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STATE OF ALASKA

ALASKA POLICE STANDARDS COUNCIL

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In the Matter of:	
Ernie Gillis,	
Respondent	

No. APSC 2021-35

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 Alaska police officer certificate of Respondent Ernie Gillis under the legal authority of AS 18.65.220, AS 18.65.240(c), the Council's regulations in 13 AAC 85.110, 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 June 17, 2019, the Respondent was hired by the Anchorage Police Department (APD) as a police officer.

2. On or about August 19, 2020, Respondent was certified as a police officer by the Alaska Police Standards Council.

3. On or about September 6, 2021, Respondent was on a traffic stop when a female approached and gave him a found cell phone. While on his way home, Respondent threw the cell phone from his patrol car.

4. The next morning, APD learned the cell phone belonged to the victim of a crime and emailed Respondent about the phone's whereabouts. Respondent emailed his response saying he did not know where the cell phone was, nor what

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happened to it, writing he might have left it on the roof of his patrol vehicle and driven away with the phone still on the roof.

5. APD was able to locate the cell phone and initiated an internal affairs (IA) investigation into Respondent's handling of the cell phone. In the interview with Respondent on September 27, 2021, Respondent told the investigator he did not remember what happened to the phone and continued to deny knowing what happened until the end of the interview where he gave a soft admission that he thought he did throw the cell phone out of the car window.

6. As a result of the internal investigation interview in paragraph 5, APD initiated an IA investigation into dishonesty issues in AI investigation in Paragraph 5. During the interview with Respondent on October 5, 2021, Respondent admitted to lying during the AI interview on September 27, 2021 about his actions with the cell phone and not being honest in the email he sent about the cell phone in paragraph 4.

7. On or about October 28, 2021, Respondent resigned from the Anchorage Police Department. On the Personnel Action form submitted to APSC, APD marked that APD recommended de-certification and stated Respondent was not eligible for rehire.

8. AS 18.65.240(c) provides that the APSC may deny or revoke the certificate of a police officer who does not meet the standards adopted under (a) (2) of that section.

9. 13 AAC 85.110(a)(2) provides that the council may revoke a basic, intermediate, or advanced certificate upon a finding that the holder of the certificate has been discharged or resigned under threat of discharge from employment as a police officer in this state for inefficiency, incompetence, or some other reason that adversely Accusation: Ernie Gillis

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affects the ability and fitness of the police officer to perform job duties or that is detrimental to the reputation, integrity, or discipline of the police department where the police officer worked.

10. 13 AAC 85.110(a)(3) provides that the council may revoke a basic, intermediate, or advanced certificate upon a finding that the holder of the certificate does not meet the standards in 13 AAC 85.010(a) or (b).

11. 13 AAC 85.010(a)(3) provides that a person may not be hired as a police officer unless the person meets the following minimum qualifications at the time of hire: (3) is of good moral character.

12. 13 AAC 85.110(b)(3) provides that the council will revoke a basic, intermediate, or advanced certificate upon a finding that the holder of the certificate has been discharged or resigned under threat of discharge from employment as police officer in this state for conduct that would cause a reasonable person to have substantial doubt about an individual's honesty, fairness, and respect for the rights of others and for the laws of this states and the United State or that is detrimental to the integrity of the police department where the police officer worked.

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COUNT I

Paragraphs 1-12 are incorporated by reference. Based upon the facts described above, Respondent does not meet the minimum standards for a certified police officer established under 13 AAC 85.010(a)(3). Respondent lacks good moral character, which is grounds for discretionary revocation under 13 AAC 85.110(a)(3).

DATED this 7th day of April 2023, at Juneau, Alaska.

signed

Sarah Hieb, Administrative Investigator Alaska Police Standards Council

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