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.: POST2315916

SUBJECT OFFICER: Armando Corona

POST ID: C50 – R65

EMPLOYING AGENCY: LAPD

POST INVESTIGATOR: William Imboden

NOD DATE OF ISSUANCE: November 17, 2025

ALLEGED MISCONDUCT: *PC 13510.8(b)(6) /* Title 11 CCR *1205(a)(6) - Acts That Violate the Law and PC 13510.8(b)(1) /* Title 11 CCR *1205(a)(1) - Dishonesty*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

LAPD reported this case to POST for the serious misconduct allegation of Acts That Violate the Law. During the course of the POST investigation POSAD determined the additional serious misconduct allegation of Dishonesty should be included.

On August 2, 2023, the Complainant notified the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) that Officer Armando Corona (Respondent) had been using marijuana and soliciting prostitutes since at least May 12, 2020. Complainant provided physical evidence to show that Respondent had solicited prostitutes and paid for sex on May 12, 2020, September 5, 2022, and July 27, 2023. Respondent eventually admitted to Complainant that he had paid prostitutes for sex on multiple occasions beginning on an unknown date prior to May 12, 2020. During his internal affairs interview, however, Respondent was dishonest with investigators and denied that he had ever paid for sex or had sex with a prostitute. When confronted with video surveillance footage of Respondent engaged in solicitation for prostitution, Respondent continued to deny that he ever had sex with a prostitute at any time.

On July 31, 2023, Complainant saw Respondent smoke marijuana then get a gun and leave the home driving a vehicle with his minor children in it.

On August 3, 2023, Respondent was served with a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) protecting the Complainant and others from him. On August 17, 2023, Respondent called Complainant on her cellphone in violation of the TRO.

On August 22, 2023, Respondent posted a picture of himself at a restaurant with a suspected prostitute, to whom he wire transferred $5,000.00 on August 17, 2023.

On August 30, 2023, Respondent admitted to his Captain that he had smoked marijuana. On November 15, 2023, during the administrative investigation, Respondent admitted to Internal Affairs (IA) he had been using marijuana, beginning in 2022.

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Additionally, Respondent was identified as a "Prohibited Possessor" of firearms by the California DOJ until September 7, 2028.

On January 4, 2024, Respondent was observed driving his personal vehicle in a reckless manner and equipped with flashing red and blue lights, misdemeanor Vehicle Code violations.

Throughout the course of LAPD's investigation into Respondent's misconduct, IA discovered Respondent made numerous false and/or misleading statements to investigators, LAPD supervisors, and administrative staff.

On July 9, 2024, LAPD sustained 17 allegations of misconduct and policy violations and recommended Respondent's termination from employment, referring him to a Board of Rights (BOR).

On November 4, 2024, and again on November 21, 2024, while on administrative leave from LAPD, Respondent intentionally violated a Domestic Violence Restraining Order (DVRO) when he attempted to extract personal and confidential information about the Complainant from her landlord, asserting he was conducting an investigation for a law enforcement agency.

On November 5, 2024, Complainant notified LAPD that Respondent had violated the DVRO and a second IA investigation was initiated.

On November 25, 2024, Respondent was charged with two misdemeanor violations of a DVRO in Orange County Superior Court.

On April 15, 2025, LAPD sustained two allegations of violations of a DVRO and again recommended Respondent to a Board of Rights for termination. The Los Angeles administrative agency combined the July 2024 and April 2025 BORs into one proceeding.

Based on the facts presented, there is clear and convincing evidence that Respondent committed the serious misconduct of *Acts That Violate the Law* and *Dishonesty*.

ANALYSIS/FINDINGS:

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

"Penal Code Section 13510.8(b)(1) and Commission Regulation 1205 (a)(1) defines 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

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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..."

During his IA interview on November 15, 2023, Respondent was asked if he had paid a prostitute for sex at his home in May of 2020. Clear and convincing evidence exists to show Respondent was dishonest with IA when he said he had not.

Home surveillance video from Respondent's home on May 12, 2020, clearly shows Respondent and an unknown female negotiating a dollar amount, confirming the money is for sex, Respondent paying the agreed upon amount, and a sexual act occurring.

On August 22, 2023, Respondent posted a picture of himself at a restaurant with an unknown female, with a caption of, "#firstdatevibes", and tagged the female.

Clear and convincing evidence exists to show Respondent was dishonest with IA when he denied that he ever had sex with a prostitute at any time, when he said the female in the photograph was a friend of his but he did not know her name, and when he said she was not a prostitute, to his knowledge. Based on the female's Instagram posts and photos it appeared she is a prostitute or escort. A letter from Respondent's bank confirmed a Bank Wire Transfer in the amount of $5,000.00 from Respondent to the female in the photograph on August 18, 2023.

2. The alleged misconduct violated Penal Code Section 13510.8(b)(6) and Title 11, California Code of Regulations Section 1205 (a)(6) – Acts That Violate the Law

"Acts that violate the law and are sufficiently egregious or repeated as to be inconsistent with a peace officer's obligation to uphold the law or respect the rights of members of the public, as determined by the commission."

There is clear and convincing evidence to show Respondent repeatedly broke California State law by soliciting prostitutes (see above), violating a permanent Domestic Violence Restraining Order twice, and driving his vehicle in an unlawful and reckless manner after affixing flashing red and blue lights to his personal vehicle. Clear and convincing evidence also exists to show Respondent broke Federal law by possessing firearms while being a habitual user of a controlled substance.

On January 25, 2024, Respondent was present in Orange County Superior Court for a hearing regarding Complainant's restraining order application. At the conclusion of the hearing, the application was approved and the Restraining Order After Hearing (OAH) was granted. Respondent was served with a copy of the order which took effect immediately and expired on January 25, 2026.

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One of the provisions in the OAH restricted Respondent from owning or possessing firearms or ammunition. The OAH did not include a provision for a work-related exception. Additionally, the OAH instructed Respondent, "You must not take any action to look for any person protected by this order, including their addresses or locations". Respondent was also ordered not to stalk the protected person or keep her under surveillance.

On November 4, 2024, while the OAH was in effect, Respondent called the Complainant's apartment leasing office demanding information about the Complainant, including her apartment number and the terms of her lease. The office notified the Complainant who made a report with Anaheim PD.

On November 21, 2024, Respondent called the leasing office again while the OAH was in effect, requesting the Complainant's leasing information, and stated he was calling on behalf of law enforcement. The Complainant made another report with Anaheim PD.

Respondent was charged in Orange County Superior Court with two counts of Violation of a Domestic Relations Court Order; PC 273.6(A), a misdemeanor. Although the Orange County District Attorney ultimately decided to dismiss the criminal charges, clear and convincing evidence establishes that Respondent violated the OAH on at least these two occasions summarized above.

On January 4, 2024, a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Lieutenant saw red and blue flashing lights illuminated on a vehicle approaching from behind him. The vehicle was travelling at a high rate of speed and was weaving in and out of lanes of traffic, and in and out of the left shoulder. The vehicle drove past the Lieutenant at an estimated speed of 85 – 90 MPH driving recklessly, in violation of California Vehicle Code (CVC) section 2310; Reckless Driving. The Lieutenant observed that the driver of the vehicle was a danger to the other motorists. The driver matched Respondent's general physical description, and further investigation confirmed the vehicle was registered to Respondent. In addition to Reckless Driving, Respondent's use of red and blue flashing lights on his personal vehicle without LAPD authorization was in violation of CVC section 25250; Flashing Lights Prohibited, CVC section 25269; No Flashing or Steady Red Light, and CVC section 21055; Driver of Emergency Vehicle.

On July 31, 2023, Complainant was home with Respondent and saw him open his gun safe and smoke what she believed was marijuana. Respondent then put the item he smoked back in his safe, grabbed a small gun from the safe and left, driving his car with his minor children in it. When interviewed by POSAD, Complainant clarified that Respondent kept his "vaping" device in his safe and used that to ingest the marijuana.

During her interview with POSAD, the Complainant further confirmed she saw Respondent smoking (vaping) marijuana in August of 2022. During his interview with LAPD IA

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Investigators on November 15, 2023, Respondent admitted smoking marijuana beginning in the summer of 2022 and confirmed he admitted to Captain Gonzalez that he used marijuana.

During a follow up interview on July 17, 2025, Complainant confirmed that Respondent began smoking marijuana in August of 2022 and was still in possession of his firearms until August of 2023.

Title 18 United States Code section 922(g)(3) prohibits a person from owning or possessing a firearm if the person is an unlawful user of any controlled substance. Marijuana is a controlled substance within the meaning of applicable federal law.

FINDINGS

The Peace Officer Standards Accountability Division determined that reasonable grounds exist to seek suspension or revocation of the Respondent's certifications in this case.