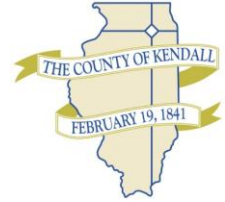




Kendall County

Office of the Sheriff

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For Immediate Release

Date: March 19, 2019
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Kendall County Sheriff's Office Patrol Sergeant Plead Guilty for Excessive Speeding

On Wednesday, January 16, 2019, at approximately 1:40 a.m. off duty Kendall County Sheriff's Office Patrol Sergeant Mark Bunting was stopped by the Yorkville Police Department for speeding 120 miles per hour in a 45 mile per hour zone. Sergeant Bunting was charged with misdemeanor speeding by the Yorkville Police Department and provided a court date. The traffic case was adjudicated on March 13, 2019, and Sergeant Bunting pleads guilty to speeding over 35 miles per hour and was fined \$500.00, with court costs of \$117.00, and 100 hours of community service and 12 months of conditional discharge.

The Sheriff's Office conducted an administration investigation of the incident per sheriff's office policy and within the collective bargaining agreement. The results of the administrative investigation had a sustained finding that Sergeant Bunting violated certain policies and certain sections of the code of conduct of the Sheriff's Office. Because of the sustained findings, Sgt. Bunting will receive a suspension, which will equate to the loss of a week of pay.

Sheriff Dwight Baird said, "The Kendall County Sheriff's Office is committed to hold our employees to the highest of standards and conduct both on and off duty. Sergeant Bunting was very cooperative and forthcoming during the entire administrative investigation. Sgt. Bunting has shown deep remorse for his conduct and he realizes the impact it has had to the community. Sergeant Bunting has been a member of the Sheriff's Office for 23 years and has served with pride and dedication; I will not judge his professional career by this one act, but by the totality of his accomplishments and service over his entire career. Sergeant Bunting accepted responsibility for his actions and plead guilty in his court proceeding, another example of his character."

Sheriff Baird added that "these consequences are above and beyond what most citizens' would have received in a similar situation; the associated loss of wages and professional embarrassment have an impact that neither the court nor I can impose. I appreciate the patience of the community as we investigated the incident and we wanted to be as transparent as possible while also protected the rights of all involved."

The Kendall County Sheriff's Office is ready to move past this unfortunate situation and use the lesson learned to reinforce the high standards and expectations of the Sheriff's Office.