


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

**DATE:** MAY 2, 2023

**TO:** DISTRIBUTION

**FROM:** CAPTAIN DEANNA CAREY   
Professional Standards Bureau

**SUBJECT:** SHERIFF'S FINDING

Per Sheriff Gualtieri, Deputy Nicholas Sweeney, #57122, will receive the following as a result of AI-23-005:

1. Forty (40) hour Suspension to be served on:  
May 10, 2023 (11.5 hours), May 11, 2023 (11.5 hours), May 15, 2023 (11.5 hours), and May 16, 2023 (5.5 hours).
2. Restitution payment of \$2,176.11 for replacement of the fire alarm panel.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri  
Chief Deputy Paul Halle  
Assistant Chief Deputy Dave Danzig  
Assistant Chief Deputy Dennis Komar  
Colonel Paul Carey  
Major Adrian Arnold  
Major Dennis Garvey  
Major Joe Gerretz  
Major Nick Lazaris  
Major Jennifer Love  
Director Jennifer Crockett  
Director Susan Krause  
Director Tom Lancto  
Director Jason Malpass  
Director Michelle Posewitz  
Shannon Lockheart, General Counsel  
Payroll  
Purchasing-Uniform Supply  
Deputy Nicholas Sweeney

DC/amr

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

**DATE:** APRIL 28, 2023  
**TO:** DEPUTY NICHOLAS SWEENEY, #57122  
**FROM:** SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI  
**SUBJECT:** CHARGES RE: AI-23-005

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, January 19, 2023, 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, Rule and Regulation 5.5, Obedience to Laws and Ordinances.

Synopsis: On January 19, 2023, while on duty as a deputy at the Pinellas County Jail, you were assigned to the Intake Control post. On this same date, Facility Operations was escorting a Sprinklermatic contractor throughout Central Division for the purposes of fire sprinkler repair and testing. The repairs and testing subsequently caused the fire alarm panel to sound in Intake Control.

Supervision was aware that you would get "irritated" when the fire alarm sounds; therefore, you were offered a break from the control room. You declined the offer to take a break.

When Facility Operations and the contractor went to Intake Control to inform you they had approximately an hour left to complete repairs and testing, you stated to them "...the noise needed to stop or I'll rip it off the wall." You testified you made that statement in a jovial and joking manner at the time. Facility Operations and the contractor exited the control room and approximately 22 minutes later you struck the fire alarm control panel with your right palm out of frustration. The fire alarm panel sustained damage to the display screen as a result of your actions, rendering the screen unreadable.

The cost to repair the panel was estimated at \$2,176.11. The resulting damage prevents staff from being able to ascertain the location of the fire alarm. The only way to determine the location of a fire emergency, or simulated drill, is to consult the secondary panel on the

fifth floor. This location is not a staffed post, resulting in a significantly delayed response in the event of an actual emergency.


During the Administrative Review Board you stated, "I can't undo what occurred in a moment of frustration, but I can take full responsibility and pledge it will never happen again."

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 Regulation 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 a forty (40) hour 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.

  
COLONEL PAUL CAREY  
DEPARTMENT OF DETENTION AND CORRECTIONS  
FOR BOB GUALTIERI, SHERIFF

I have received a copy:

Date 5/2/2023

Time 1340

  
SIGNATURE

BG:PEH:blb