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Dublin Police Officer Fired, Accused Of Breaking Code Of Ethics

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By: MARCUS THORPE | NBC4 Published: October 09, 2012 Updated: October 09, 2012 - 5:28 PM

DUBLIN, Ohio -- A Dublin police officer has been terminated for what police are calling a possible "inappropriate relationship" between the officer and a 16-year-old juvenile.

Dublin police tell **NBC4** that Officer Tom Seeling was already removed from his official duty and was placed on administrative duty when he was terminated.

The change occurred during an internal investigation into an alleged incident from June.

Tuesday, **NBC4** learned that Seeling was terminated not because of any criminal wrongdoing, but instead for what Dublin police said is, "serious misconduct contrary to the core values and standards of conduct of the Dublin Division of Police"

Fraternal Order of Police President Jim Gilbert said, "We are confident once a third party looks at the facts in this case, the city of Dublin will see this as extreme discipline, and there is potential this decision will be reversed."



A Dublin police officer has been terminated for what police are calling a possible "inappropriate relationship" between the officer and a 16-year-old juvenile.

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possible inappropriate relationship between the officer and a 16 year old minor.

A source told NBC4 that Seeling also worked at the OhioHealth Chiller Ice Rink in Dublin.

NBC4 obtained the code of conduct from Dublin police. It reads:

1.1.2 CODE OF ETHICS

All personnel within the Dublin Division of Police shall abide by the Mission and Core Values contained in the Code of Ethics adopted by the Dublin Division of Police.

All personnel will receive Ethics training as part of their initial training. Updated Ethics training will be conducted for all personnel at least every two years.

Code of Ethics adopted by the Dublin Division of Police: "As an employee of a law enforcement agency, my fundamental obligation is to serve the citizens of the community and to uphold the mission and core values of my agency.

Mission Statement: The Dublin Division of Police will provide the highest level of service through

enforcement of laws and the protection of life, property and the constitutional rights of all. We will meet the present and future needs of the public through continued partnership with our community.

We will remain dedicated to service and committed to excellence, focusing on the following core values:

Integrity – We hold ourselves accountable to the highest levels of honesty, truthfulness, and ethical conduct.

Pride – We take pride in ourselves as individuals, our division as a team and our citizens as a community.

Respect - We will ensure that all persons are treated with equality, dignity and courtesy.

Professionalism – We are committed to the highest level of professional standards through development of highly trained and motivated employees.

Sworn Personnel within the Dublin Division of Police shall abide by the principles contained in the Code of Ethics of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, a copy of which will be issued upon appointment.

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Samantha Sides Kovach · Top Commenter · Newark,

Extreme discipline? Seriously? I'd say if he's having a relationship with a 16 yr old, then this is what he deserves, plus jail time. Is it because he's a police officer that Jim Gilbert seems to be taking this news with a grain of salt?

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Docile Jim Brady · Top Commenter · Kind Soul #1723786 at I

In my opinion the sanction could range from oral discipline to termination "depending upon the intensity of the "relationship" and the social maturity of the age 16 minor .

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