



POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION

Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security
1128 S Bradford Street, Dover, DE 19904

Secretary Joshua Bushweller
Chairman

Sean E. Moriarty, Ed.D.
Executive Director

ADMINISTRATIVE DECERTIFICATION

Date of Administrative Decertification: November 18, 2025

Name: Ethan Ritchie

Lead Charge: Conduct Unbecoming

Summary

On October 15, 2025, The Delaware Police Officers Standards and Training Commission (POST) received notification that Mr. Ritchie had “retired or resigned prior to the entry of findings of fact concerning an alleged breach of internal discipline for which the individual could have been legitimately discharged had the individual not retired from or resigned that individual’s position prior to the imposition of discipline by the employing agency,” which served as grounds for de-certification under 11 Del. C. § 8404(a)(4)e.2.

POST received notification from Mr. Ritchie’s former employer, Newark Police Department, that an internal investigation found multiple violations of departmental standards, including inappropriate conduct and unprofessional behavior. Mr. Ritchie’s actions were determined to be inconsistent with department policies and expectations, which may have resulted in disciplinary proceedings had he remained employed.

Pursuant to 11 Del. C. § 8404A, Mr. Ritchie had the right to a hearing before a board composed of three Commission members (a 'Hearing Board') appointed by the Commission Chairman. POST notified Mr. Ritchie of her right to exercise her option; however, no response was received. At the quarterly POST Commission meeting held on November 18, 2025, the Commission reviewed the facts of the case and voted to decertify Mr. Ritchie, as a police officer in the State of Delaware. As of that date, he is no longer authorized to exercise any police powers in the State of Delaware or be employed by any Delaware law enforcement agency in a police capacity.