Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training
860 Stillwater Road, Suite 100, West Sacramento, CA 95605-1603
(916) 227-3909 • www.post.ca.gov

EXECUTIVE REVIEW & PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS ACCOUNTABILITY DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

DATE: April 30, 2025

CASE #: POST2306324

PEACE OFFICER: Luke Walden

POST ID#: A95 - T18

AGENCY: Los Angeles Police Department

POST CONSULTANT / BC: William Imboden / Mike Radford

ALLEGATION(S):

Commission Regulation 1205(a)(1) Dishonesty

Commission Regulation 1205 (a)(6) Acts that Violate the Law

January 2021, through March 2021, Respondent Officer, Detective Luke Walden, while on-duty, accessed the internet using computers owned by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to research threaded barrels for firearms, firearm silencers, and noise suppressors commonly sold as "oil filters". On March 17, 2021, Respondent, made an online purchase of a purported automotive oil filter from a company in China, listing his home address as the mailing address.

In April 2021, the package was intercepted by Custom and Border Protection and an investigation was conducted by Homeland Security Investigations when it was discovered that the package contained a silencer.

In November 2022, Respondent was arrested for attempted possession of a silencer under Penal Code section 33410F, a felony, and held to answer at a preliminary hearing in Los Angeles County. In September 2023, Respondent pled no contest to the crime of attempting to possess an assault weapon under Penal Code section 30605(a), a Misdemeanor, and was sentenced to one day in county jail and fines.

During the course of the administrative investigation conducted by LAPD, Respondent denied he was trying to purchase a firearm silencer and stated he was merely trying to purchase a high-end oil filter for an early 1980's Toyota Celica he was restoring.

In April 2023, LAPD sustained the allegation of attempting to obtain a firearm silencer. The respondent was served with a notice of intent to terminate his employment with the LAPD and directed to a Board of Rights hearing. In February 2024, the Board of Rights unanimously found Respondent "Guilty" of the charge of trying to obtain a firearm silencer, however they reduced the recommended discipline from termination to 30 days of unpaid leave.

The investigation conducted by LAPD clearly establishes that Respondent was purposefully seeking out firearm silencers and suppressors that could be purchased overseas and masked as oil filters, for specific types of weapons to include ones the respondent owned.

The Peace Officer Standards Accountability Division, Certification Executive Review Panel has reviewed the above referenced case involving alleged serious misconduct and has determined the following:

☒ There are reasonable grounds for suspension or revocation of a peace officer's certification.

POST determined clear and convincing evidence exists to show Respondent attempted to purchase an illegal firearm silencer and then was dishonest in his internal affairs investigation. These acts were sufficiently egregious to warrant revocation of peace officer certification pursuant to 13510.8(b)(1) and 13510.8(b)(6).

☐ There is insufficient evidence to support a recommendation of revocation or suspension of certification.

William Darden Chief Legal Counsel	Signature	5/8/25 Date
Annemarie Del Mugnaio Assistant Executive Director	Signature	5/8/25 Date
Manny Alvarez Executive Director	Signature	05/09/2025 Date

cc: Mike Radford

cc: Jason Morlock

cc: Chandler Knapp

cc: _____