



POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION
Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security
1128 S Bradford Street, Dover, DE 19904

Secretary Joshua Bushwell
Chairman

Sean E. Moriarty, Ed.D.
Executive Director

ADMINISTRATIVE DECERTIFICATION

Date of Administrative Decertification: November 18, 2025

Name: John Wharton

Lead Charge: Sexual Harassment and Dishonesty

Summary

On August 11, 2025, The Delaware Police Officers Standards and Training Commission (POST) received notification that Mr. Wharton 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.

On August 14, 2025, POST received notification from Mr. Wharton’s former employer, Millsboro Police Department, that an internal investigation found multiple violations of departmental standards, including inappropriate conduct, unprofessional behavior, discriminatory language, dishonesty, and sexual harassment. Mr. Wharton’s actions were determined to be inconsistent with department policies and expectations, which would have resulted in disciplinary proceedings had he remained employed.

Pursuant to 11 Del. C. § 8404A, Mr. Wharton 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. Wharton 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. Wharton, 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.