

BEFORE THE KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING

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In the Matter of

ANTHONY REYES #23320 Case No. 2024-006

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 ANTHONY REYES (Respondent).

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 1. The Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training (Commission) granted full-time certification to Respondent, certification number 23320.
- 2. Respondent was employed as a full-time law enforcement officer with the Tonganoxie Police Department (TPD) from March 14, 2021 to January 22, 2024.
- 3. In December of 2023, a local radio station donated gifts cards to TPD. TPD created a holiday initiative where an officer giving a warning for a traffic infraction could also give the driver a gift card. Officer participation was voluntary, and instructions were emailed to all officers. The instructions included a requirement that the encounter be captured on body camera for auditing and accounting purposes. Respondent initially declined to participate in the program but later requested several gift cards. Body camera footage was periodically reviewed of the gift card encounters.

- 4. On December 2, 2023, TPD reviewed footage involving a gift card Respondent had given away. The encounter involved Respondent giving away a gift card and issuing a warning to T.M. T.M. is an employee of a convenience store Respondent frequents and is a friend of his. The footage showed the "stop" occurring in the parking lot behind the convenience store. The "stop" appeared staged; Respondent's vehicle has no lights activated, T.M.'s vehicle wasn't running and she appeared to be outside of her vehicle, Respondent points to her vehicle as if directing T.M. to get into the vehicle, T.M. states she doesn't have her keys or driver's license, that they are inside the business. The footage also captures T.M.'s coworker stating, "you could have at least turned the lights on" as Respondent motions her to "be quiet" by placing his index finger to his lips.
- 5. In addition to T.M., it was also discovered Respondent had made stops and had given gift cards to two other employees of the convenience store that were friends of his.
- 6. Based upon the information above, an in-person Commission interview was necessary to determine Respondent's continued suitability for law enforcement certification. Commission investigator George Brown interviewed Respondent on August 9, 2024. During the interview Respondent was dishonest with Investigator Brown. Respondent told Investigator Brown he was ordered by the Chief to give away three gift cards, however, participation in the program was voluntary.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Unprofessional Conduct

- 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(e) defines unprofessional conduct as taking, threatening to take, or failing to take action as an officer if the action is or reasonably would appear motivated by a familial, financial, social, sexual, romantic, physical, intimate, or emotional relationship.
- Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct when he initiated traffic stops involving vehicles driven by friends and giving them donated gift cards.
 False Statement in Commission Investigation
- 10. Pursuant to KS.A. 74-5616(b)(3), the Commission may revoke the certification of any 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.

11. Respondent provided false information in a Commission interview that was conducted to aid in a determination of his continued suitability for law enforcement certification. Respondent told Investigator Brown he had been ordered to give away three gift cards when participation in the holiday gift card program was voluntary.

Good Moral Character

- 12. 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 ANTHONY REYES be revoked.

ACCORDINGLY, THE KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING CERTIFICATE OF ANTHONY REYES 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 Fannary, 2025.

KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING

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.

4

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that on the <u>5</u> day of <u>6</u>, 2025, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Summary Order of Revocation was deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid, with tracking, addressed to:

ANTHONY REYES

Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training