

**STATEMENT OF CHARGES AGAINST  
TIM SOLIAH  
A MEMBER OF THE MINNESOTA STATE PATROL**

Lt. Colonel Rochelle Schrofer, as Assistant Chief of the Minnesota State Patrol, files with the Commissioner of Public Safety, State of Minnesota, the following Statement of Charges against T/Sgt. Tim Soliah (badge number 155), a member of the Minnesota State Patrol, who she believes is guilty of:

Violations of General Orders:

- 02-10-029 Conduct – Sworn Members
- 21-30-007 Issued Firearms and Related Equipment
  - III.B. Members shall carry the rifle locked in the squad mount provided. Rifles shall be secured in the squad mount with an empty chamber with the bolt forward, safety latch set in the “safe” position, and the ejection port cover closed.

Circumstances related to the above allegations are as follows:

On June 14, 2021 at approximately 0845 hours while assigned to a Mobile Response Team deployment in the Bemidji area, T/Sgt. Tim Soliah fired one round from his state issued rifle through the floorboard of his squad and into the blacktop pavement of the parking lot.

The investigation supports a finding that T/Sgt. Soliah failed to notice a round in the rifle’s chamber when he removed the rifle from the locked squad mount, pointed it down at the driver’s side floorboard of his squad, removed the magazine and pulled the slide back to check if the weapon was clear. As a result, when he moved the safety switch from “Safe” to “Fire” and pulled the trigger, one round fired through the floorboard and into the blacktop pavement of the parking lot. No injuries were sustained as a result of this discharge.

Unintentional discharge of a firearm poses risk of serious injury to persons and/or damage to property. T/Sgt. Soliah failed to secure his rifle with an empty chamber as required. T/Sgt. Soliah’s conduct is in violation of policy and does not reflect the core values of the State Patrol.

Dated: June 24, 2021

  
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Lt. Colonel Rochelle A. Schrofer  
Assistant Chief

**DATE:** June 24, 2021

**TO:** T/Sgt. Tim Soliah  
District 4700

**FROM:** Lt. Colonel Rochelle Schrofer *RS*  
Assistant Chief

**PHONE:** [REDACTED]

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO TAKE DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

After reviewing all the reports and information regarding your unintentional firearms discharge, it is my intent to take disciplinary action against you in this matter.

You are entitled to an informal meeting for the purpose of allowing you to review the charges against you, review the evidence, and present any additional information on your behalf. Be advised that an Association representative may be in attendance as directed by the trooper's labor agreement.


I have scheduled the meeting at 1300 hours on Wednesday, July 14 at a location to be determined. Captain Olsen will provide you with additional details.


Attachment

cc: Major Meagher  
Captain Olsen  
Sgt. LeDoux  
Lynn Mueller  
Annie Porbeni  
Megan Yang

**DATE:** July 14, 2021

**TO:** T/Sgt. Tim Soliah  
District 4700

**FROM:** Lt. Colonel Rochelle Schrofer   
Assistant Chief

**PHONE:** 

**SUBJECT: LETTER OF REPRIMAND**

This memo shall serve as a written reprimand for violations of General Orders as a result of your actions as outlined in the Statement of Charges dated June 24, 2021.

Per Article 15, Section 1, of the MLEA Work Agreement, a copy of this letter of reprimand will be placed in your Human Resources personnel file. Provided no further disciplinary action is taken against you for a period of two years from the date of this letter, you may make a written request to Human Resources that it be removed from your file.

Be advised that any same or similar conduct may result in further disciplinary action.

This written reprimand may be appealed pursuant to grievance procedures set forth in Article 16 of the work agreement.

cc: Major Meagher  
Captain Olsen  
Sgt. LeDoux  
Lynn Mueller  
Megan Yang  
Bill Ziegler