



## ***New Bedford Police Department Office of the Chief of Police***

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**Jonathan F. Mitchell**  
Mayor

**Paul J. Oliveira**  
Chief of Police

**Scott A. Carola**  
Assistant Deputy Chief

**Derek J. Belong**  
Assistant Deputy Chief

To: Mason Almeida

February 20, 2026

Re: Disciplinary Action- Case# 25-2379

The disciplinary action taken today is a result of a complaint from an incident on September 29, 2025. A [REDACTED] was arrested for operating under the influence of alcohol, drug offenses, and carrying a firearm while intoxicated. During the inventory of the firearm, it was learned that it was registered to you. During [REDACTED] booking questioning, he stated to police that you had given him the firearm approximately two years prior but never transferred it into his name.

When interviewed, you stated that you believed you had completed the proper paperwork online for the transfer/sale of the firearm but never followed up to confirm it was complete nor did you receive any paperwork confirming it was successful. You stated you sold it as a legal sale for \$650 but you were unable to provide a bill of sale. You disagreed with [REDACTED] statement that you gave it to him, but could not provide any documentation that 1. confirmed you followed the legal actions required to conduct a private sale of a firearm in Massachusetts or 2. that you completed an actual sale with [REDACTED] with a signed bill of sale as a receipt. It was also learned that you have since conducted legal and proper sales of other firearms and had documentation to support those sales.

As a police officer, it is your duty to be familiar with laws of the Commonwealth, including but not limited to those surrounding firearms. It was ultimately your responsibility to ensure that the firearm was sold and transferred to [REDACTED] legally as outlined by Mass General Law Chapter 140, section 128A. Although the District Attorney's Office chose not to prosecute you in this matter, your actions could have amounted to a criminal act, and you could have been criminally charged with this offense.

As a result of the investigation, the case was sustained against you, and you are being officially reprimanded for violating the following New Bedford Police Department Rules and Regulations:

### **515.6(e)- Commission of a criminal act**

As a result of this sustained case, you are being suspended without pay for 5 days.