

STATEMENT OF CHARGES AGAINST

AARON PHILLIPE

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 Trp. Aaron Phillipe (badge number 461), a member of the Minnesota State Patrol, who she believes is guilty of:

Violations of:

- General Order 15-10-000, Mission Statement, Core Values & Oath of State Trooper
 - III. Core Values
 - IV. Oath
- General Order 02-10-029, Conduct – Sworn Members
 - IV.C. Sworn members shall perform their duties and apply the law impartially and without prejudice or discrimination.
 - IV.D. Sworn members shall not, whether on or off duty, exhibit any conduct which discredits themselves or the department or otherwise impairs their ability or that of other officers or their department to provide law enforcement services to the public.
 - IV.E. Sworn member shall treat all members of the public courteously and with respect.
- DPS Administrative Policy #5100, Acceptable Use of Department Computers, Electronic Equipment, Information Systems and Resources
 - 6. Social Networking Technologies. Authorized users who have non-department, personal social networking accounts may not expressly or implicitly represent themselves as an employee or representative of the department and engage in any personal internet posting that may harm or tarnish the image, reputation and/or goodwill of the department and/or its employees.

Circumstances related to the above allegations are as follows:

Between October 14 and 17, 2016, Trp. Phillipe posted inappropriate Facebook messages on someone else's page as part of a conversation between the two. Although he did so while off duty and using his personal technology, the receiving party knew he was a State Trooper and, as such, his comments brought discredit to himself and the Minnesota State Patrol.

Dated: May 25, 2017


Lt. Colonel Rochelle Schrofer
Assistant Chief

DATE: May 25, 2017
TO: Trp. Aaron Phillippe
District 3200
FROM: Lt. Colonel Rochelle Schrofer *RS*
Assistant Chief
PHONE: [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO TAKE DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The Internal Affairs investigation into the allegations contained in the attached Statement of Charges has been completed and the allegations have been sustained. 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 will be in attendance as directed by the trooper's labor agreement.

I have scheduled the meeting at 1100 hours on Friday, June 23, at the District 3200 office.

RAS:sc
Attach.

cc: Major Huettl
Captain Wedin
Trp. Dellwo
Lynn Mueller
Patti Bennett
Jodean Thronson

DATE: June 23, 2017

TO: Trp. Aaron Phillippe
District 2300

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

PHONE: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: **DISCIPLINARY ACTION – NOTICE OF SUSPENSION**

This is to inform you of my decision to take disciplinary action against you in the form of a one day (8 hours) unpaid suspension for violations of General Orders 10-000, III. and IV., 10-029, IV. C., D., and E., and DPS Administrative Policy #5100, 6., as outlined in the Statement of Charges dated May 25, 2017.

The date of the suspension will be July 22, 2017.

This action may be appealed pursuant to the grievance procedures set forth in Article 16 of the labor agreement between the Minnesota Law Enforcement Association and the State of Minnesota.

RAS:sc

cc: Major Huettl
Captain Wedin
Trp. Dellwo
Lynn Mueller
Yvonne Shorts-Lind
Jodean Thronson
Julie Bever