COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION

In the Matter of

Omar Connor

Case No. 23-012-S

SUSPENSION ORDER

)

The Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission ("Commission") hereby provides notice of the suspension of the law enforcement certification of Respondent Omar Connor, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 9(a)(4) and 555 CMR 1.06(2). The Commission received credible information that the Respondent has engaged in sexually harassing and highly unprofessional conduct toward high school and college students and educational staff while serving as a law enforcement officer. Thus, the Commission finds by a preponderance of the evidence that suspension of the Respondent's certification is warranted pending completion of a preliminary inquiry being conducted by the Division of Police Standards into the allegations, as it is in the best interest of the safety and welfare of the public.

The Respondent's suspension is effective immediately upon receipt of this letter by either the Respondent or the head of the Respondent's law enforcement agency, whichever is earlier. See M.G.L. c. 6E, § 10(e); 555 CMR 1.08(3). The Respondent and the agency must ensure that the Respondent surrenders, without delay, any agency-issued credentials and equipment that promote and support the performance of functions associated with service as a law enforcement officer, including but not limited to, any uniform, badge, firearm, assigned cruiser, and use-offorce instruments, such as tasers. See M.G.L. c. 6E, § 3(a); 501 CMR 15.05(1), (2)(f)-(g).*

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 9(a)(5), "[a] suspension order of the [C]ommission issued pursuant to [Section 9(a)(4)] shall continue in effect until issuance of the final decision of the [C]ommission or until revoked by the [C]ommission." See 555 CMR 1.08(4).

By vote of the Commission on December 19, 2023.

Notice to: Omar Connor (Respondent) Amy C. Parker, Esq. (Enforcement Counsel) Groton Police Department (Agency) Collective Bargaining Unit Middlesex County District Attorney Massachusetts Attorney General's Office

^{*} According to the information the Commission received from the Groton Police Department, the Respondent was separated from employment with that agency on December 7, 2023.

Notice of Right to a Suspension Hearing

You may request a hearing before:

(1) The full Commission to revoke the suspension before the issuance of a final Commission decision. <u>See M.G.L. c. 6E, § 9(a)(5)</u>.

- Requests are not subject to a time limit for filing. See M.G.L. c. 6E; 555 CMR 1.00.
- A suspension order shall continue in effect until issuance of the final decision of the full Commission or until revoked by the full Commission. See 555 CMR 1.08(4).
- Appeals of the full Commission's decision are to the Superior Court. <u>See M.G.L. c. 30A, § 14;</u> 555 CMR 1.10.

(2) The Single Commissioner to stay the suspension. <u>See</u> M.G.L. c. 6E, § 9(d); 555 CMR 1.09(1).

- Absent a waiver, such a hearing would be held within 15 days of the effective date of the suspension.
- Requests must be filed no later than five days after the effective date of the suspension and may include a request for an extension of time or a waiver of the right to have the hearing heard by the Single Commissioner within 15 days. See 555 CMR 1.09(2) and (3).
- If the Single Commissioner determines by a preponderance of the evidence that the suspension is not warranted, that commissioner shall stay the suspension. <u>See 555 CMR 1.09(6)(a)</u>.
- Appeals of the Single Commissioner's decision are to the Superior Court. <u>See M.G.L. c. 30A, §</u> 14; 555 CMR 1.09(6)(d).

If you wish to request a hearing, please email your request to <u>POSTCReview@mass.gov</u>, with a cc to <u>postcstandards@mass.gov</u>, and include in the subject line your case name and number and type of hearing (full Commission or Single Commissioner). In your request, also include:

- (a) Your name;
- (b) Your employing agency as of the date of the Complaint (or Criminal Complaint/Indictment);
- (c) The head of the agency you identified in (b), above;
- (d) Your mailing and email addresses;
- (e) Your phone number;
- (f) If one has been assigned, your Commission identification number;
- (g) If applicable, your attorney/representative's name;
- (h) If applicable, your attorney/representative's email address and phone number;
- (i) A brief description of the basis for the request for the hearing; and
- (j) One of the following statements:
 - If this is an appeal to the Single Commissioner (stay of suspension):
 - I invoke my right to a hearing within 15 days of the effective date of the suspension.
 - I waive my right to a hearing within 15 days of the effective date of the suspension and consent to receiving a hearing after 15 days.

If this is an appeal to the full Commission (revocation of suspension):

• I would like to have a hearing before the full Commission at a date to be determined.

Please note: A request for a hearing is deemed filed on the date it is received by the Commission. After you have filed a timely request for a hearing, you will receive a notice from the Commission containing further information and instructions.