



EDWIN W. EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF LOUISIANA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS
PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES

July 14, 1994
HQ-1-1748

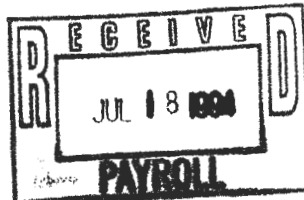
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COL. PAUL V. FONTENOT
SUPERINTENDENT

Lt. MICHAEL D. EDMONDSON
RADIO MAINTENANCE/FLEET/COMMUNICATIONS
PERSONAL DELIVERY

RE: Suspension without Pay

Dear Lt. Edmondson:



Pursuant to Chapter 12 of the State Police Service Rules (particularly Rule 12.2), you are hereby notified by me, as the appointing authority, of your temporary suspension from State Police Service, without pay, for forty (40) hours, the equivalent of five 8-hour days, for the cause or causes stated below.

Your suspension is to take place during the periods from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on July 18 through July 22, 1994. You are to return to work at your next scheduled tour of duty.

Cause

My action in this regard is based on the evidence presented to me, a full summary of which has already been provided to you and is likewise attached to and incorporated with this letter. I have considered all the circumstances, as well as your lack of contradictory response to the pre-disciplinary letter in making my decision to suspend you.

This evidence shows that, about 1:25 a.m. on April 1, 1994, under circumstances with which you are well acquainted, you operated your assigned state vehicle in such a manner that it left the eastbound lanes of Interstate Highway 12 about 4/10 of a mile east of its intersection with Interstate Highway 10, and collided with a concrete piling of an overpass. You suffered serious injuries as a result of the collision and the vehicle was extensively damaged to the extent that it is considered to be a total loss.

A summary of evidence showing and particularizing these and related circumstances, including various reports and documents, is attached to this letter.

LT. MICHAEL D. EDMONDSON, July 14, 1994, p. 2

Driving on high speed, Interstate highways requires constant vigilance, but it is apparent from your statement that you were aware that your degree of attentiveness was insufficient for the demands required by the situation. As an experienced Louisiana State Police Trooper, you should have immediately recognized your condition and taken the initiative to recommit yourself to your driving obligations.

Instead, your inattentiveness resulted in a serious collision. We were especially fortunate that you were not more critically injured and perhaps even more fortunate that innocent persons were not involved. For the foregoing reasons, and because you have been previously reprimanded for a simple fault accident on or about September 29, 1990, I hereby impose the indicated discipline.

In accordance with Rule 12.3(a)2., made applicable to you as a permanent employee by Rule 12.2, you are informed that you may appeal this action to the State Police Commission within thirty (30) days and that the appeal must conform to the provisions of Chapter 13 of the State Police Commission Rules.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Fontenot

PAUL W. FONTENOT, Colonel
Superintendent
Louisiana State Police

PWF/RBJ/FLL

Attachments as per text

cc: Capt. Michael Mix, Fleet Safety Officer
Lt. Col. Kenneth Norris
Personnel
Internal Affairs
Legal
State Police Commission
Payroll ✓