COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION

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In the Matter of

Joseph Dupont (MPTC User UD #5602-7090) Case No. SU-2024-01 (PI-2024-11)

DECERTIFICATION ORDER

The Respondent Joseph Dupont has entered into a Voluntary Decertification Agreement ("Agreement") under which he has agreed to the permanent revocation of his certification (also known as decertification) as a law enforcement officer in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, beginning on the date of approval of the Agreement by the Massachusetts Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission ("Commission"), and the entry of his decertification in the National Decertification Index ("NDI"). See M.G.L. c. 6E, §§ 3(a) and 10(a)(i); M.G.L. c. 30A, §§ 10 and 13. As further conditions of the Agreement, the Respondent has waived all rights to contest, in this or any other administrative or judicial proceeding to which the Commission is or may be a party, the factual findings, conclusions of law, terms and conditions, and other provisions contained in the Agreement.

Accordingly, it is hereby <u>ORDERED</u> that, for the reasons stated in the Agreement:

- (a) The Respondent's certification is hereby permanently revoked;
- (b) The Executive Director shall characterize this action as a "Voluntary Decertification"; and
- (c) The Executive Director shall take the necessary steps to publish the Respondent's name and decertification status in the NDI and any publicly available lists and database published by the Commission.

By vote of the Commission on May 22, 2024.

Notice: Joseph Dupont, Respondent Amy C. Parker, Esq., Commission Enforcement Counsel Dighton Police Department, Agency

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF

JOSPEH DUPONT

Commission Adjudicatory Case No. PI-2024-11

VOLUNTARY DECERTIFICATION AGREEMENT

In the interest of resolving the above-captioned matter and consistent with the public interest and laws and regulations governing the Massachusetts Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission ("Commission"), including M.G.L. c. 6E, §§ 3(a), 8, and 10, and 555 C.M.R. §§ 1.01-1.10, the Respondent, Joseph Dupont, and the Commission hereby enter into this Voluntary Decertification Agreement:

Factual Findings

1. The Respondent was employed as a reserve police officer by the Dighton Police Department ("DPD") for the period of approximately July 12, 2017 to June 30, 2023.

2. On July 1, 2021, the Respondent was automatically certified as a police officer in Massachusetts pursuant to St. 2020, c. 253, § 102, an Act Relative to Justice, Equity and Accountability in Law Enforcement in the Commonwealth. The Respondent was conditionally recertified as of July 1, 2022.

3. On June 28, 2023, the Respondent was indicted in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York ("Court") on one felony count of Securities Fraud, 15 U.S.C. §§ 78j and 78ff; 17 C.F.R. §§ 240.10b-5, 240.10b5-1, 240.10b5-2; 18 U.S.C. § 2, one count of felony Securities Fraud, 18 U.S.C. § 1348, and one felony count of Tender Offer Fraud, 15 U.S.C. §§ 78n(e) and 78ff; 17 U.S.C. §§ 240.14e-3(a) and 240.14e-3(d); 18 U.S.C. § 2.

4. On September 15, 2023, the Respondent pled guilty to one count of Securities Fraud, 15 U.S.C. §§ 78j and 78ff; 17 C.F.R. §§ 240.10b5-5, 240.10b5-1, 240.10b5-2; 18 U.S.C. § 2, and the other two charges were dismissed. *See United States v. Dupont*, 1:23-cr-00320-GHW (S.D.N.Y. Sep. 15, 2023).

5. On January 5, 2024, the Court imposed a sentence of three years of probation and a \$75,000 fine. The Court entered final judgment on January 12, 2024.

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6. On February 15, 2024, the Commission, pursuant to 555 C.M.R. §§ 1.02(2) and (4), authorized the Division to conduct a preliminary inquiry into the allegation that the Respondent had, as of that date, pending felony criminal charges. On April 4, 2024, the Division submitted its report of preliminary inquiry to the Commission. Subsequently, on April 18, 2024, the Commission voted to initiate disciplinary proceedings against the Respondent.

Conclusions of Law

7. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E § 3(a):

The [C]ommission shall have all powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate its purposes, including, but not limited to, the power to:
(1) act as the primary civil enforcement agency for violations of [chapter 6E]; ...
(4) deny an application or limit, condition, restrict, revoke or suspend a certification, or fine a person certified for any cause that the commission deems reasonable; ...
(23) restrict, suspend or revoke certifications issued under [chapter 6E];
(24) conduct adjudicatory proceedings in accordance with chapter 30A;

8. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 1, a "conviction" includes "a plea of guilty."

9. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 10(a)(i), "[t]he [C]ommission shall, after a hearing, revoke an officer's certification if the [C]ommission finds by clear and convincing evidence that ... the officer is convicted of a felony."

10. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 10(g), "[t]he [C]ommission shall publish any revocation order and findings. The [C]ommission shall provide all revocation information to the national decertification index. No officer may apply for certification after that officer's certification has been revoked pursuant to this section."

11. "Unless otherwise provided by law, agencies may . . . make informal disposition of any adjudicatory proceeding by stipulation, agreed settlement, consent order or default." M.G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

12. The offense of Securities Fraud, for which the Respondent was convicted as described above, is a felony under Federal law. See 15 U.S.C. §§ 78j and 18 U.S.C. § 3559(a).

13. The Respondent's conviction of a Federal felony constitutes a "resolution" of the criminal charges against him pursuant to M.G.L. c. $6E \S 10(h)$ and 555 CMR 1.10(2)(c).

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Resolution

In view of the foregoing alleged violation of M.G.L. c. 6E, § 10(a)(i), the Commission has determined that the public interest would best be served by the disposition of this matter without further enforcement proceedings, on the basis of the following terms and conditions which have been agreed to by the Respondent:

14. The Respondent admits that the facts described herein are true.

15. The Respondent hereby agrees to the permanent revocation of his law enforcement officer certification in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E §§ 3(a) and 10(a)(i).

16. The Respondent waives all rights to contest the factual findings, conclusions of law, terms and conditions, or other provisions contained in this Agreement, as well as any Order of the Commission contemplated by this Agreement, in any administrative or judicial forum to which the Commission is or may be a party.

17. The Respondent acknowledges that, once this Agreement is executed, the Commission will issue an Order of Decertification. Both this Agreement and the Order of Decertification will be public documents and will be published on the Commission's website pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 10(g). Furthermore, the status of the Respondent's certification will be publicly available on certain lists and databases published by the Commission.

18. The Respondent understands and acknowledges that, as required under M.G.L. c. 6E, § 10(g), the Commission will submit all revocation information, including a copy of this Agreement and any Order of Decertification, for inclusion in the National Decertification Index.

19. This Agreement shall be effective as of the date it is approved by the Commission.

Date

Respondent

5/22/2024

margaret R. Hunkle

Date

Margaret R. Hinkle, Chair