intersection of Sunset Point Road and McMullen Booth Road without stopping for the red traffic signal.

As you approached McMullen Booth Road and State Road 580, you activated your emergency lights while behind the suspect vehicle in an attempt to effect a traffic stop. Prior to activating your emergency equipment for the attempted traffic stop, your in-car video indicated you were traveling 130 miles per hour. The vehicle failed to stop and you then advised on the radio you had fleeing charges.

You continued to follow the vehicle eastbound on State Road 580 into Hillsborough County. While driving towards Hillsborough County, your speeds exceeded 100 miles per hour at times, though you no longer had a visual of the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle turned off all of the vehicle's lights and operated in this manner numerous times with other civilian motorists on the roadway for a significant portion of this incident.

During your Administrative Interview, you testified the only charges you had on the driver were speeding and fleeing and eluding and acknowledged a pursuit of this vehicle for the aforementioned charges was not in compliance with policy. You also testified that these actions were dangerous for other motorists on the roadway. You stated you were "not thinking logically" during this incident.

During your Administrative Review Board, you admitted your presence behind the suspect vehicle was likely the cause of the suspect's excessive speeds and your continued pursuit of the vehicle put not only yourself in danger, but other motorists. You stated, "I have no justification for it."

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.

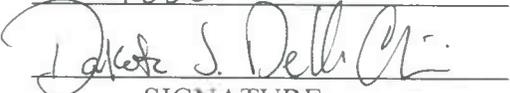


MAJOR DENNIS KOMAR
PATROL OPERATIONS BUREAU
FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date 10/06/2021

Time 1830


SIGNATURE

BG:MLJ:kmm