



Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training

1600 University Avenue, Suite 200, Saint Paul, MN 55104

(651) 643-3060 | www.mn.gov/post

Filing Complaints General Information

The POST Board's authority to investigate complaints and impose discipline on a peace officer's license is limited by Minnesota Statutes [626.8431](#), [626.8432](#), and [626.845](#). These statutes provide that POST can take licensure action when a violation of the established standards of conduct for licensed peace officers occurs.

Some examples of standards of conduct violations include: engaging in discriminatory conduct, use of unauthorized or unreasonable force or unauthorized deadly force, misuse of authority, and committing certain criminal offenses. The full list of Standards of Conduct violations may be found in MN Rules [6700.1600](#).

Local Agency: Minnesota law requires that all law enforcement agencies have a policy that describes how the agency will accept, investigate and resolve complaints of misconduct.

POST Board: If you believe that a peace officer has violated a POST Board standard of conduct, you may use this form to file a complaint with POST, in addition to filing a complaint with the peace officer's employing agency.

After you have filed a complaint with us, our staff will review the complaint then bring it before our Complaint Investigation Committee to determine if it falls within the POST Board's jurisdiction. If your complaint falls within the POST Board's jurisdiction, additional information will be gathered. The Board may order an investigation conducted by an outside agency.

If your complaint is determined to NOT be in POST Board jurisdiction, no further action will be taken, and we will notify you. If your complaint is not in POST Board jurisdiction, you may contact the peace officer's agency and file a complaint with them if you have not already done so.

If you still have questions regarding the information in this complaint packet or are having difficulty determining if your complaint is appropriate for POST Board action, do not hesitate to contact us at 651-643-3060 or send an email to postboard.agency.docs@state.mn.us and ask to speak with a Standards Coordinator.

You may also use the following link to view the complaints page on our website: [POST Board Complaints Page](#).



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Standards of Conduct for Peace Officers

(MN Rules 6700.0700, 6700.1600, 6700.1610)

Peace officers who **engage in** any conduct listed below are subject to licensing sanctions by the POST Board. The “engaged in” standard does not require an arrest or conviction. A peace officer is required to self-report to the POST Board (within 10 business days of learning of the reportable event) any action, inaction or condition which they reasonably believe would constitute grounds for disciplinary action.

CLEOs are required to report peace officer misconduct to POST **as soon as they determine a violation has occurred** (MN Statute 626.8457 Subd. 4), regardless of whether discipline was imposed.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT RELATED TO PEACE OFFICER AUTHORITY

Use of Force

- Engage in unreasonable or excessive use of force, unauthorized use of force, or unauthorized use of deadly force;
- Fail to intercede when observing another peace officer using force beyond that which is objectively reasonable (MN Statute 626.8475); or
- Fail to report any use of force violations by another employee or peace officer in writing within 24 hours to the chief law enforcement officer (MN Statute 626.8475).

Misuse of Authority

- Use or attempted use of one’s position or authority as a peace officer to obtain a benefit, avoid a detriment, or harm another;
- Maliciously procure a search warrant, exceed a peace officer’s authority in executing a search warrant, or execute a search warrant with unnecessary severity (MN Statute 626.22);
- Intentionally gain unauthorized access to or unlawfully misuse government data; or
- Intentionally make undisclosed or improper inducements to witnesses or suspects.

General

- Fail to report crimes of bias or alleged crimes of bias (MN Statute 626.5531);
- Fail to self-report an arrest or criminal charge, or any violation of standards of conduct to the board and the chief law enforcement officer within ten days (MN Rule 6700.1610);
- Falsify or knowingly provide false information to the board, a law enforcement agency, or a court;
- Intentionally mishandle evidence or property;
- Fail to cooperate with a board investigation;
- Conduct prohibited by or listed as grounds for disciplinary action in rule or statute;
- Cheat or attempt to subvert the examination or licensing process;
- Be the subject of revocation, suspension, or surrender of a law enforcement license or certificate in resolution of a complaint or other adverse action relating to licensing or certification in another jurisdiction;
- Misconduct of a public officer or public employee (MN Statute 609.43);
- Fail to comply with any other requirement in rule or statute for peace officers; or
- Fail to comply with any order of the board.



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CRIMINAL MISCONDUCT

(regardless of being arrested or criminally charged) (refer to MN Rule 6700.0700 Subp. 1, D.)

- Conduct that would be a felony in Minnesota or another jurisdiction;
- Conduct identified as a gross misdemeanor in Minnesota;
- Discriminatory conduct (MN Rule 6700.0100 subp. 26)
- Engage in bias crimes, including assaults or criminal damage to property motivated by bias (MN Statute 609.2231, subd. 4, and 609.595, subd. 2 (b));
- Join, support, advocate for, maintain membership, or participate in the activities of:
 - A hate or extremist group (MN Rule 6700.0100 subp. 29); or
 - A criminal gang (MN Statute 609.229 Subd. 1);
- Theft, prostitution or controlled substance offenses;
- Sexual harassment (MN Statute 363A.03, subd. 43);
- Domestic assault (MN Statute 609.2242);
- Violation of a domestic abuse no contact order (MN Statute 629.75, subd. 2);
- Violation of an order for protection (MN Statute 518B.01 subd. 14);
- Harassment or stalking (MN Statute 609.749);
- Violation of a harassment restraining order (MN Statute 609.748 subd. 6);
- Interference with an emergency call (MN Statute 609.78, subd. 2 (1));
- Nonconsensual dissemination of private sexual images (MN Statute 617.261);
- Criminal sexual conduct (MN Statute 609.341 to 609.3451);
- Indecent exposure (MN Statute 617.23);
- Sexual extortion (MN Statute 609.3458);
- Have been required at any point in time to be registered as a predatory offender;
- Interference with privacy (MN Statute 609.746);
- Carrying a pistol while under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or an intoxicating substance;
- Driving while under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or an intoxicating substance;
- Fleeing by means other than a vehicle;
- Mistreatment of a vulnerable adult (MN Statute 609.2231; 609.231; 609.2325; 609.2335; 609.234; and 609.72, subd. 3);
- Malicious punishment of a child (MN Statute 609.377);
- Mistreating animals (MN Statute 343.21);
- Making false claims for profit to a public body or officer (MN Statute 609.465);
- Attempting medical assistance fraud (MN Statute 609.466); or
- Obstructing legal process.

PRIOR MISCONDUCT

Conduct of currently licensed peace officers that occurred before June 1, 2023, is subject to standards of conduct in effect at the time the conduct occurred.



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Complaint Form

- If you need assistance with completing this form for any reason, please contact one of our Standards Coordinators: postboard.agency.docs@state.mn.us
- We recognize that you may not have some of the information requested on this form. Please complete the sections using the information that you do have.
- If you have documents, audio or video recordings, or other supporting information for this complaint, please mention this on the Summary of Alleged Misconduct section (next page).

Agency/Agencies:	
Peace Officer(s):	

COMPLAINANT

Name (Last, First, Middle)	
Street Address	
Phone #(s)	Email Address

WITNESS *(If more than one witness, attach additional pages)*

Name (Last, First, Middle)	
Street Address	
Phone #(s)	Email Address

INCIDENT

Date	Time	Location
Name(s) of Involved Peace Officer(s) <i>(If unknown, provide a physical description)</i>		
Badge Number(s)		Squad Number(s)
Law Enforcement Agency/Agencies		Citation or Case Number

Signature:

Date:



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This should be completed and signed by the complainant. Include all relevant information so we may understand your concerns and the misconduct you believe occurred. If needed, you may include additional pages, including copies of any supporting documents you may have. Please sign and date all pages.

[illegible]

Date:



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NOTICE

You are voluntarily filing a complaint with the POST Board. Information you provide on this form, and in later communications or proceedings, may be used by POST Board staff or designated investigators to process and investigate your complaint. The information you provide may also be released to others who have authority to review it, including other individuals within the Board, the Minnesota Attorney General's Office, the Court of Administrative Hearings, state and federal law enforcement agencies, courts, and the legislative auditor. The information may also be used for statistics. You are not required to submit this form or provide all the information requested on the form. However, if you do not provide all the information, we may not be able to fully investigate the claim or contact you with additional questions. We will not identify you as the complainant unless you authorize us to do so below, or we are ordered to disclose your identity by a presiding judicial officer. In some cases, we will not be able to investigate your complaint if you do not authorize us to disclose your identity. In any event, the law requires the Board to share a copy of your complaint against a licensed peace officer before it commences a formal disciplinary proceeding based on your complaint. Your name and identifying information will be redacted from the complaint if you do not authorize us to identify you, however, the licensee may still be able to discern your identity based solely on the allegations in your complaint. The content of your complaint will be accessible to the licensee even if the Board does not act on it as a matter of law.

Do you authorize the POST Board to share your name and identifying information with the subject of your complaint? Please check the box for Yes or No.

YES I authorize the POST Board to release my name as the complainant to the subject of the complaint and to any other person as necessary for purposes of furthering the underlying investigation.

NO I do not authorize the POST Board to release my name as the complainant. I recognize that the Board may not be able to investigate my complaint if I do not authorize it to disclose my identity as the complainant. I also understand that the law requires the Board to provide the licensee with a copy of my complaint with my personal identifying information redacted if it proceeds with disciplinary proceedings based on my complaint. I further acknowledge that, even with my personal information redacted, the subject of my complaint may be able to discern my identity based solely on the nature of my allegations and, in any event, that a judicial officer may order the Board to disclose my identity as the complainant without consent.

Signature or Typed Signature of Complainant

Printed Name

Date