

PINAL COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT MERIT COUNCIL
Minutes
Wednesday August, 06, 2025

8:00 AM - CALL TO ORDER

PINAL COUNTY EOC Planning & Development
Hearing Room
301 E. 11th Street
Florence, AZ 85132

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Robert Huddleston - Chairperson
- Rick Sanchez, Vice-Chairperson
- Robert Cooper , Council Member
- Tom Hollenbach , Council Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

- Donna Aversa, Counsel to the Council
- Vina Bustos, Pinal County HR, serving as recording secretary to the Council
- Christine Roberts, Civil Deputy County Attorney, Pinal County Attorney Office
- Sheriff Ross Teeple, Pinal County Sheriff's Office
- Sergeant Dakota McCall, Pinal County Sheriff's Office
- Denis Fitzgibbons, Attorney for Appellant
- Nick Cook, Attorney for Appellant
- Sergeant Richard Drennan, Pinal County Sheriff's Office, Appellant

1. **Call to Order** – Chairperson Huddleston called the meeting order at 8:02 am.
2. **Roll Call** – Those present identified themselves. Quorum identified by having 4 members present.
3. Continuation: Chairman opened the hearing for Richard Drennan's appeal of his demotion from Sg to Deputy.
4. Appellant is represented by Denis Fitzgibbons and Nick Cook of Fitzgibbons law.
5. PCSO is represented by Christine Roberts of the Pinal County Attorney's Office.
6. Exhibits were admitted on the stipulation of the parties.
7. PCSO and Appellant gave opening statements.

8. PCSO called the following witnesses
 - a) Segreant Aaron Siefert
 - b) Sheriff Ross Tepple
9. Executive Session at 12:59 pm, motioned by Rick Sanchez, second by Tom Hollenbach, all in favor.
10. Returned from executive session at 1:25 pm
11. Appellant called the following witnesses
 - a. Deputy Robert Como
 - b. Lieutenant Nicholas Sokol
 - c. Sergeant Brian Messing
 - d. Deputy Jerry Locke
 - e. PCAO Chief of Investigations, Hank Mueller
 - f. PCSO Crime Reporting Lead, Missy Harrison
 - g. Constable Mike Sloan
 - h. Salt River Pima Indian Community Emergency Mgr, Charles Kmet
 - i. Lieutenant Posse Member, Mike Dowd
 - j. Deputy David Norton
 - k. Fire Chief, John Perez
12. Meeting adjourned for the day at 3:57 pm. Motioned by Rick Sanchez, second by Tom Hollenbach, all in favor.

Approved on

Acknowledged by Robert Huddleston