AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Title: POST2305110 - BRIAN KAWAMOTO (POST ID: C34-D38)
**LAST EMPLOYING AGENCY: TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT **

REPORT PROFILE

MEETING DATE	**BUREAU SUBMITTING THE REPORT**
09/09/2025	Professional Conduct Los Angeles Bureau

RESEARCHED BY	**REVIEWED BY**
Robert Bringolf	Mike Radford

REPORT DATE	**APPROVED BY**	**DATE APPROVED**

PURPOSE	**FINANCIAL IMPACT**
	No

ISSUE, BACKGROUND, ANALYSIS, & RECOMMENDATION

ISSUE:

The matter is before the Commission for review and action regarding the subject peace officer's certification status. The Commission shall return any determination requiring action to be taken against an individual's certification to the Peace Officer Standards Accountability Division (Division), which shall initiate proceedings for a formal hearing before an administrative law judge in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code), which shall be subject to judicial review as set forth in that Act.

BACKGROUND:

Respondent Brian Kawamoto began his employment with Torrance Police Department (TPD) on November 17, 2014, as a full-time Police Officer. At the time of the events at issue, Respondent was employed as a Police Officer with the TPD. Respondent was discharged from his position with TPD on October 4, 2022. The Respondent is not currently employed as a peace officer in the State of California.

This position is a peace officer position defined under California Penal Code §830.1(a) and is required to be certified pursuant to California Penal Code §13510.1(a). The case before the Commission alleges the Respondent, on five separate occasions, either sent or replied to text messages which were deemed as demonstrating bias as defined in Commission Regulation 1205(a)(5).

ANALYSIS:

The Division found that the clear and convincing evidence substantiated that Respondent's conduct amounted to demonstrating bias as described in Commission Regulation 1205(a)(5), in that on five separate occasions, Respondent either sent or replied to text messages, which are inconsistent with Respondent's obligation to carry out his duties in a fair and unbiased manner. The Division finds all of the messages were examples of the Respondent's repetitive misconduct which confirms the Respondent violated TPD's policies on several occasions relating to inappropriate speech and unprofessional conduct. In addition to violating the Department's policies with regard to prohibited speech, expression, and conduct, clear and convincing evidence exists that Respondent violated California Penal Code section 13510.8(b)(5) and Commission Regulation 1205(a)(5) - Demonstration of Bias.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Commission shall review recommendations made by the Peace Officer Standards Accountability Advisory Board (POSAAB) regarding, what action if any, should be taken, suspension or revocation, on the certification of the subject peace officer. The Commission's decision to adopt a recommendation by POSAAB to seek revocation shall require a two-thirds vote of Commissioners present and shall be based on whether the record, in its entirety, supports POSAAB's conclusion that serious misconduct has been established by clear and convincing evidence. In any case in which the Commission reaches a different determination than POSAAB's recommendation, it shall set forth its analysis and reasons for reaching a different determination in writing.

ATTACHMENT(S):

BR01_POST2305110_Kawamoto_Brian_ISF.pdf
BR02_POST2305110_Kawamoto_Brian_Attachment_A_ExecReviewDivisionRec (1).pdf
BR03_POST2305110_Kawamoto_Brian_Attachment_B_POSTProfile (1).pdf
BR04_POST2305110_Kawamoto_Brian_Attachment_C_Termination Letter.pdf
BR05_POST2305110_Kawamoto_Brian_Attachment_D_TranscriptExcerpts.pdf
BR06_POST2305110_Kawamoto_Brian_Attachment_E_TextMessages.pdf
BR07_POST2305110_Kawamoto_Brian_Attachment_F_TorrancePolicies.pdf
POST2305110_Kawamoto_Brian_July_2025_POSAAB_Agenda_Record.pdf.pdf
POST2305110_Kawamoto_Brian_Board_Recommendation_Signed.pdf
POST2305110_Kawamoto_Brian_Transcript_Board_07.16.25.pdf