

Summary of complaints to the Constable Ethics, Standards and Training Board (CESTB) for Fiscal Year 2014:

In fiscal year 2014 from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 there were a total of 11 complaints filed with the CESTB. Of these 7 were dismissed by the Board. Two of the five dismissed involved complaints against Deputy Constables. The CESTB has no authority over Deputy Constables per an opinion of the Arizona Attorney General. One complaint involved allegations of actions beyond the scope of the authority of the CESTB and the complainant was encouraged to file a complaint with the appropriate local authority. Three complaints resulted in disciplinary action being taken by the Board. Those complaints were as follows:

CNA123-2014 was filed on 01/16/14 against Constable Jimmie Munoz from Maricopa County. The allegation was that a Writ of Restitution (eviction order) had been issued on 01/16/2014 and as of 02/03/2014, the plaintiff had not heard from the Constable about the eviction. The plaintiff claimed to have called and e-mailed the Constable with no results. The plaintiff advised the Constable has been known to not show up when scheduled.

The Constable responded that he received the Writ on 01/23/14 and served it the same date. He later advised by phone that he had just posted the Writ on the door and had not actually served the tenant or actually evicted anyone. He claimed that he had called the plaintiff and never received a call back which he stated meant to him that the occupants had left.

The CESTB met and issued a written reprimand which is two steps above the minimum punishment the Board can administer. In addition the CESTB required the Constable to attend mandatory training in January, 2015 for newly elected Constables as well as to complete his required 16 hours of annual continuing education.

CNA124-2014 was filed on 02/13/2014 with a supplement filed on 03/10/14 against Constable Doug Clark from Maricopa County. The allegation was that the Constable was working an off-duty job as security for a local restaurant while dressed in a Constable uniform and that he was not in the performance of his duties. For a Constable to work security he/she must be Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board certified which this Constable is not.

The CESTB met and issued the Constable a written reprimand which is two steps above the minimum punishment the Board can administer. The complaint was based on the same set of facts previously provided to the Arizona Department of Public Safety which had issued a cease and desist to the Constable which he had complied with prior to the filing of the CESTB complaint.

CNA127-2014 was filed on 05/20/2014 against Mohave County Constable Travis Heaton. The allegation was received from the County Attorney's Office that this particular Constable had failed to obtain required training and to submit training records to the CESTB and that he had failed to file work logs as required with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and with his Chief Clerk in his Justice Court.

The CESTB met and issued the Constable a written reprimand and also directed the Constable to attend the mandatory training for newly elected Constables to be held in January, 2015 and to obtain his required 16 hours of training in the subsequent year. Following the receipt of this reprimand, the Constable in question chose to resign from office.