



Massachusetts POST Commission

84 State Street, Suite 200 Boston, MA 02114

March 6, 2026

Joseph Padolsky, Esq.
Louison, Costello, Condon & Pfaff, LLP
10 Post Office Square, Suite 1330
Boston, MA 02109
email: jpadolsky@lccplaw.com

Sent via electronic mail only

Re: Officer Dante DiFronzo Disciplinary Record and Certification Status

Attorney Padolsky:

I am in receipt of your request to amend data regarding Officer Dante A. DiFronzo ("DiFronzo") that is currently in the public database of the Massachusetts Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission ("POST").

Specifically, you requested that POST replace the allegations for POST Complaint 5889 (Allegations A-00008643 through A-00008646) with a single allegation whose Allegation Type and Subtype would be "Other Misconduct," replace the disposition for that single allegation with "Suspension, 30+ days," and include with that allegation a summary of facts. (Padolsky January 20, 2026 Letter 23-24; Padolsky February 18, 2026 Letter 9-10.).

Given the history of this case and facts addressed herein, I will also address DiFronzo's current certification status of "Further Review."

For the reasons stated below, I grant your request in part and deny your request in part. I also direct the Division of Police Certification to change your certification status to "Conditionally Certified."

I. FACTS

DiFronzo is a police officer with the Somerville Police Department ("SPD"). He was acquainted with [REDACTED], a civilian involved in various criminal activities. DiFronzo said that he used [REDACTED] as a "street source" to help him solve certain crimes. (Shrage 2021 Decision 2, 4, 41-42.)

In February 2015, DiFronzo was investigating a crime. He believed that it may have been committed by a person named [REDACTED]. DiFronzo contacted [REDACTED] in an effort to

locate [REDACTED] [REDACTED] replied that he, too, was trying to find [REDACTED] because [REDACTED] had stolen marijuana from him. (Id. at 4-5.)

According to DiFronzo, [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was going to give [REDACTED] “a beating.” DiFronzo cautioned him not to do such a thing, and [REDACTED] said that he would not. The two then collaborated in their efforts to find [REDACTED]. Among other things, they sent text messages back and forth to one another about the possible whereabouts of [REDACTED]. On March 1, 2015, DiFronzo met with [REDACTED] and drove around with him in search of information that might lead to [REDACTED]. (Id. at 5-9.)

On March 2, 2015, [REDACTED] was stabbed multiple times with a machete. He was taken to the hospital where he needed surgery. DiFronzo did not reveal to his fellow officers that [REDACTED] had been looking for [REDACTED] or why [REDACTED] had been searching for [REDACTED]. DiFronzo also did not reveal his own collaborations and communications with [REDACTED] in the days prior to the assault. At some point, however, DiFronzo did tell other officers that [REDACTED] may have been involved in the stabbing. (Id. at 10-12, 20.)

DiFronzo investigated the stabbing. Among other things, he interviewed witnesses, including [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]; presented photo arrays; and applied for an arrest warrant to arrest [REDACTED] for multiple criminal charges, including assault with intent to murder. He did not include in his reports or application for charges information about his own collaborations and communications with [REDACTED] in the days leading up to the attempted murder. (Id. at 10-14.)

On March 24, 2015, [REDACTED] was arrested. His phone was seized. DiFronzo applied for search warrants to search for certain types of data within [REDACTED] phone. That data included text messages. After obtaining a search warrant, investigators eventually were able to access the contents of [REDACTED] phone. There, investigators found texts between DiFronzo and [REDACTED]. (Id. at 14-17.)

On or about September 29, 2016, the SPD placed DiFronzo on administrative leave. The District Attorney’s Office investigated the matter and eventually issued a “Brady” letter regarding DiFronzo. DiFronzo was also investigated by the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office for possible criminal violations arising from his collaboration with [REDACTED]. The grand jury declined to indict DiFronzo, and the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office declined to prosecute him. (Id. at 18-21.)

In May 2017, the Chief of the SPD recommended that DiFronzo be suspended for five days and that the appointing authority terminate DiFronzo. DiFronzo’s union requested that the police department conduct an internal investigation into the matter. The SPD complied. The Chief appointed Bernard Cotter to investigate. In December 2017, Cotter issued a report in which he concluded that DiFronzo violated multiple SPD rules and regulations. (Id. at 21-27; Cotter Report 17-19.)

On January 2, 2018, the Chief of the SPD sent DiFronzo a letter in which the Chief stated that he agreed with Cotter’s findings. More specifically, the Chief wrote that DiFronzo violated SPD rules and regulations regarding Submitting Reports, Truthfulness, Withholding Evidence, Conduct Unbecoming an Officer, False Information on Records, and Improper Associations. The Chief requested an appointing-authority hearing to determine just cause for further discipline up to and including termination. (Shrage 2021 Decision 27-33.)

A hearing was held on the matter. After the hearing, the presiding officer, Peter Berry, issued a report in which he found, among other things, that DiFronzo violated the same rules and regulations for which Cotter found violations. Berry found that DiFronzo violated the rule regarding “Submitting Reports” but, in a departure from Cotter’s findings, found that the rule was not violated by DiFronzo’s actions in writing the search warrants. Berry found, among other things, that on March 16, 2015, two weeks after the stabbing, DiFronzo filed a report in which he reported the conversation in which ██████ told DiFronzo that ██████ had stolen ██████ marijuana. Berry found, further, that DiFronzo did not report the fact that DiFronzo and ██████ had been exchanging text messages soon before the stabbing or the contents of those messages. (Shrage 2021 Decision 34-37, 54-57; Berry Report 28-32, 33-35.)

On May 8, 2018, the Mayor of Somerville terminated DiFronzo’s employment as a Somerville police officer. The Mayor based his termination decision on the violations that Berry found DiFronzo to have committed. (May 8, 2018 Discharge Notice 1-3; Shrage 2021 Decision 38-39.)

DiFronzo appealed the matter to an arbitrator. The case was heard by Arbitrator Harvey Shrage. Shrage’s decision did not go through each alleged violation one-by-one and state whether or not those alleged violations were sustained. (See Shrage 2021 Decision 1-77.) Shrage made findings on the matter that include, among other things, the following:

- “I conclude that the Grievant did not violate the Department rule regarding Improper Associations.” (*Id.* at 74.)
- “I conclude that the Grievant’s role in drafting and submitting the search warrants do not support the conclusion that the Grievant was attempting to conceal information.” (*Id.* at 74.)
- “[T]he fact that the Grievant did not make reference to his relationship with ██████ until his March 16th report, demonstrated poor reporting of critical facts in a timely manner. However, when taken together with the fact that he did reach out to Santos on March 5th, had communications with ██████ shortly after the stabbing, and later in the process regularly checked on the status of the phone dump, indicates that the Grievant was not attempting to conceal evidence to protect ██████. Although the Grievant’s actions after the stabbing should have been timelier with regard to raising ██████ name as a suspect, the evidence does not support the view that he was protecting ██████.” (*Id.* at 72-73.)
- “[T]he fact that the Grievant did not come forward with the substance of the texts immediately after the stabbing and did not provide a written report about his contact with ██████ until his March 16th report, demonstrated another example of his lack of judgment and poor report writing justifying discipline.” (*Id.* at 73.)
- “I conclude that the Grievant demonstrated poor judgment in the manner that he used ██████ as a source. Although there is no evidence that the Grievant gained personal benefit in the way he used ██████, it appears that his focus on locating ██████ clouded his judgement in the manner he used ██████. At the point that ██████ informed him that he was looking for ██████, and also

informed the Grievant that he wanted to give [REDACTED] a beating, the Grievant should have reevaluated the manner that he was using [REDACTED] and the detail of information he was providing to [REDACTED]. Instead of reevaluating his use of [REDACTED] as a source, the Grievant demonstrated poor judgment in concluding that [REDACTED] was not serious in making comments about harming [REDACTED]. The Grievant should have consulted with superiors about his use of [REDACTED] as a source in light of the substance of the telephone conversation.” (Id. at 75.)

- “I conclude that the Grievant should have submitted a written report about his belief that [REDACTED] was a suspect immediately after the stabbing. The fact that the Grievant was off for two days after the stabbing should not have prevented him from formally and clearly communicating his belief about [REDACTED] and allow the possibility of other officers continuing the investigation on his days off.” (Id. at 75.)
- “Based upon all the evidence and the above analysis, I conclude that although the City had just cause to discipline the Grievant, it did not have just cause to terminate the Grievant. Therefore, I conclude that the Grievant shall be reinstated without back pay or benefits, but without loss of seniority.” (Id. at 75-76.)
- “In concluding that a long-term suspension is appropriate, I have considered the fact that the Grievant did not reconsider his reliance on [REDACTED] after [REDACTED] made his comments about harming [REDACTED], did not consult with anyone in upper command after the February 28th phone call with [REDACTED], and did not promptly provide a written report about his belief that [REDACTED] was a suspect in the stabbing immediately after the stabbing.” (Id. at 76.)

The City appealed Shrage’s arbitration award. The Superior Court vacated certain portions of the award¹ and remanded the case to Shrage for further findings. City of Somerville v. Somerville Police Emps. Ass’n, No. 2184-CV-01517, at 1, 7, 9 (Mass. Super. Ct. May 24, 2023).

On January 31, 2024, Shrage issued a decision on remand in which he made further findings, which include, among others, the following:

- “DiFronzo did not include information about his communications with [REDACTED] in his reports or in his communications with superiors prior to the [REDACTED] stabbing.” (Shrage 2024 Decision 5.)
- “DiFronzo’s act of not including information about his communications with [REDACTED] in his reports or in his communications with superiors prior to the [REDACTED] stabbing was

¹ The decision to vacate centered on whether an arbitrator can compel a police department to appoint a person to a certain position within that department. City of Somerville v. Somerville Police Emps. Ass’n, No. 2184-CV-01517, at 5-7 (Mass. Super. Ct. May 24, 2023).

not motivated to protect himself or impede the investigation.” (Id. at 5.)

- “The text messages with [REDACTED] were not required to be included in DiFronzo’s reports or shown to superiors.” (Id. at 6.)

The Commission’s public database currently displays information about four alleged violations of SPD rules by DiFronzo, specifically, the rules regarding Conduct Unbecoming an Officer, Withholding Evidence, Truthfulness, and Submitting reports. See POST Commission, Officer Disciplinary Records, <https://mapostcommission.gov/discipline-status-records/disciplinary-records/> (last visited Feb. 20, 2026). The website currently does not display information about DiFronzo’s alleged violations of the SPD rules regarding Improper Associations and False Information on Records.

DiFronzo now seeks to amend the information currently in POST’s public database. (See Padolsky January 20, 2026 Letter 23-24; Padolsky February 18, 2026 Letter 9-10.)

II. LAW

The Commission is required to establish and maintain “a public database of information concerning” law enforcement officers. 555 CMR 8.06(1); see also M.G.L. c. 6E, § 4(j). As a general rule, that database must include “[a] summary of the officer’s disciplinary record, which . . . shall list: a. Complaints against the officer; b. The final disposition of each listed complaint; [and] c. The nature of any discipline imposed as a result of each listed complaint.” 555 CMR 8.06(3)(a)10.

Exceptions to this general rule exist. One such exception provides that the Commission shall not make available in its public database “[i]nformation concerning any complaint or disciplinary matter that has not been resolved adversely to the officer, unless the matter was resolved in a manner that the Commission determines to have been unwarranted.” 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.i. Another such exception provides that the Commission shall not make available “[i]nformation concerning a decision or action that has been reversed or vacated.” 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.j.

Furthermore, “[i]f the Executive Director determines that the relief requested in a petition filed pursuant to 555 CMR 8.08(1) is unwarranted . . . , the petitioner shall have the opportunity to submit a statement reflecting the petitioner’s position regarding the data.” 555 CMR 8.08(5).

III. APPLICATION

The City of Somerville disciplined DiFronzo based on six alleged violations of the SPD rules and regulations. We address those alleged violations in turn.

A. Improper Associations

Shrage concluded that DiFronzo “did not violate the Department rule regarding Improper Associations.” (Shrage 2021 Decision 74.) The decision to discipline DiFronzo for a violation of Improper Associations was thus reversed.

Accordingly, the information regarding this alleged violation has been removed from POST's database. 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.j. (the Commission shall not make available in its public database "[i]nformation concerning a decision or action that has been reversed or vacated.").

B. Submitting Reports

The SPD rules and regulations provide that "[a]ll officers shall promptly and accurately complete and submit all reports and forms as required by departmental procedures." (Shrage 2021 Decision 29; May 8, 2018 Discharge Notice 1.)

Berry found that DiFronzo violated this rule. (Berry Decision 30.) On the one hand, Shrage found that DiFronzo was not required to include in a report his text messages with [REDACTED] or to show those text messages to a superior officer. (Shrage 2024 Decision 6.) On the other hand, Shrage found that DiFronzo was required to have reported in a more timely manner his relationship with [REDACTED], his "contact" with [REDACTED], the "substance" of his text messages with [REDACTED], and his belief that [REDACTED] was a suspect. (See Shrage 2021 Decision 72 ("[T]he fact that the Grievant did not make reference to his relationship with [REDACTED] until his March 16th report, demonstrated poor reporting of critical facts in a timely manner."); *id.* at 73 ("[T]he fact that the Grievant did not come forward with the substance of the texts immediately after the stabbing and did not provide a written report about his contact with [REDACTED] until his March 16th report, demonstrated another example of his lack of judgment and poor report writing justifying discipline."); *id.* at 75 ("I conclude that the Grievant should have submitted a written report about his belief that [REDACTED] was a suspect immediately after the stabbing. The fact that the Grievant was off for two days after the stabbing should not have prevented him from formally and clearly communicating his belief about [REDACTED] and allow the possibility of other officers continuing the investigation on his days off."); *id.* at 76 ("In concluding that a long-term suspension is appropriate, I have considered the fact that the Grievant . . . did not promptly provide a written report about his belief that [REDACTED] was a suspect in the stabbing immediately after the stabbing.")).

In short, Shrage found that DiFronzo did not violate the SPD's rule regarding "Submitting Reports" in certain respects and did violate it in other respects, and those violations, Shrage concluded, merited discipline. (See *id.*)

Accordingly, the allegation that DiFronzo violated the rule regarding "Submitting Reports" (A-00008643) shall remain in POST's database.

C. Conduct Unbecoming an Officer

The SPD rules and regulations prohibit "Conduct Unbecoming an Officer" and define that term as "[t]he commission of any specific act or acts of immoral, improper, disorderly or intemperate personal conduct which brings discredit upon the officer, upon fellow officers, or upon the police department." (Shrage 2021 Decision 29; May 8, 2018 Discharge Notice 1.)

Berry found that DiFronzo violated this rule. (Berry Decision 35.) Shrage does not explicitly state in his decisions whether DiFronzo violated this rule. Nevertheless, Shrage did not explicitly reverse or vacate Berry's findings and conclusions about DiFronzo's violation of the rule regarding "Conduct Unbecoming an Officer." In addition, Shrage found facts that by any fair interpretation support the conclusion that DiFronzo acted in an improper manner that brought discredit upon himself. Such an interpretation is not only consistent with a

commonsense reading of facts found by Shrage but with the explicit language in Shrage's decisions. (See, e.g., Shrage 2021 Decision 73 ("[T]he fact that the Grievant did not come forward with the substance of the texts immediately after the stabbing and did not provide a written report about his contact with [REDACTED] until his March 16th report, demonstrated another example of his lack of judgment and poor report writing justifying discipline."); *id.* at 75 ("I conclude that the Grievant demonstrated poor judgment in the manner that he used [REDACTED] as a source."); *id.* ("At the point that [REDACTED] informed him that he was looking for [REDACTED], and also informed the Grievant that he wanted to give [REDACTED] a beating, the Grievant should have reevaluated the manner that he was using [REDACTED] and the detail of information he was providing to [REDACTED]. Instead of reevaluating his use of [REDACTED] as a source, the Grievant demonstrated poor judgment in concluding that [REDACTED] was not serious in making comments about harming [REDACTED]."); *id.* at 76 ("In concluding that a long-term suspension is appropriate, I have considered the fact that the Grievant did not reconsider his reliance on [REDACTED] after [REDACTED] made his comments about harming [REDACTED], did not consult with anyone in upper command after the February 28th phone call with [REDACTED], and did not promptly provide a written report about his belief that [REDACTED] was a suspect in the stabbing immediately after the stabbing."))

In short, Shrage's decisions, though not entirely clear, suggest that Shrage sustained the alleged violation of the rule regarding "Conduct Unbecoming an Officer" and imposed discipline on DiFronzo for that violation. As a result, the exceptions in 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.i. and 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.j. do not apply. See 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.i. (information to be removed when both complaint and discipline not resolved adversely to the officer); 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.j. (information to be removed when decision or action is reversed or vacated). I have found no other exception that applies, and DiFronzo has provided me with none.

Accordingly, the allegation that DiFronzo violated the rule regarding "Conduct Unbecoming an Officer" (A-00008646) shall remain in POST's database.

D. False Information on Records

The SPD rules and regulations state that "[a]n officer or employee shall not make or submit any false or inaccurate reports or knowingly cause to be entered into any departmental books, records, or reports any inaccurate, false or improper information." (Shrage 2021 Decision 29; May 8, 2018 Discharge Notice 2.)

Berry sustained the allegations that DiFronzo violated the rule regarding "False Information on Records." (Berry Decision 30-31.) Shrage's decisions do not directly address DiFronzo's alleged violation of this rule. According to Shrage's decisions, however, DiFronzo's misconduct seems to arise from a failure to provide information in a timely manner rather than a failure to provide truthful or accurate information. (See, e.g., Shrage 2021 Decision 72-73, 75-76.) Nor do Shrage's decisions suggest that DiFronzo should be disciplined for a violation of the rule regarding "False Information on Records." (See, e.g., Shrage 2021 Decision 76 ("In concluding that a long-term suspension is appropriate, I have considered the fact that the Grievant did not reconsider his reliance on [REDACTED] after [REDACTED] made his comments about harming [REDACTED], did not consult with anyone in upper command after the February 28th phone call with [REDACTED], and did not promptly provide a written report about his belief that [REDACTED] was a suspect in the stabbing immediately after the stabbing."))

In short, Shrage's decisions, though not entirely clear, suggest that Shrage did not sustain the alleged violation of the rule regarding "False Information on Records" and that he imposed no discipline on DiFronzo for a violation of that rule. As a result, information about this alleged violation shall not be made available in POST's public database. See 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.i. (information to be removed when both complaint and discipline not resolved adversely to the officer); see also 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.j. (information to be removed when decision or action is reversed or vacated).

E. Withholding Evidence

The SPD rules and regulations state that "[a]n Officer shall not fabricate, withhold, or destroy evidence of any kind." (Shrage 2021 Decision 29; May 8, 2018 Discharge Notice 1.)

In his initial decision, Shrage did not directly address DiFronzo's alleged violation of the rule regarding "Withholding Evidence." After issuance of Shrage's initial decision, the City of Somerville appealed Shrage's decision to the Superior Court, which, among other things, ordered Shrage on remand to "make additional findings as to whether DiFronzo intentionally withheld information about his interactions with [REDACTED]." City of Somerville v. Somerville Police Emps. Ass'n., No. 2184-CV-01517, at 8 (Mass. Super. Ct. May 24, 2023).

Shrage's decision on remand makes certain additional findings. For example, Shrage finds that DiFronzo did not reveal information *prior to the stabbing* about his communications with [REDACTED] and found that DiFronzo did not intend to withhold information *prior to the stabbing* "with the purpose of protecting himself or violating the City's rules and regulations or law." (Shrage 2024 Decision 5, 9-10.) Shrage declined, however, to make findings on whether DiFronzo intentionally withheld information *after the stabbing* about his interactions with [REDACTED]. (See, e.g. id.) I make my decision, then, without the benefit of clear findings by Shrage on the facts most critical to a resolution of this issue.

The findings that Shrage makes suggest that DiFronzo did not withhold information but, rather, that he failed to reveal certain information in a timely manner. (See Shrage 2021 Decision 72 ("[T]he fact that the Grievant did not make reference to his relationship with [REDACTED] until his March 16th report, demonstrated poor reporting of critical facts in a timely manner." (emphasis added)); id. at 73 ("[T]he fact that the Grievant did not come forward with the substance of the texts immediately after the stabbing and did not provide a written report about his contact with [REDACTED] until his March 16th report, demonstrated another example of his lack of judgment and poor report writing justifying discipline." (emphasis added)); id. at 75 ("I conclude that the Grievant should have submitted a written report about his belief that [REDACTED] was a suspect immediately after the stabbing." (emphasis added)).)

In a similar vein, Shrage's decisions seem to indicate that DiFronzo should be disciplined not for withholding evidence but for untimely disclosure of evidence. (See, e.g., id.; see also at 76 ("In concluding that a long-term suspension is appropriate, I have considered the fact that the Grievant did not reconsider his reliance on [REDACTED] after [REDACTED] made his comments about harming [REDACTED], did not consult with anyone in upper command after the February 28th phone call with [REDACTED], and did not promptly provide a written report about his belief that [REDACTED] was a suspect in the stabbing immediately after the stabbing." (emphasis added)).)

In short, Shrager's decisions, though not entirely clear, suggest that Shrager did not sustain the alleged violation of the rule regarding "Withholding Evidence" and did not impose discipline for a violation of that rule. As a result, information about this alleged violation (A-00008645) shall be removed from POST's public database. See 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.i.; see also 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.j.

F. Truthfulness

The SPD rules and regulations state: "An officer shall truthfully state the facts in all reports as well as when he appears before any judicial, departmental, or other official investigation, hearing, trial or proceeding. An officer shall fully cooperate in all phases of such investigations, hearings, trials, and proceedings." (Shrage 2021 Decision 29; May 8, 2018 Discharge Notice 1.)

Shrage's decisions do not directly address DiFronzo's alleged violation of the rule regarding "Truthfulness." Nevertheless, Shrager's decisions do not seem to find that DiFronzo included false or inaccurate information in his reports or failed to cooperate when appearing before an official proceeding or investigation. Rather, Shrager's decisions suggest that DiFronzo should have reported information in a more timely manner and should not have put trust in [REDACTED] when there were indications that [REDACTED] might be dangerous. (See, e.g., Shrage 2021 Decision 72-73, 75-76.) Furthermore, Shrager finds that discipline is warranted for reasons apart from any allegations of untruthfulness or failure to cooperate fully when appearing before an official investigation or proceeding. (See, e.g., Shrage 2021 Decision 76.)

In short, Shrager's decisions, though not entirely clear, suggest that Shrager did not sustain the alleged violations of the rule regarding "Truthfulness" and did not impose discipline for a violation of this rule. As a result, the allegation that DiFronzo violated the rule regarding "Truthfulness" (A-00008644) shall be removed from POST's database. See 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.i.; see also 555 CMR 8.06(4)(b)1.j.

G. Discipline

On May 8, 2018, the Mayor of Somerville terminated DiFronzo's employment as a Somerville police officer. (May 8, 2018 Discharge Notice 1-3; Shrage 2021 Decision 38-39.) On June 4, 2021, Shrager concluded that DiFronzo "shall be reinstated without back pay or benefits, but without loss of seniority. The period of his absence will be reflected as a suspension in his personnel file. The City, as soon as practical, but not later than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this decision, shall reinstate [DiFronzo] to his prior position.² [DiFronzo's] reinstatement to his former position is conditioned upon his successful completion of a training program related to the use of confidential sources and/or street sources. In addition, his reinstatement is conditioned upon [DiFronzo] completing training related to report writing." (Shrage 2021 Decision 77.) The period between May 8, 2018 and June 4, 2021 is 1123 days.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, I have instructed the disciplinary records team at POST to

² The Superior Court found that Shrager had exceeded his authority when Shrager ordered DiFronzo to be reinstated to his prior position. City of Somerville v. Somerville Police Emps. Ass'n., No. 2184-CV-01517, at 5-7 (Mass. Super. Ct. May 24, 2023). This portion of the decision was therefore vacated. (Shrage 2024 Decision 9.)

modify the entries for this incident as follows:

I have instructed the disciplinary records team to remove from the database information for Allegations A-00008644 and A-00008645—that is, information about the alleged violations of the rules regarding “Withholding Evidence” and “Truthfulness.”

I have instructed the disciplinary records team to amend in the database information regarding Allegations A-00008643 and A-00008646—that is, the violations of the rules regarding “Submitting Reports” and “Conduct Unbecoming an Officer.” More specifically, I have instructed for those violations that the entry under the column entitled “Disciplines” be changed to read as follows: “Suspension, 30+ days, Retraining (suspended for 1123 days without pay, retraining on report writing and use of confidential sources and/or street sources).”

Information regarding the alleged offenses of “False Information on Records” and “Improper Associations” shall not be made available in POST’s public database.

Given the discussion above, I also address the status of DiFronzo’s certification.

An authority has made a decision in the officer’s favor on the merits of Allegations A-00008644 and A-00008645 (“Withholding Evidence” and “Truthfulness”). DiFronzo has complied, or is in the process of complying, with discipline for the misconduct at issue in Allegations A-00008643 and A-00008646 (“Submitting Reports” and “Conduct Unbecoming an Officer”). I do not consider Complaints 2581 and 2582 and their associated allegations (A-00004085 and A-00004086, respectively) in DiFronzo’s disciplinary history to constitute multiple instances of misconduct similar or related to the misconduct at issue in Allegations A-00008643 and A-00008646.

Accordingly, Allegations A-00008643 through A-00008646 are not to be considered by the Division of Police Certification, the Somerville Police Department, or any other police department in rendering now a determination regarding DiFronzo’s good character and fitness for employment. See 555 CMR 7.05(4)(a); 555 CMR 7.05(4)(c).

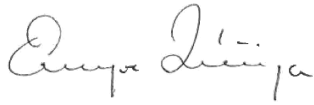
I find that the evidence one may consider in the present matter is insufficient to impugn the good character of DiFronzo or his fitness for employment as a law enforcement officer.

Therefore, I have instructed the Division of Police Certification to change the status of DiFronzo’s certification from “Further Review” to “Conditionally Certified.” The Division may impose those conditions which may be necessary for DiFronzo to complete the remaining requirements for certification in accordance with M.G.L Chapter 6E and 555 CMR 7.00.

To the extent that his petition has been deemed unwarranted, DiFronzo has “the opportunity to submit a statement reflecting [his] position regarding the data” if he wishes such a statement to be included with “any subsequent disclosure or dissemination of the data.” 555 CMR 8.08(5).

You may request further review of this determination by the Chair of the Commission, in accordance with 555 CMR 8.08.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Enrique Zuniga".

Enrique A. Zuniga, Executive Director

CC: Matthew P. Landry, POST Director of Police Standards
Steven R. Smith, POST Director of Police Certification
Heather E. Hall, POST Deputy Director of Police Certification
Shumeane L. Benford, Chief of Somerville Police