

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION**

IN THE MATTER OF
DOMINIC HOWARD

)
)

Case No. 2026-029
(MPTC ID 9398-4987)

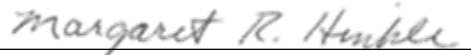
DECERTIFICATION ORDER

The Respondent Dominic Howard has entered into a 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; M.G.L. c. 30A, §§ 10 and 13. As further conditions of the Agreement, the Respondent has agreed that, if this matter were to proceed to an adjudicatory hearing, the allegations described in the Agreement, if proven by clear and convincing evidence, would permit the Commission to impose significant discipline, up to and including his decertification as a law enforcement officer in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and 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, as well as any Order of the Commission contemplated by the Agreement.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that, for the reasons stated in the Agreement:

- (a) The material factual findings and conclusions of law set forth in the Agreement are hereby adopted;
- (b) The Agreement is approved;
- (c) The Respondent’s law enforcement certification is hereby permanently revoked; and
- (d) The Executive Director shall take the necessary steps to publish the Agreement and this Order on the Commission’s website; to submit all decertification information, including the Agreement and this Order, for inclusion in the NDI, with an indication that the Respondent’s certification was revoked for cause on the basis of the misconduct described in the Agreement; and to publish the Respondent’s decertification in any publicly available lists and databases published by the Commission.

By vote of the Commission on August 20, 2026.


Hon. Margaret R. Hinkle (Ret.), Chair

Notice: Dominic Howard, Respondent
Amy C. Parker, Esq., Commission Enforcement Counsel
Division of Police Standards
Shaun Martinez, Esq., Deputy Director, Division of Police Standards
Malden Police Department, Law Enforcement Agency
Lynn Police Department, Law Enforcement Agency
Collective Bargaining Unit

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION**

DOMINIC HOWARD)
MPTC ID: 9398-4987)
_____)

Case No. 2026-029

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, Dominic Howard, and the Commission hereby enter into this Decertification Agreement:

Factual Findings

1. The Respondent was employed as a patrol officer by the Malden Police Department ("MPD") from September 30, 2024, to July 28, 2025, and by the Lynn Police Department ("LPD") from July 26, 2023, to September 27, 2024.
2. On July 26, 2023, the Respondent was certified by the Commission pursuant to M.G.L. 6E, §§ 3(a)(3) and 4, and 555 C.M.R. §§ 9.01–9.12.
3. On August 20, 2024, while employed at LPD, the Respondent was verbally counseled and assigned to de-escalation training for the following two incidents:
 - a. On July 8, 2024, while accompanying an elderly, intoxicated man in an ambulance, the man became verbally abusive, and at one point reached toward the Respondent's duty belt, to which the Respondent stated, against department policy, "you touch my mace again, you are going to get punched in the face."
 - b. On July 17, 2024, the Respondent was involved in a motor vehicle stop when he engaged with a bystander who was making comments about the stop. The interaction escalated to the Respondent deploying his taser and arresting this individual for charges of Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing the Peace, and Resisting Arrest, which a supervisor later determined were not supported by probable cause.
4. In or about July to September of 2024, the Respondent violated LPD policy by disseminating body-worn camera ("BWC") footage of an incident to members of the public without permission to do so. Subsequently, on January 14, 2025, and while employed by the

MPD, the Respondent was untruthful to MPD internal affairs investigators when he denied that he had, while previously employed at LPD, shared BWC video without authorization, as described in paragraph 3 above. During the same interview, the Respondent was also untruthful in stating how he had learned of these allegations against him. As a result of the Respondent's untruthful statements during this internal affairs investigation, MPD found that the Respondent to have violated MPD rules related to Truthfulness. As discipline, MPD suspended him for four days.

5. On April 21, 2025, after transporting an arrestee to complete the booking procedure at MPD, and upon arrival at the station, the Respondent neglected to remove from his cruiser property of the arrestee. After approximately 2 hours, the Respondent returned to the station to return the property. During an internal affairs investigation related to this issue, the Respondent untruthfully stated that he had "immediately" returned the property, and stated that other officers on scene had avoided taking responsibility for the arrest and had treated the arrestee's property poorly during a search, contrary to what the related BWC footage show. MPD found that the Respondent violated MPD rules related to Truthfulness and Conduct Unbecoming an Officer, and issued him a written reprimand.

6. On May 3, 2025, the Respondent failed two 209A protection orders at an address in Malden for approximately three hours. When dispatch sought confirmation via radio that the Respondent had attempted service, the Respondent untruthfully replied in the affirmative. A supervising Lieutenant subsequently asked the Respondent again whether he had attempted service, and the Respondent now answered, "negative," indicating the opposite of his previous response. The Respondent later admitted to MPD internal affairs investigators that he had intentionally delayed service of the 209A orders until after evening hours. When questioned about his inconsistent responses to whether he had attempted service of the orders, he stated that he misspoke when initially asked whether he had completed service because he had been on the phone with his girlfriend while on patrol. The related MPD internal affairs investigation found that the Respondent violated MPD rules related to Truthfulness, Conduct Unbecoming an Officer, Radio Procedures, and Response to Officer Initiated Calls. As discipline, MPD suspended him for five days.

7. On June 26, 2025, the Commission, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 8(c)(2) and 555 C.M.R. § 1.02(2) and (4), authorized the Division to conduct a preliminary inquiry into the allegations of misconduct described in paragraphs 4 through 6 above.

8. On July 9, 2025, MPD issued a letter of reprimand to the Respondent for failing to notify a commanding officer of his address change two months prior, as required by MPD policy.

9. On February 19, 2026, the Commission voted to initiate disciplinary proceedings against the Respondent.

Legal Conclusions

10. 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]; and

(24) conduct adjudicatory proceedings in accordance with chapter 30A:

11. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 10(b)(iii), “[t]he [C]ommission may [...] suspend or revoke an officer’s certification if the [C]ommission finds by clear and convincing evidence that the officer [...] has a pattern of unprofessional police conduct that [the] [C]ommission believes may escalate.”

12. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 10(b)(iv), “[t]he [C]ommission may [...] suspend or revoke an officer’s certification if the [C]ommission finds by clear and convincing evidence that the officer [...] was suspended or terminated by their appointing agency for disciplinary reasons, and any appeal of said suspension or termination is completed.”

13. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 10(b)(v), “[t]he [C]ommission may [...] suspend or revoke an officer’s certification if the [C]ommission finds by clear and convincing evidence that the officer [...] has repeated sustained internal affairs complaints, for the same or different offenses.”

14. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 10(d)(vi), “[t]he [C]ommission may, after a hearing, order retraining for any officer if the [C]ommission finds substantial evidence that the officer . . . was untruthful, except for a statement or action that mandates revocation pursuant to subsection (a).”

15. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6E, § 10(h), the Commission may institute a disciplinary hearing after an officer’s appointing agency has issued a final disposition on the alleged misconduct.

16. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 10, “[u]nless otherwise provided by law, agencies may . . . make informal disposition of any adjudicatory proceeding by stipulation, agreed settlement, consent order or default.”

17. The allegations described above demonstrate a pattern of unprofessional police misconduct that may escalate. § 10(b)(iii).

18. The allegations described above demonstrate that the Respondent was suspended several times by his appointing agency for disciplinary reasons, which involved several sustained complaints against him for the same or different offenses. § 10(b)(iv) and (v).

19. The allegations described above demonstrate that the Respondent was untruthful during internal affairs interviews at MPD. § 10(d)(vi).

Resolution

In view of the foregoing, 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:

20. The Respondent agrees that, if this matter were to proceed to an adjudicatory hearing, the allegations described above, if proven by clear and convincing evidence, would permit the Commission to impose the discipline contemplated herein, up to and including his decertification as a law enforcement officer in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

21. The Respondent, in lieu of further enforcement proceedings, 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(b)(iii)-(v).

22. 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.

23. The Respondent acknowledges that, once this Agreement is executed, the Commission will issue an Order of Decertification, and said Order will adopt the factual findings and the conclusions of law set forth in this Agreement. 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.

24. 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. The Commission shall report that the Respondent's certification has been revoked for cause, on the basis of the aforementioned misconduct.

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

7-20-26
Date


Dominic Howard, Respondent

08/20/2026
Date

Margaret R. Hinkle
Margaret R. Hinkle, Chair