



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

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In the Matter of )  
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**STEPHEN MATTICE** )  
 #22465 )  
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**Case No. 2023-0016**

**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 STEPHEN MATTICE (Respondent).

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

1. The Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training (Commission) granted full-time law enforcement certification to Respondent, certification number 22465.
2. Respondent began law enforcement employment in Kansas in 2006. He was employed as a full-time law enforcement officer with the Argonia Police Department from May 26, 2020 to October 6, 2020.
3. On September 14, 2020, Respondent called 911 and requested that law enforcement stop his ex-wife, N.M. Respondent reported that he would like to file a charge of domestic battery on N.M. and identified her vehicle as a weapon used against him.

4. Officer Walter, from the Harper Police Department, responded to Respondent's location and took his report. Respondent stated that while N.M. was picking up their children from his residence, Respondent was trying to give instructions to one of the children, W.M., who was seated in N.M.'s vehicle. Respondent claimed that N.M. reached over, grabbed the door, and pulled it shut, which wedged him in between the door and the vehicle as N.M. drove away quickly. When Respondent described the incident to Officer Walter, he made it sound as though he was dragged by the vehicle.
5. Officer Walter contacted N.M. regarding Respondent's allegations. N.M. had recorded a video of the incident on her phone. Once W.M. was inside the vehicle, Respondent stood in front of the vehicle door, blocking it from being shut. N.M. repeatedly told Respondent to "move." He did not do so. Respondent, in an agitated voice, said, "I'm calling the police, I need a civil standby!" N.M. slowly drove the vehicle away and shut the vehicle door. W.M. asked, bewildered, "Why is he so mad at us?" N.M. reported to Officer Walter that she believed Respondent was attempting to stop her from leaving, so she closed the door and drove away to avoid further confrontation.
6. Officer Walter recontacted Respondent due to the discrepancies between his initial report and the video of the incident. Respondent admitted that he was not dragged by N.M.'s vehicle but continued to claim that she drove off very quickly. Officer Walter explained to Respondent that the video clearly showed N.M. pulling away at a very slow speed. Respondent said that he did not move after N.M. repeatedly told him to because he wanted to tell the children about what they needed to do regarding cleaning and their laundry. When told that N.M. felt that Respondent was preventing her from leaving, Respondent stated that he did not want to make it a "big deal" and that he did not want to file charges. Officer Walter observed that Respondent's account of the event and his report to 911 did not match the video taken by N.M. Therefore, Officer Walter indicated in his report that it appeared that Respondent attempted to falsify his story in an attempt to get charges brought against N.M.

7. Based on the information in paragraphs three through six, Respondent was criminally charged in the Harper County District Court, Case Number 2020-CR-98, with one count of interference with law enforcement, contrary to K.S.A. 21-5904. Respondent entered a plea agreement in the case in which he entered a plea and was found guilty on an amended count of disorderly conduct, contrary to K.S.A. 21-6203.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

### Criminal Conduct

8. Pursuant to K.S.A. 74-5616(b)(5), the Commission may revoke the certification of any police or law enforcement officer who engages in conduct which, if charged as a crime, would constitute a felony crime under the laws of this state, a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence as defined in the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Act at the time the conduct occurred, or a misdemeanor crime that the Commission determines reflects on the honesty, trustworthiness, integrity or competence of the applicant as defined by rules and regulations of the Commission.
9. K.A.R. 106-2-2a(a)(35) states that, pursuant to K.S.A. 74-5616, and amendments thereto, an applicant or officer shall not engage in conduct, whether or not charged as a crime or resulting in a conviction, that would constitute interference with law enforcement, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5904, and amendments thereto.
10. K.A.R. 106-2-2a(a)(50) states that, pursuant to K.S.A. 74-5616, and amendments thereto, an applicant or officer shall not engage in conduct, whether or not charged as a crime or resulting in a conviction, that would constitute disorderly conduct, as defined in K.S.A. 21-6203, and amendments thereto.
11. Respondent's conduct constitutes a misdemeanor crime that the Commission determines reflects on his honesty, trustworthiness, integrity, or competence as defined by rules and regulations of the Commission. Respondent's conduct constitutes interference with law enforcement. In the alternative, his conduct constitutes disorderly conduct.

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**

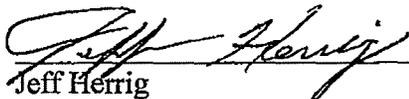
Based on the above Statement of Facts and Conclusions of Law, the Commission orders that the Kansas Law Enforcement Officer Certification of STEPHEN MATTICE be revoked.

ACCORDINGLY, THE KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING CERTIFICATE OF STEPHEN MATTICE 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 16 day of Aug., 2023.

KANSAS COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICERS'  
STANDARDS AND TRAINING

  
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Jeff Herrig  
Chair, Commission Investigative Committee

**NOTICE OF RELIEF FROM THIS SUMMARY ORDER**

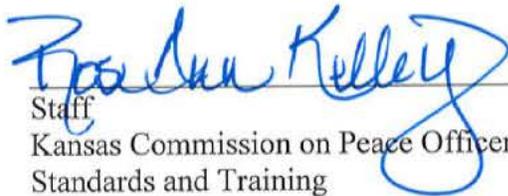
Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-537, the Summary Order is subject to your request for a hearing. If you desire a hearing, you must direct a written request for a hearing to the Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training, 1999 N. Amidon, Suite 350, Wichita, Kansas 67203. This written request must 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 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Summary Order of Revocation was deposited in the United States mail, certified, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, and deposited in the United States mail, with tracking, postage prepaid, addressed to:

STEPHEN MATTICE



  
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Staff  
Kansas Commission on Peace Officers'  
Standards and Training

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2023, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Summary Order of Revocation was deposited in the United States mail, certified, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, and deposited in the United States mail, with tracking, postage prepaid, addressed to:

STEPHEN MATTICE



Rose Ann Kelley  
Staff  
Kansas Commission on Peace Officers'  
Standards and Training