

# INTERNAL INVESTIGATION REPORT

Florida Department of Law Enforcement Incorporated by Reference in Rule 11B-20.001(3)(a)5.b. and 11B-27.003(2)(a), F.A.C.



CJSTC 78

Please type or print in black or blue and use capital and small letters for names, titles, and address

### OFFICER Last Four Digits of Officer's Social Security Number: David 2. Officer's Name: Vanis MI First Officer's Last Known Address: City State Zip Code Street Officer's Telephone Number: **AGENCY** 6. Agency Name: Volusia County Beach Safety Agency Contact Person's Telephone Number: 386-740-5120 Agency Contact Person: Mark Swanson 7. Agency Fax Number: \_\_ **VIOLATION - ALLEGATION** 10. Nature of Allegation(s): Official Misconduct 11. Agency Disposition: Sustained - (Violation of Section 943.13(4) or (7) or Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C. Sustained – (Violation of Agency Policy): Not Sustained: Unfounded: Exonerated: 12. Limitation Period for Disciplinary Action: Date Internal Investigation Initiated: 1-23-2024 Date Internal Investigation Completed: 2-15-24 Exception to limitation period for disciplinary action: Place a check mark by the exceptions to limitations that apply Days Tolled Written waiver of limitation by officer Ongoing criminal investigation or criminal prosecution Officer incapacitated or unavailable Multi-jurisdictional investigation Emergency or natural disaster as declared by the Governor Ongoing compliance hearing proceeding Criminal Charges Filed: N/A Agency Disciplinary Action: Resigned under investigation If the allegation has been sustained and determined to be a violation of Section 943.13(4) or (7), F.S. or Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C., attach and forward the following documentation to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Name and Address of Witness Internal Investigation Report Summary of the Facts Other Supportive Information **Certified Court Documents** Witness Statement/Disposition NOTICE: Pursuant to Section 943.1395(5), F.S., an employing agency must conduct an internal investigation when having cause to suspect that an officer it employs or employed at the time of the alleged violation, or employed on a Temporary Employment Authorization is not in compliance with Section 943.13(4) or (7), F.S. or Rule 11B-27,0011, F.A.C. If the investigation is sustained, the employing agency must forward a report to the Commission as specified by Rule 11B-27.003. 16. Agency administrator's signature Mark Swanson, Director 18. Agency administrator's name and title

1 of 2

Commission-Approved Revisions: 8/13/2020 Form Effective Date: 5/2021

Original - FDLE Copy - Agency



## **Department of Public Protection**

#### Report of Incident

TO:

Mark Swanson, Director

Department of Public Protection

FROM:

Jessica Paugh, Human Resources Manager

**Human Resources Division** 

DATE:

February 15, 2024

SUBJECT:

IA 2024-04 Captain David Vanis

### **Basis for Investigation:**

On December 12, 2023, Kyle Totten, International Union of Police business agent, wrote a letter to Director Mark Swanson reporting official misconduct. Mr. Totten indicated in his letter that the investigation report written by Captain Dave Vanis regarding the arrest of Lt. Johnson, Volusia County Department of Corrections, on February 23, 2019, was not accurate.

Mr. Totten expressed concern that the contents of the investigation completed by Captain Dave Vanis on April 3, 2019, were never verified as true and accurate as required by Florida State Statute 92.525 (2), the FDLE CJSTC form 78 was improperly filled out by Captain Vanis, reflecting there was a criminal charge against Lt. Johnson, also containing a discrepancy regarding the address on the form as it relates to the date of signature on the form.

Mr. Totten requested the file be reviewed for accuracy and validity on behalf of Lt. Johnson who believes the CJSTC 78 form submitted to FDLE was intentionally backdated by Captain Vanis.

### Offenses:

Florida Administrative Code 11b-27.0011 (4)(a) The perpetration by an officer of an act that would constitute any felony offense, whether criminally prosecuted or not.

### Volusia County Merit Rules and Regulations Sec. 86-453. - Reasons for disciplinary action.

- (1) Willful neglect in the performance of the duties of the position to which the employee is assigned.
- (2) Disregard for or frequent violations of county ordinances, departmental policies and regulations, including safety rules.
- (8) Criminal or illegal conduct (regardless of the filing of criminal charges or lack thereof or the absence of a criminal conviction or adjudication) that interferes with effective job performance or has an adverse effect on the county.
- (9) Any conduct, on or off duty, that interferes with effective job performance or has an adverse effect on the county.
- (12) Incompetent or unsatisfactory performance of duties.
- (14) Any conduct, on or off duty, that reflects unfavorably on the county as an employer.
- (22) Any other conduct or action of such seriousness that disciplinary action is considered warranted.

#### Investigation:

On Friday, December 8, 2023, an internal audit of Captain Vanis's computer revealed the CJSTC 78 form submitted to FDLE for Lt. Johnson's internal investigation, signed and dated by Captain Dave Vanis on April 3, 2019, had been completed on August 26, 2022. A further check of his FDLE submittals revealed four additional CJSTC 78 forms that were completed on August 22, 2022, but also back dated:

Andre Issac signed and dated 10/15/2018 Sean Cahill signed and dated 1/23/2019 Amanda Marble signed and dated 4/3/2019 Nathan Buckley signed and dated 5/17/2019

On Thursday, January 3, 2024, a complete audit of Captain Vanis's investigations was conducted. As a result of the audit, it was concluded that Captain Vanis failed to properly record and document his case files, as well as failed to notify FDLE of investigations containing moral character violations.

On Tuesday January 23, 2024, Captain Vanis was served a notification of internal investigation.

On Wednesday January 31, 2024, Captain Vanis retired from the County of Volusia prior to being interviewed.

On February 13, 2024, this internal affairs investigation was presented to Public Protection Director, Mark Swanson. Upon completion of the presentation, Director Mark Swanson determined the below allegations as SUSTAINED:

### Offenses:

Florida Administrative Code 11b-27.0011 (4)(a) The perpetration by an officer of an act that would constitute any felony offense, whether criminally prosecuted or not.

### Volusia County Merit Rules and Regulations Sec. 86-453. - Reasons for disciplinary action.

- (1) Willful neglect in the performance of the duties of the position to which the employee is assigned.
- (2) Disregard for or frequent violations of county ordinances, departmental policies and regulations, including safety rules.
- (8) Criminal or illegal conduct (regardless of the filing of criminal charges or lack thereof or the absence of a criminal conviction or adjudication) that interferes with effective job performance or has an adverse effect on the county.
- (9) Any conduct, on or off duty, that interferes with effective job performance or has an adverse effect on the county.
- (12) Incompetent or unsatisfactory performance of duties.
- (14) Any conduct, on or off duty, that reflects unfavorably on the county as an employer.
- (22) Any other conduct or action of such seriousness that disciplinary action is considered warranted.

Unless otherwise directed, this investigation is considered closed, and is submitted for review and action as deemed appropriate. The original attachments of interviews and other documents pertaining to this investigation remain on file with the Internal Affairs Unit.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing document and that the facts stated in it are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

### AND

I, the undersigned, do hereby swear, under penalty of perjury, that, to the best of my personal knowledge, information, and belief, I have not knowingly or willfully deprived, or allowed another to deprive, the subject of the investigation of any of the rights contained in ss.112.532 and 112.533, Florida Statute.

Jessica Paugh	2	2-1	C-2 / Date
STATE OF FLORIDA			
COUNTY OF VOLUSIA		<i>)</i>	
SIC		essica Paugh	NANCY M. MONAGHAN Notary Public State of Florida Comm# HH260382 Expires 7/10/2026
Personally Known OR Produced Ide	entification Ty	pe	
APPROVED BY.		DATE:	2/19/24

DIRECTOR MARK SWANSON COUNTY OF VOLUSIA PUBLIC PROTECTION