



JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

KEVIN W. REEVES, COLONEL
DEPUTY SECRETARY

State of Louisiana
Department of Public Safety and Corrections
Public Safety Services

January 2, 2019
4750/0501/JH/19-12936
HQ-2-1618-19

TROOPER MARK HOLSTEAD
TROOP F

CID# 18-8751, IA#18-023, OLA #060491
VIA PERSONAL DELIVERY

RE: TWELVE (12) HOUR SUSPENSION

Dear Trooper Holstead:

Pursuant to Louisiana State Police Commission Rules 12.1, 12.2, and the authority delegated to me by Colonel Kevin Reeves, you are hereby suspended from duty without pay and allowances for twelve (12) hours. Your suspension will begin at 0600 hours on Thursday, March 21, 2019, and will end at 1800 hours on that date. You shall report back to your assigned duty station at 0600 hours on Monday, March 25, 2019. You are suspended for the following reasons:

On August 7, 2018, you attended quarterly firearms training at the Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office Range (160 Old KOA Rd. Simsboro, LA). Upon completion of the training, you were cleaning your firearms beneath a covered pavilion at the range. While attempting to disassemble your Glock Model 22 service weapon for cleaning, you apparently forgot or failed to realize that you had inserted a loaded magazine into the weapon and chambered a live round into the weapon's barrel. While the muzzle was pointed down toward the pavement, you depressed the trigger to remove the slide, which caused the round to discharge. The projectile first struck the concrete ground under the pavilion and continued down range. No one was injured and minor damage to the concrete occurred.

Retired Major Joel Kilpatrick and Senior Pilot Michael Haley witnessed the discharge and confirmed the sequence of events.

Your actions were determined to be accidental, but in violation Louisiana State Police Policy and Procedure No. 901-26 – Use of Firearms, which states in pertinent part:

- i) The use or handling of a firearm in a careless or negligent manner, or the unjustified endangerment of human life, is strictly forbidden and shall only be in accordance with P.O. 238, Use of Force.

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Any future violations of this or any nature may result in more severe discipline, including up to termination.

You have the right to appeal this action to the Louisiana State Police Commission. The time limits and procedure for appealing are contained in Chapter 13 of the State Police Commission Rules. A copy of Chapter 13 can be obtained from the State Police Commission. Their current mailing address is P.O. Box 66555, Baton Rouge, LA 70896-6555. Their current telephone number is (225) 925-7057 and their fax number is (225) 925-7058.

Your attention is directed to Louisiana State Police Policy and Procedure Order No. 201.5.iv, which states:

- ii) No officer shall work escorts, paid off-duty details, or overtime in any pay period wherein he has taken leave without pay, been suspended without pay, placed on forced or administrative leave, or worked at a reduction in pay as a result of a disciplinary action unless authorized by the appointing authority

Sincerely,



Lt. Colonel Mike Noel
Assistant Superintendent
Louisiana State Police

c: Lt. Col. Jay D. Oliphant
Lt. Col. Layne Barnum
Major Wayne Vidrine
Captain John Peters
Internal Affairs
Office of Legal Affairs
Human Resources