



City of Cleveland  
Justin M. Bibb, Mayor

Department of Public Safety  
Dornat (Wayne) A. Drummond, Chief  
FBI NA #230  
Division of Police  
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Disposition Letter

November 16, 2022

**Patrol Officer Richard Rospierski #2006**  
**C/o First District Headquarters**  
**3895 West 130<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Cleveland, Ohio 44111**

**Re: CPD2022-0036**

Patrol Officer Rospierski #2006:

This letter is to advise you, Patrol Officer Richard Rospierski #2006, of the result of the administrative pre-disciplinary hearing, which you attended on September 21, 2022, to address an internal investigation wherein you were alleged to have engaged in improper procedure and/or conduct.

### **STATEMENT OF POLICY**

**In part:** The Manual of Rules sets forth the conduct and behavior to be followed by officers and employees. Any violation of these rules shall be a basis for disciplinary action. Disciplinary action includes, but is not limited to, verbal and written reprimands and the preferring of divisional charges which can result in suspension, loss of pay, demotion or termination. The rules and standards contained in this manual shall apply whether the officer or employee is on or off duty. Where a conflict exists between a Rule and a General Police Order, the Rule provision shall be adhered to.

### **SPECIFICATION**

**Specification #1:** (CPD2022-0036) On or about April 7, 2022, you, Patrol Officer Richard Rospierski #2006, negligently discharged a handgun inside apartment 17, located at 10520 Governor Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, in violation of General Police Order 5.08.01. (*Group II Violation*)

This specification is in violation of the rules and procedures of the Division of Police, Department of Public Safety.

### **RULES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**General Police Order 5.08.01: Firearms Seized, Confiscated, or Found** (effective: 12/30/20)

### **PREDISCIPLINARY HEARING**

In attendance at the administrative pre-disciplinary hearing, were you, Detective Robert Jorgenson of the First District, First Vice President David Medina and Attorney Joseph Delguyd of the Cleveland Police Patrolmen's Association, Vice President Erik Melendez of the Hispanic Police Officers' Association, First Vice President Mister Jackson of the Black Shield Police Association, Sergeant Jayson Young, Sergeant Dalia Lopez and Sergeant Terry Lowther of the Internal Affairs Unit, Lieutenant Charles DePenti of the Case Preparation Unit, and Deputy Chief Daniel Fay of Administrative Operations, who presided over the hearing.

During the hearing, you acknowledged receipt of the charging letter; you and your representatives waived the reading of your charge letter and were then afforded the opportunity to be heard. You entered a plea of "No Contest" to the Specification of the administrative charges as set forth in the charging letter. Upon carefully reviewing the evidence presented, the memorialized record, as well as the arguments of you and your representatives, the Hearing Officer recommended that you be found "Guilty" of the Specification.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

I have carefully reviewed the evidence incorporated into the record by reference, the memorialized record, including statements made at your hearing and the applicable Rules, Policies, and Procedures, and I accept and adopt the recommendation of the Hearing Officer. You violated General Police Order 5.08.01 when you negligently discharged a handgun inside apartment 17, located at 10520 Governor Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

Based on the foregoing, I find you "**Guilty**" of the Specification, and I am issuing you a **six (6) workday suspension without pay**. This discipline is within the First Group II violation range of the discipline matrix where mitigating factors (*accepted responsibility, no active discipline*) outweigh aggravating factors (*risk to the public*). **In addition, you shall be retrained in firearm handling through the Training Section.**


The above imposed suspension shall commence, and be effective the next working day after you are served with this notice. You shall surrender your badge, police identification card, unloaded departmentally issued firearm and three (3) loaded magazines plus one (1) live round to your Commanding Officer or designee, at the end of your shift. Upon completion of the suspension days, you shall retrieve the aforementioned property from your Commanding Officer or designee upon reporting for duty.

**Additionally, you shall, within five (5) work days of returning from suspension, read General Police Order 5.08.01, and expect to be reinstructed by a superior officer on that Order. Upon completion of the reinstruction, you will email a Form-1 (as an attachment) indicating reinstruction, and endorsed by the same superior officer, to:**

**The Case Preparation Unit (caseprep@clevelandohio.gov)  
Lieutenant Charles DePenti (cdepenti@clevelandohio.gov)**

It is the Division's earnest desire that this letter will serve as a deterrent against future acts of this nature. Any prospective acts of same or similar conduct may lead to progressive discipline. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Cleveland and the Cleveland Police Patrolmen's Association, verbal disciplinary warnings and disciplinary written reprimands shall not be used for progressive discipline purposes after one (1) year from the date the discipline was administered, and disciplinary suspensions shall not be used for progressive discipline purposes after three (3) years from the date the discipline was administered.

Respectfully,



Dornat A. Drummond  
Chief of Police

DAD:bpc:cll:la

cc: Karrie D. Howard, Chief Director, Department of Public Safety  
Dorothy Todd, Deputy Chief, Chief of Staff  
Sammy Morris, Acting Deputy Chief, Field Operations  
Daniel Fay, Deputy Chief, Administrative Operations  
Kevin Schwarz, Acting Commander, First District  
Brian Carney, Commander, Bureau of Compliance  
Christopher Viland, Superintendent, Internal Affairs  
Kenneth Ryan, Lieutenant, Personnel Unit  
Cynthia Oliver, Sergeant, Officer-in-Charge, Timekeeping Unit  
Melissa Dawson, Sergeant, Officer-in-Charge, Employee Assistance Unit  
Jeffrey Follmer, President, Cleveland Police Patrolmen's Association  
Paul Patton, Chief Human Resource Officer  
George E. Coulter, Assistant Director, Department of Public Safety  
Monique Tabb-Young, Labor Relations Officer, Human Relations  
William Menzalora, Chief Assistant Director of Law  
Delante Thomas, Chief Ethics Officer  
Michael Spreng, Secretary, Civil Service Commission  
Richard Rosenthal, Member, Monitoring Team  
Michael Evanovich, Investigator, Department of Justice  
Ayesha Hardaway, Federal Monitoring Team  
Jason Goodrick, Executive Director, Cleveland Community Police Commission