

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

Lamar A. Davis, Colonel
Deputy Secretary

## State of Louisiana

Department of Public Safety and Corrections Public Safety Services

> June 2, 2021 4750/0501/MMG/21-23594 HQ2-1999-21

SENIOR TROOPER WILLIAM MARTIN TROOP F

IA#21-013; OLA#072326 VIA PERSONAL DELIVERY

RE: TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOUR SUSPENSION

S/T Martin:

In accordance with State Police Commission Rules 12.1 and 12.2, and the authority delegated to me by Colonel Lamar Davis, you are hereby notified that you are suspended from duty for twenty-four (24) hours without pay and allowances. Your suspension will begin at 0600 hours on Saturday, June 12, 2021, and will end at 1800 hours on Sunday, June 13, 2021. You shall report back to your assigned duty station at 0600 hours on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. You are suspended for the following reasons:

Internal Affairs (IA) was instructed to conduct an administrative investigation into inappropriate messages you sent on your Department issued Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) through the Kologik electronic messaging system. On March 31, 2021, you participated in a recorded interview with IA investigators Sgt. James Jefferson and Senior Trooper Michael Talley. You were shown four messages you sent on your MDT through the Kologik electronic messaging system/ Thinkstream dated July 15, 2019. The first message shown to you stated, "dude she got me the other night im hitting it and she says hewy u wanna try my ass I said hellIll yasssssssss finally she said ur craxy im playing fck me running." You advised IA investigators that you did not remember the message, but agreed that you sent it. You explained, "It was about a woman apparently, and not a guy."

IA investigators showed you a second message that read, "damn I need to titie fck smethign myself." You advised IA investigators that you did not remember that message either, but acknowledged that you sent it.

IA investigators showed you a third message that read, "nukka u beeter fix that before we cap a mofo." and the fourth message simply read, "my nukka." You acknowledged sending the messages, but denied that you used the term "nukka" as a racial connotation. You stated that you use the term all the time to refer to your friends like saying "Bruh" or "Bro." You said your definition of the word was like saying, "What's up Homie, and then give them a hug" and used it in a greeting of friendship.

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IA investigators search of the term "NUKKA" on the Internet returned the following information:

- <u>www.urbandictionary.com</u>- 6 definitions each referred to the term as a white man's slang word for "nigga," or "a black man."
- <u>www.lingo2word.com</u>- definition The word "nukka" is a general term, is used in slang meaning "nigger," African American.
- <u>www.answers.com</u>- definition It is an impolite slang word substituted for "the n word," meaning an African-American.

The above listed messages were sent in a group format with TFC Jacob Brown, TFC Colby Dickerson, TFC Justin Morris and yourself and were discovered by Louisiana State Police Criminal Investigators during a criminal investigation into a use of force incident.

By using your Department issued MDT and computer databases to send the four above describe messages of a personal nature relating to sexual activity, and a racial slur, you violated Louisiana State Police Policy and Procedure Order Nos. 1109 - MDT, Internet/Intranet, and Mass Notification, Section 3- Computer Compliance Provisions, and 901 – Code of Conduct and Ethics, Section 4 - Conduct Unbecoming an Officer, which state in pertinent parts:

1109 - MDT, Internet/Intranet, and Mass Notification, Section 3 – Computer Compliance Provisions

vi) Uses of Department computer equipment, electronic mail, the Internet, and Department systems that interfere with normal business activities, involve solicitation, are associated with any for-profit business activities, or could potentially embarrass the state or the Department, are strictly forbidden.

viii) Electronic messages shall not contain offensive or harassing statements including disparagement of others based in their race, color, religion, marital status, creed, political affiliation, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, handicap or age.

ix) Department computer equipment, electronic mail or electronic networks shall not be used to send or solicit sexually-oriented messages, images, or materials.

901- Code of Conduct and Ethics, Section 4, Conduct Unbecoming an Officer

- i) A commissioned officer shall conduct himself at all times, both on and off-duty, in such a manner as to reflect most favorably on himself and the Department.
- ii) Unbecoming conduct is defined as conduct which:
  - a) Brings the Department or any of its subdivisions into disrepute.
  - b) Reflects discredit upon the officer as a member of the Department.
  - c) Impairs the operations or efficiency of the Department, the officer, or state service.
  - d) Detrimentally affects the morale of the Department's personnel.
  - e) May reasonably be expected to destroy public respect for State Police Officers and/or confidence in the Office of State Police.

Any future violations of this or any nature may result in more severe discipline, up to and including termination, and this suspension can be used to support the severity of future discipline.

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.

Sincerely,

Lt. Col. M. Doug Cain, II

Asst. Superintendent/ Chief of Staff

Louisiana State Police

cc: Colonel Lamar Davis
Lt. Col. Chavez Cammon
Major Wayne Vidrine
Captain Eric Cuenca
Internal Affairs
Office of Legal Affairs
Human Resources Management