**Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training**
Peace Officer Standards Accountability Division
860 Stillwater Road, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95605
www.post.ca.gov

# NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

**CASE NO.:** POST2404847

**POST ID:** B20-H01

**SUBJECT OFFICER:** Ricardo Oliveros

**EMPLOYING AGENCY:** San Bernardino County Human Services Department

**POST INVESTIGATOR: Victor Martin – Law Enforcement Consultant**

**NOD DATE OF ISSUANCE: 10/28/2025**

**ALLEGED MISCONDUCT:** Penal Code § 13510.8(b)(1) / 11 CCR § 1205(a)(1) – Dishonesty.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In August 2019, San Bernardino County Human Services Department ("SBCHSD") fraud investigator Ricardo Oliveros (hereinafter "Respondent') was assigned to investigate a female welfare recipient (hereinafter "Suspect") with regard to possible welfare fraud. The Suspect had allegedly failed to disclose employment income from McDonald's and had received welfare overpayments of $22,436.

On September 19, 2019, Respondent met with the Suspect at her unreported place of employment, McDonald's, and interviewed her for less than 30 minutes. Through their meeting, Respondent had become aware that the Suspect had committed felonious welfare fraud, was in the United States illegally, and was therefore vulnerable. Immediately following the interview, Respondent drove from the McDonald's to the Ontario Airport Quality Inn. Hotel records showed a "Richard Olives" registered at the hotel on that day. The administrative investigation was unable to determine if the hotel guest and Respondent were one in the same. Respondent stayed at the hotel for less than one hour. Within that same time frame, the Suspect requested her welfare benefits be discontinued via a County kiosk.

On the following days, September 20th through September 21st, 2019, instead of pursuing criminal charges against the Suspect, Respondent texted the Suspect from his personal cellphone, claimed he was her friend and told her he would close the investigation against her. The Respondent further texted he thought she was pretty, he liked her body and thought she had nice curves. Respondent requested to exchange "photos" with the Suspect, which she declined.

To conceal his September 19, 2019, meeting with the Suspect, Respondent falsified the case notes in the investigation and cited "*insufficient evidence*" with the Suspect's "*whereabouts unknown*." Respondent then submitted the closed case to his supervisor for approval.
On September 23, 2019, Respondent's supervisor reviewed the closed criminal investigation and directed Respondent to re-open it and continue to attempt to meet with the Suspect. With the

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knowledge he could not list the actual date he met with the Suspect, and to conceal his misconduct, Respondent drafted a new criminal report. Respondent fraudulently wrote he met with the Suspect on January 7, 2020, at which time she admitted to the unreported income from the McDonald's restaurant. The falsified meeting date was almost four (4) months after the actual date of September 19, 2019, when Respondent met with the Suspect. Respondent submitted the new falsified criminal report to the San Bernardino District Attorney's Office, which resulted in the Suspect's arrest.

On April 13, 2021, the Suspect submitted a verbal complaint to the Program Integrity Division of SBCHSD against Respondent and cited his attempt to foster an inappropriate relationship. Subsequently, an administrative investigation was initiated into Respondent's alleged misconduct. On May 25, 2021, after learning he was under administrative investigation, Respondent resigned from SBCHSD prior to the completion of the administrative investigation.

On June 11, 2024, SBCHSD reported allegations of serious misconduct against Respondent to POST pursuant to Penal Code § 13510.9. The allegations reported were a sustained violation of Penal Code § 13510.8(b)(1) – Dishonesty.

Based on review of the administrative investigation, digital images of text messages between Respondent and the Suspect, interviews of the Suspect and witnesses, and global positioning system (GPS) data from Respondent's county vehicle, the Division has determined that clear and convincing evidence exists that Respondent committed serious misconduct in violation of California Penal Code § 13510.8(b)(1) – Dishonesty.

## ANALYSIS/FINDINGS:

**1. The alleged misconduct violated Penal Code § 13510.8(b)(1) and Title 11, California Code of Regulations § 1205(a)(1) – Dishonesty.**

*PC § 13510.8(b)(1) and Commission Regulation § 1205(a)(1) define as serious misconduct "Dishonesty relating to the reporting, investigation, or prosecution of a crime, or relating to the reporting of, or investigation of misconduct by, a peace officer or custodial officer, including, but not limited to, false statements, intentionally filing false reports, tampering with, falsifying, destroying, or concealing evidence, perjury, and tampering with data recorded by a body-worn camera or other recording device for purposes of concealing misconduct."*

*Commission Regulation § 1205(a)(1) further specifies that "[f]or purposes of this subsection, in considering whether a suspension or revocation of certification is proper, the Commission will consider the extent to which the dishonesty related to a material or*

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*significant fact in the context of the statement or omission alleged to be dishonest, and will also consider whether the dishonesty appears to have been done willfully or intentionally, with the intent to deceive."*

As discussed above, on September 19, 2019, Respondent met with the Suspect at McDonald's to conduct an investigation into possible welfare fraud. Respondent learned that the Suspect had been working at McDonald's since 2010, had used two fraudulent social security numbers, had obtained CalFresh and CalWorks payments since September 2015 and had failed to disclose her McDonalds' income during that time. As a result, the Suspect fraudulently received $11,648 overpayment of Cash Aid and $10,788 overpayment of Food Stamp benefits, which would constitute a felony.

Instead of diligently completing his investigation and pursuing criminal charges after his September 19, 2019, interview of the Suspect, Respondent almost immediately attempted to initiate an inappropriate relationship with the Suspect. Respondent contacted the Suspect with his personal cell phone, told her he would close out the investigation against her, that she was pretty and liked her curves, and asked her to exchange photos. The Suspect declined Respondent's request for photos. In an attempt to conceal his misconduct, Respondent changed the status of the investigation from "*In-progress*" to "*Completed*" and listed the investigative result as "*Insufficient Evidence*" with the Suspect's "*Whereabouts Unknown*."

On September 23, 2025, Respondent's supervisor rejected the case's closure and directed Respondent to conduct further investigation. With the knowledge that he could not list the actual date he met with the Suspect, and in an attempt to conceal his earlier misconduct, Respondent intentionally falsified portions of his crime report by falsifying the date he met with and interviewed the Suspect by nearly four (4) months. Respondent was dishonest when he wrote, "*On 01/07/2020, I contacted the Suspect at her workplace* (McDonald's restaurant), *and spoke with her. The Suspect admitted to not reporting she was working and earning income from the McDonald's restaurant*."

Here, the Respondent committed multiple acts of dishonesty relating to the investigation of a crime. Respondent's act of submitting his criminal investigation to his supervisor as complete and noting that there was insufficient evidence because the Suspect's whereabouts were unknown was knowingly false. In fact, Respondent had met with the Suspect and had sufficient evidence to move the criminal case forward. He chose, instead, to be dishonest in order to attempt to pursue an inappropriate relationship with the Suspect. Also, after being directed to continue his investigation, Respondent lied in his crime report under the section "*Suspect*

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*Statements*," by falsifying the date and time he contacted the Suspect at the McDonald's restaurant. The Respondent fraudulently listed, "*01/07/2020, at 1:28 pm*", when he had actually met with the Suspect on September 19, 2019. Respondent knew that he could not list the actual date and time he met with the Suspect, because then his supervisor would have found out that he was untruthful in his earlier reporting of his investigation. The Division has therefore determined that Respondent falsified his report in an effort to conceal his misconduct.

## FINDINGS

As set forth above, Respondent was dishonest in the investigation and reporting of a crime. The Peace Officer Standards Accountability Division has determined that clear and convincing evidence exists to seek suspension or revocation of Respondent's certifications in this case.