**AGENDA ITEM REPORT**

**Title: POST2307511 - SIFREDO CANO (POST ID: C03-G01)**
**LAST EMPLOYING AGENCY: LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT**

**REPORT PROFILE**

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| **MEETING DATE**<br>11/21/2024 | **BUREAU SUBMITTING THE REPORT**<br>Professional Conduct Los Angeles Bureau | |
| **RESEARCHED BY**<br>William Imboden | **REVIEWED BY**<br>Mike Radford | |
| **REPORT DATE**<br>07/29/2024 | **APPROVED BY**<br>Annemarie Del Mugnaio | **DATE APPROVED** |
| **PURPOSE** | **FINANCIAL IMPACT**<br>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 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 Sifredo A. Cano began his employment with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) on November 30, 2007, as a full-time Deputy Sheriff. At the time of the events at issue, Respondent was employed as a Deputy Sheriff with the LASD. Respondent was discharged from his position with LASD on March 22, 2023. 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 Board alleges the Respondent attempted to engage in a sexual relationship with an arrestee (referred to herein as Victim), used his position as a peace officer to further his romantic pursuit of the Victim and used his partner's law enforcement credentials to access criminal and DMV information about the Victim. It is also alleged that the

Respondent was dishonest about his interactions with the Victim during the course of an internal affairs investigation.

The circumstances surrounding the initial encounter between the Respondent and the Victim involve the victim being arrested after colliding with multiple vehicles and appearing to be under the influence of alcohol at the time of the collision. The Victim was arrested by another Deputy on scene for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. Subsequent to the initial encounter, Respondent sent numerous text messages and met with the Victim on multiple occasions attempting to pursue a romantic relationship with the Victim.

At their October 17, 2024 meeting the Peace Officer Standards Accountability Advisory Board voted unanimously to revoke the Respondent's POST certificate(s).

**ANALYSIS:**

The Division found that the clear and convincing evidence substantiated that Respondent's conduct amounted to sexual assault as described in Penal Code section 832.7(b)(1)(B)(ii) in that he attempted the initiation of a sexual act with a member of the public while on duty and through offer of leniency or other official favor. Between May 14, 2021, and July 22, 2021, Respondent and Victim exchanged approximately 100 texts messages, many of which are the Respondent asking Victim to meet with him, asking her out on dates, telling her how sexy she is, asking for pictures of her, and on one occasion reminding Victim that she was not wearing underwear the night she was arrested. The Division also established by clear and convincing evidence that Respondent abused the power of his position as a peace officer, in violation of POST Regulation 1205(a)(2), by leveraging his position as a peace officer to attempt to enter into a romantic relationship with an arrestee, and inappropriately accessing confidential information for personal gain. Finally, the Division found by clear and convincing evidence that Respondent was dishonest in violation of POST Regulation 1205(a)(1) during the Internal Affairs investigation into the alleged misconduct.

**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):**

BR1_POST2307511-Cano_Sifredo-ISF.pdf
BR6_POST2307511-Attachment A_Cano_Sifredo-Defense_Attorney_Email_REDACTED.pdf
BR3_POST2307511-Attachment C_Cano_Sifredo-Text_Messages_REDACTED.pdf
BR7_POST2307511-Attachment B_Cano_Sifredo-GPS_Locations.pdf
BR5_POST2307511-Attachment E_Cano_Sifredo-Witness_Dep_Texts_REDACTED.pdf
BR4_POST2307511-Attachment D_Cano_Sifredo-Warrant_and_Registration_checks_REDACTED.pdf
BR2_POST2307511-Attachment F_Cano_Sifredo-IA_Transcripts_REDACTED.pdf
BR8_POST2307511-Cano_Sifredo-ExO_Review_and_Recommendation_UNREDACTED.pdf
POST2307511_Cano_Sifredo_Board_Recommendation_Signed.pdf
POST2307511_Cano_Sifredo_October_2024_POSAAB_Agenda_Record.pdf
POST2307511_Sifredo Cano_10.17.2024 POSAAB Transcript.pdf