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STATE OF ALASKA

ALASKA POLICE STANDARDS COUNCIL

In the Matter of)	
Thomas Stoddard,)	APSC No. 2020-27
Respondent,)	

ORDER OF REVOCATION

The Alaska Police Standards Council of the State of Alaska, having duly convened on the 6th day of December, 2021, and having reviewed and discussed the Accusation against the Respondent, which was served September 29, 2021, in accordance with AS 44.62.380, takes official notice that a Notice of Defense or a Request for Hearing has not been received from Respondent as required by AS 44.62.390. The Council also takes official notice that under AS 44.62.530, if the Respondent does not file a Notice of Defense, the Council may take action based upon other evidence and an Accusation may be used without notice to the Respondent.

Accordingly, the Council has considered the Accusation dated September 21, 2021.

Based on the Council's consideration of the facts recited in the referenced Accusation,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED

- 1. That the allegations made in the Accusation against the Respondent dated September 21, 2021, are hereby adopted and the Accusation is made, by reference, a part of this Order as though set forth fully herein.
- 2. That the Respondent's State of Alaska Correction Officer certification is hereby revoked; and
- 3. That this Order of Revocation shall take effect in accordance with AS 44.62.520(a).

DATED this 6th day of December, 2021.

Rebecca Hamon, Chairman
Alaska Police Standards Council

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STATE OF ALASKA

ALASKA POLICE STANDARDS COUNCIL

In the Matter of:)	
Thomas Stoddard,)	No. APSC 2020-27
Respondent)	

ACCUSATION

Sarah Hieb, Administrative Investigator of the Alaska Police Standards Council (APSC), State of Alaska, on behalf of the Executive Director for APSC, is seeking to revoke the correctional officer certificate of Respondent Thomas Stoddard under the legal authority of AS 18.65.220, AS 18.65.245(2), the Council's regulations in 13 AAC 85.270, and under the procedures governed by the Administrative Procedure Act in AS 44.62.330, *et. seq.* The Executive Director alleges as follows:

- 1. On or about January 25, 2018, Respondent was hired by State of Alaska Department of Corrections (DOC) as a correctional officer.
- 2. On or about March 5, 2019, Respondent was certified by APSC as a correctional officer.

Accusation: Thomas Stoddard 2020-27

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4. On or about August 6, 2020, Respondent called out from work, saying
that he had hurt his back. Later in the evening,, came over to Respondent's house
with .'s niece. The niece then had two friends come to Respondent's residence
and Respondent allowed alcohol to be served to the females. When one of them
thanked him for allowing her to drink, he then asked the females how old they were
and learned they were under age twenty-one (21).

- 6. The females reported the sexual assault to the Alaska State Troopers (AST) and AST served a search warrant on Respondent's residence on August 7, 2020. Respondent was present during the search warrant service.
- 7. On August 7, 2020, Respondent went to work his night shift directly after AST finished serving the warrant. During that shift, Respondent did not tell anyone at DOC about the contact with ..., the search warrant service, or the sexual assault investigation.
- 8. On or about August 8, 2020, Respondent went to work early to talk to his supervisor and his Lieutenant about the events in the above paragraphs. The supervisor smelled alcohol on Respondent and noted his watery eyes and asked Respondent about his alcohol consumption. Respondent said he had been drinking prior to coming to DOC but felt he was able to work his shift. Respondent was given the shift off.

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9. DOC started an internal investigation into the events in the above paragraphs. During the employee interview, Respondent said he took no action about the sexual assault complaint because he did not believe it had happened because he had been there all night and said he did not see a sexual assault. He also said he worried because of the alcohol given to the underage girls and he did not want to get into trouble with the authorities.

- On or about October 1, 2020, DOC terminated Respondent from his correctional officer position. On the APSC Personnel Action Form (F4), DOC marked that Respondent did not resign in lieu of termination, that he was under investigation of wrongdoing, that they recommended Respondent be de-certified, and that he was not eligible for re-hire.
- 11. Respondent's actions in the above paragraphs were detrimental to the reputation, integrity, and discipline of DOC, and would cause a reasonable person to doubt Respondent's honesty, fairness, and respect for the rights of others and for the laws of this state and were detrimental to the integrity of DOC.
- 12. AS 18.65.245(2) provides that the APSC may revoke the certificate of a correctional officer who fails to meet the standards adopted under AS 18.65.242(a).
- 13. 13 AAC 85.270(a)(2) provides that the council may revoke a basic certificate upon a finding that the holder of the certificate has been discharged, or resigned under threat of discharge, from employment as a correctional officer for inefficiency, incompetence, or some other reason that adversely affects the ability and fitness of the officer to perform job duties or is detrimental to the reputation, integrity, or discipline of the correctional agency where the officer worked.

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14. 13 AAC 85.270(b)(3) provides that the council will revoke a basic certificate upon a finding that the holder of the certificate has been discharged, or resigned under threat of discharge from employment as a correctional officer for conduct that would cause a reasonable person to have substantial doubt about an individual's honesty, fairness, respect for the rights of others, and for the laws of this state and the United States or that is detrimental to the integrity of the correctional agency where the officer worked.

COUNT I

Paragraphs 1-14 are incorporated by reference. Based upon the facts described above, Respondent was terminated from his position as a correctional officer with the State of Alaska Department of Corrections, for conduct that is detrimental to the reputation, integrity, or discipline of the correctional agency where the officer worked, which is grounds for discretionary revocation under 13 AAC 85.270(a)(2).

COUNT II

Paragraphs 1-14 are incorporated by reference. Based upon the facts described above, the Respondent was terminated from the State of Alaska Department of Corrections for conduct that would cause a person to have substantial doubt about an individual's honesty, fairness, respect for the rights of others, and for the laws of this state and the United States; which is grounds for mandatory revocation under 13 AAC 85.270(b)(3).

COUNT III

Paragraphs 1-14 are incorporated by reference. Based upon the facts described above, the Respondent was terminated as a correctional officer with the State of Alaska Department of Corrections for conduct for that is detrimental to the integrity of the

Accusation: Thomas Stoddard 2020-27

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correctional agency where the officer worked, which is grounds for mandatory revocation under 13 AAC 85.270(b)(3).

DATED this 21st day of September 2021, at Juneau, Alaska.

Sarah Hieb, Administrative Investigator Alaska Police Standards Council