



VOLUSIA SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MICHAEL J. CHITWOOD, SHERIFF

Office of Chief Deputy Brian M. Henderson - Internal Affairs

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

REPORT NUMBER: IA 24-001

PERIOD COVERED: October 20, 2023

DATE REPORTED: January 05, 2024

SUBJECT NAME: Former Deputy Katlyn Margagliotti, #9237

INVESTIGATING OFFICER: Lieutenant Ben Gordon, #7744

BASIS FOR INVESTIGATION:

Katlyn Margagliotti was a Deputy Sheriff with the Volusia Sheriff's Office from September 8, 2020, to November 3, 2023. Upon her resignation, she failed to return approximately \$6,700 dollars' worth of VSO equipment. The equipment that was returned was done so in such a way that no reasonable person would have been able to locate it without Katlyn's assistance or through coincidental circumstances. Additionally, on the last day of her employment, there were notable concerns about where and when she returned VSO property and that she drove a marked patrol vehicle without her duty-issued firearm. In addition, Katlyn reportedly deceived her chain of command and lied about the hours she worked on her last shift. All these issues occurred while former Deputy Margagliotti was still employed with the Volusia Sheriff's Office and was actively working as a law enforcement officer in the state of Florida.

OFFENSES:

GO-026-02.V.B.3 - Any other conduct or action, on-duty or off-duty, of such seriousness that disciplinary action is considered warranted.

GO-026-02.V.C.5.g - Failure to Follow General Order, Standard Operating Procedure, or Order – Employees shall adhere to all official general orders, standard operational procedures, and orders, and shall faithfully execute all the duties and responsibilities of their assigned position.

GO-026-02.V.G.2.a - General Proficiency – VSO personnel are required to possess a sound working knowledge of the policies and procedures established by general orders and standard operating procedures.

GO-026-02.V.C.5.f - Inattention to Duties, Loafing, Sleeping – Employees shall be attentive to job duties and shall not neglect work by inattention, loafing, or sleeping while on duty.

GO-026-02.V.E.2.d - Compliance with Direct Order of a Superior or Competent Authority – Employees shall comply with the direct orders or instructions given by a supervisor or superior officer and shall not refuse to comply when such orders or instructions are lawful and proper.

GO-026-02.V.D.8.a - Untruthfulness – Employees shall not knowingly make false or untrue statements except as authorized in the performance of duties and as necessary to maintain covert operations during investigation of criminal activities.

GO-026-02.V.C.5.a - Leaving Assigned Work Area – Employees shall remain at or in assigned work areas or District during working hours, unless otherwise authorized by a supervisor.

GO-026-02.V.C.2.c - Deputies to Carry Firearms – All Deputies shall carry on or about their person an approved firearm when on duty, except when otherwise ordered by competent authority. It is recommended, but not required, that Deputies carry an approved firearm when off duty except when made impractical by the nature of their activities such as sports.

GO-026-02.V.F.5 - Commission of Felony – VSO personnel shall not commit any act or crime defined by state or federal law as a felony, whether chargeable or not.

INVESTIGATION:

On Monday, November 27, 2023, Lieutenant Cobb was assigned to the Katlyn Margagliotti resignation investigation by Chief Deputy Brian Henderson due to the potential of the case turning into a criminal investigation.

On Tuesday, November 28, 2023, Lieutenant Cobb reviewed the facts of the case and initiated an investigation. Throughout the day, Lieutenant Cobb determined there were several Volusia Sheriff's Office personnel who assisted Katlyn in the resignation process, and they possessed

important information relevant to the investigation. Prior to conducting interviews, Lieutenant Cobb gathered the following information:

On October 20, 2023, Katlyn tendered her resignation letter, effective November 3, 2023, and submitted it through the VSO Youth Services Chain of Command. On November 3, 2023, Katlyn was provided eight hours of compensated work time to return all her VSO equipment and ensure she had a ride home. Her workday began at 0800 hours and should have concluded at 1600 hours.

On November 14, 2023, it was discovered that a VSO patrol vehicle appeared to be disabled in the District 3 South parking lot, and Sergeant Held inquired about having it reassigned. At that time, it was learned this was Katlyn's assigned vehicle.

On November 15, 2023, Sergeant Patterson recovered the missing patrol vehicle and returned it to the VSO Fleet facility. The vehicle was locked, with a flat tire and dead battery, and Katlyn's direct supervisor could not locate the keys to the vehicle at that time. A spare set of keys were acquired from VSO Fleet Manager Jerry Fox, and were used to enter the vehicle before it was ultimately driven to VSO Fleet.

On November 16, 2023, Lieutenant Sturup, Jerry Fox, and Assistant Chief Westfall inventoried Katlyn's patrol vehicle. It was found to be in complete disarray, with VSO property strewn all over the vehicle. The vehicle was filled with trash, and the property that was in the vehicle appeared to have been intentionally disorganized with the intent to create an undue level of work to identify what was able to be accounted for.

Between the dates of November 3, at approximately 1243 hours, and November 15, 2023, at approximately 1500 hours, the patrol vehicle formerly assigned to Katlyn was parked at the District 3 South Office, locked and with a flat rear tire. The vehicle's battery was also dead, making it completely inoperable.

On November 20, 2023, Kaylyn was sent the following letter drafted by Chief Deputy Brian Henderson via certified mail:

“November 20, 2023

Katlyn Margagliotti

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mrs. Margagliotti,

An audit was conducted in regards to the Volusia Sheriffs; Office property issued to you during your tenure of employment, and compared to the what you returned upon your resignation. Attached to this letter is a list of items you failed to return.

Immediately, upon receipt of this letter, please return the below listed items. Failure to return the property could subject you to criminal charges.

Sincerely,

Brian Henderson, Chief Deputy

BH/arc

041L0117.23”

After a thorough inventory of the items returned by Katlyn, the following listed VSO items were determined to be missing.

Items	Amount	Price	Serial Number
Charger for phone	1	\$5.00	None
Glasses for BWC	1	\$249.95	None
Head mount for BWC	1	\$30.35	None
Samsung SM-T380 tablet	1	\$137.99	R52M40MDQNA
Handcuff pouch	1	\$28.25	None
Pair of handcuffs	1	\$40.75	None
Gun holster	1	\$154.95	None
Stinger flashlight 2020	1	\$268.20	unknown
Ammo pouch	1	\$34.47	None
Mace pouch	1	\$27.02	None
Harris Portable Radio with shoulder mic (400754)	1	\$5671.63	A4032A007902
radio batteries	1	Included above	unknown
Volusia Sheriff's Office Badge	2	\$60.00	Serial numbers not documented in ADG
Total		\$6,708.56	

Additionally, on November 29, 2023, Lieutenant Cobb attempted to download the vehicle data from Katlyn's previously assigned vehicle. This yielded negative results due to the make and model of the patrol vehicle lacking the capabilities to record such information.

On November 30, 2023, Lieutenant Cobb canvassed the District 3 South parking area for any available camera footage. This yielded the following: The District 3 South substation has no rear-facing exterior cameras affixed in the area. During his investigation, Lieutenant Cobb did locate an industrial-style doorbell camera across the parking lot of the substation; however, upon review, it did not capture anything of value.

On November 30, 2023, Lieutenant Cobb went to New Smyrna Beach High School and reviewed the surveillance footage from her last day of work. Lieutenant Cobb obtained video footage of Katlyn exiting the main office hallway with a shopping cart containing miscellaneous property and walking toward her car. Katlyn is wearing her department-issued uniform, badge, and gun belt and has her handheld radio attached to her person. The radio's handheld microphone is affixed to the front of her uniform. This was less than 24 hours prior to her abandoning her equipment at the District 3 South substation. Lieutenant Cobb also completed a thorough search of Katlyn's former office at NSB High School. The office was absent of any VSO property, including her handheld radio and any associated batteries.

Furthermore, the Flock database, specifically the license plate reader system, was used to analyze the activity of Katlyn's vehicle (VSO property #400009) with license plate ZQL56 on November 3, 2023. The database findings revealed that the mentioned vehicle did not register any hits on the tag readers between the hours of 0700 and 1800 hours on November 3, 2023.

On Wednesday, November 29, 2023, Lieutenant Cobb conducted sworn interviews with Sergeant Jeremy Patterson, Lieutenant Christy Sturrup, and Captain Todd Smith. All the sworn interviews were conducted at the VSO Family Resource Center and were audio recorded. Lieutenant Cobb obtained copies of the associated data from VSO emails, text messages, and ADG timecard data which are attached to this report.

Interview with Sergeant Jeremy Patterson

At 1330 hours, Lieutenant Cobb conducted a sworn interview with Sergeant Jeremy Patterson. Sergeant Patterson provided the following information during his interview: Prior to her resignation, Katlyn received clear and concise instructions from Sergeant Patterson on how to complete the process smoothly. Sergeant Patterson's instructions to Katlyn ensured her safety. By advising her to make her final stop at training to relinquish possession of her firearms, she would not be driving a marked patrol car around without any way to perform her job safely. This includes her obligation to protect innocent citizens and to have the ability to defend herself.

Initially, she was given five hours to complete the task after her SRD position was relieved by another deputy. However, Katlyn expressed disagreement with this timeframe, emailing Lieutenant Sturrup to explain her view that it was unfair and unreasonable to only have half a day for her resignation. Lieutenant Cobb was provided a copy of the email which read:

“Hello,

In regard to Friday Nov 3rd, I will be using that day to turn in my equipment. I have to drive from Brevard County to DeLand and Daytona. Then I have to navigate getting a ride home because my husband is on shift that day. I think it's unreasonable to expect me to report to work in a uniform that I will be taking off to turn in that day. Thursday will be my last day in uniform working, and Friday I will be turning in all of my equipment.

Deputy Katie Margagliotti #9237

SRD Unit- New Smyrna Beach High School

Support Operations Division

Youth Services Section

Volusia Sheriff's Office”

Sergeant Patterson considered this email insubordinate, as he believed it was directing her supervisors rather than seeking clarification.

After discussion, it was decided Katlyn would be given the entire eight-hour workday to resign in a less stressful manner. It was confirmed she understood her workday was from 0800 to 1600 hours, with the schedule discussed twice. The agency paid another deputy overtime to cover her shift at NSB High School allowing her to be away from the school while she returned her agency issued items.

On November 14, 2023, Sergeant Patterson was contacted by VSO IT asking if he was in possession of Katlyn's computer, Wi-Fi, and other accouterments. This contact was the onset of discovering Katlyn failed to return any of her assigned equipment, excluding her firearms and Taser.

When VSO IT contacted Sergeant Patterson, he tried to contact her, but she did not respond. Eventually, Katlyn informed him that her car and previously issued items were at District 3 South. She provided this information after Sergeant Cody Held had already inquired about the vehicle's availability for reassignment. Sergeant Patterson testified that Katlyn was unhelpful in locating the property.

During the course of the investigation, it was determined that Katlyn disregarded Sergeant Patterson's instructions. On November 3, 2023, Katlyn arrived at the Stephen Saboda Training

Center at approximately 1155 hours, where she relinquished possession of her VSO firearms into the custody of Senior Deputy Randy Post. In doing this, Katlyn drove past the VSO Information Technology facility located at 59 Keyton Drive, Daytona Beach. The facility is approximately 0.8 miles from the Stephen Saboda Training Center. Katlyn then drove her marked patrol vehicle to the VSO District 3 South substation without her firearm. According to Google Maps, his drive takes approximately 30 minutes.

Katlyn abandoned her agency-issued patrol vehicle on the northwest side of the building, away from any camera access. Katlyn entered the District 3 South substation at 1243 hours and discarded her VSO identification card and patrol car keys in the sergeant's office. Katlyn did this without notifying any VSO personnel of her intentions to abandon her VSO property in an undesignated area. Katlyn exited the District 3 South substation and did not return. The keys and her identification card were left in the communitive sergeant's office with no notes or explanation. The keys were not identified by any markings, numbers, or tags.

All of the information about the previously mentioned times and locations were verified by Katlyn's agency-issued identification card, which doubles as a security card access credential. This ensured accurate tracking and authentication of her movements into VSO facilities.

Interview with Lieutenant Christy Sturup

At 1357 hours, Lieutenant Cobb conducted a sworn interview with Lieutenant Christy Sturup. Lieutenant Sturup stated that Katlyn sent an insubordinate email to Sergeant Jeremy Patterson, with Lieutenant Sturup carbon copied on the content. Following this email, Lieutenant Sturup decided to provide Katlyn with eight hours of compensated time to complete the resignation process.

On November 15, 2023, Lieutenant Sturup was informed of the missing items by Sergeant Patterson. As Lieutenant Sturup began looking into the whereabouts of the VSO property, Captain Smith received a call from Captain Shivers, informing him that Katlyn's patrol car was at District 3 South and had been there for a substantial amount of time.

During the recovery of the VSO property, Lieutenant Sturup noted that the vehicle was extremely dirty and neglected. Additionally, Lieutenant Sturup observed that pieces of equipment that are typically joined were separated into different parts of the vehicle. According to Lieutenant Sturup, the level of disarray appeared intentional.

Lieutenant Sturup confirmed Katlyn had not mistakenly returned equipment to the wrong location by contacting each of the responsible managers involved. The cost associated with the loss to the Sheriff's Office was determined through quotes from each department.

In a subsequent phone conversation between Captain Smith and Lieutenant Sturrup with Katlyn, she stated she dropped her firearms off at training around 0800 and relinquished possession of her vehicle at District 3 South at approximately 0930 hours due to personal reasons. Katlyn refused to elaborate on the "personal issues" that arose, leading her to leave her assignment without permission. Katlyn confirmed she did not notify anyone of her intentions to leave her work assignment early or abandon her property. Katlyn also mentioned she was unable to find any of the missing property and expressed willingness to cover the costs for replacement if necessary.

Interview with Captain Todd Smith

At 1434 hours, Lieutenant Cobb conducted a sworn interview with Captain Todd Smith. Captain Smith explained that on November 15, 2023, around 1030 hours, Captain Shivers called him to inquire about why Katlyn's car was disabled at the District 3 South substation. This prompted Captain Smith to call Lieutenant Sturrup. During their call, they discussed options for obtaining keys for the vehicle, as Katlyn's assigned keys could not be located, and decided to move the car to the fleet for a complete inventory.

Following this, a conference call was held between Captain Smith, Lieutenant Sturrup, and Katlyn. During the call, Captain Smith expressed to Katlyn that situations like this do not reflect well on employees and emphasized the importance of finding and returning the equipment to the Sheriff's Office. Captain Smith conveyed to Katlyn that she had made her point and this behavior was not acceptable. Captain Smith asked Katlyn to provide a detailed account of her actions on her last day of work to understand how the situation arose. Katlyn attested to responding to training at approximately 0800 hours and arrived at District 3 South at 0930 hours, after which she had personal matters arise. She declined to provide further details about the matter and claimed to have used paid time off for the remainder of her shift. A timecard audit was conducted which contradicted her statement and indicated Katlyn was paid for a full eight-hour shift.

Interview with Sergeant Cody Held

On November 30, 2023, at 1053 hours, Lieutenant Cobb interviewed Sergeant Cody Held at the District 3 South Substation. The interview with Sergeant Held provided the following information:

Sergeant Held observed a vehicle he thought he could get reassigned to his unit on the beach. In doing so, he researched the car number and solicited the assistance of Captain Shivers, where it was determined the car belonged to Katlyn. Sergeant Held noted an MDC was left in the vehicle, that the car was secured, and that it appeared disabled.

Interview with Sergeant Ben Ruiz

On November 30, 2023, at approximately 2018 hours, Lieutenant Cobb interviewed Sergeant Ruiz. The interview with Sergeant Ben Ruiz yielded the following: Sergeant Ruiz noticed a set of patrol car keys and Katlyn's VSO identification card in the sergeant's office of the District 3 South substation. Those two items were to the left of the computer, out of the way, and stayed there for approximately a week and a half. The desk is roughly 4 feet wide, and the keys did not move. Sergeant Ruiz did not think about the reason the keys were there until Captain Shivers called him and asked if there were any keys near the sergeant's desk. At this time, he packaged them and left them for Captain Shivers. At the time the keys were there, Sergeant Ruiz was not aware Katlyn had resigned.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS REVIEW:

Upon the completion of Lieutenant Cobb's investigation, no criminal charges were filed against Katlyn. The investigation was forwarded to the VSO Internal Affairs Office for review and potential General Order Violations.

Lieutenant Gordon reviewed all the case information and evidence obtained during the investigation and agreed with Lieutenant Cobb's findings. Prior to completing the case, Lieutenant Gordon emailed Katlyn about her participation in a sworn recorded interview.

On February 14, 2024, Lieutenant Gordon received email correspondence from Katlyn Margagliotti, who refused to participate in a sworn interview in reference to the investigation.

It should be noted that in addition to lying directly to Lieutenant Sturup and Captain Smith, Katlyn was determined to be untruthful on her timecard, which reported her working a full eight (8) hour shift. Lieutenant Gordon contacted VSO payroll, who confirmed and provided documentation that Katlyn had never adjusted her hours correctly to reflect the actual hours she had worked on her timecard prior to her departure from the agency. In addition, Katlyn failed to add any personal leave time to her timecard to account for her late arrival and early departure from work.

Additionally, on February 20, 2024, Lieutenant Gordon confirmed that since the theft of the portable radio, it has not been powered on since November 03, 2023.

On February 20, 2024, this Internal Affairs investigation was presented to Chief Deputy Brian Henderson and the executive command staff. Upon completion of the presentation, Chief Deputy Henderson determined the following General Order violations against Katlyn:

GO-026-02.IV.B.3 - Any other conduct or action, on-duty or off-duty,
of such seriousness that disciplinary action is considered warranted.

Sustained

- GO-026-02.V.C.5.g - Failure to Follow General Order, Standard Operating Procedure, or Order** – Employees shall adhere to all official general orders, standard operational procedures, and orders, and shall faithfully execute all the duties and responsibilities of their assigned position. **Sustained**
- GO-026-02.V.G.2.a - General Proficiency** – VSO personnel are required to possess a sound working knowledge of the policies and procedures established by general orders and standard operating procedures. **Sustained**
- GO-026-02.V.C.5.f - Inattention to Duties, Loafing, Sleeping-** Employees shall be attentive to job duties and shall not neglect work by inattention, loafing, or sleeping while on duty. **Sustained**
- GO-026-02.V.E.2.d - Compliance with Direct Order of a Superior or Competent Authority** – Employees shall comply with the direct orders or instructions given by a supervisor or superior officer and shall not refuse to comply when such orders or instructions are lawful and proper. **Sustained**
- GO-026-02.V.D.8.a - Untruthfulness** – Employees shall not knowingly make false or untrue statements except as authorized in the performance of duties and as necessary to maintain covert operations during investigation of criminal activities. **Sustained**
- GO-026-02.V.C.5.a - Leaving Assigned Work Area** – Employees shall remain at or in assigned work areas or District during working hours, unless otherwise authorized by a supervisor. **Sustained**
- GO-026-02.V.C.2.c - Deputies to Carry Firearms** – All Deputies shall carry on or about their person an approved firearm when on duty, except when otherwise ordered by competent authority. It is recommended, but not required, that Deputies carry an approved firearm when off duty except when made impractical by the nature of their activities such as sports. **Sustained**
- GO-026-02.V.F.5 - Commission of Felony** – VSO personnel shall not commit any act or crime defined by state or federal law as a felony, whether chargeable or not. **Not-Sustained**

EXHIBITS:

- A. Report of Investigation
- B. Official Correspondence
- C. Timecard Documents
- D. Building Access Audit
- E. Inventory/Equipment Documentation
- F. Miscellaneous Case Evidence and Documentation
- G. Audio of Interviews

WITNESSES:

Volusia Sheriff's Office

123 W. Indiana Avenue
DeLand, FL 32720

Sergeant Jeremy Patterson Lieutenant Christy Sturup Captain Todd Smith

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.

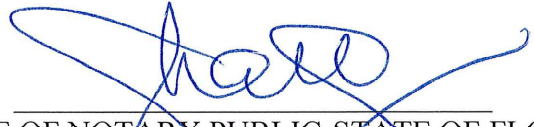
AND

I, the undersigned, do hereby swear, under the 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 suspect of the investigation of any rights contained in ss. 112.532 and 112.533, Florida Statutes.

DETECTIVE:  # 7744 DATE: 03/04/2024
Lieutenant Ben Gordon
Internal Affairs Commander

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF VOLUSIA

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me by means of physical presence or online
Notarized this 4th day of March, 2024 by Lieutenant Ben Gordon



SIGNATURE OF NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF FLORIDA



PRINT, TYPE, OR STAMP COMMISSIONED NAME OF NOTARY PUBLIC

PERSONALLY KNOWN OR PRODUCED IDENTIFICATION

TYPE OF IDENTIFICATION PRODUCED

APPROVED BY:  DATE: 03/04/2024
CHIEF DEPUTY BRIAN HENDERSON
VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA