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Investigation Summary – Administrative Review

WCDTF Traffic Stop: 25-35409

Subject Employee(s):

Alexander Zwinck – WCDTF Investigator # 2519 / # 3796
Erik Olson – WCDTF Investigator # 2393 / # 3789
Joshua Ray – WCDTF Investigator # 2526 / # 3794
Joseph LeMoine – WCDTF Sergeant # 2252 / # 3795
Shannon James “Jim” Fogg – MCSO Lieutenant # 2193
David “Bucky” Holdren – MCSO Lieutenant # 2194

Allegation(s):

See “Investigation Findings” Sections

Witnesses:

Caroline Dias Goncalves, (08/05/05) / Unknown Contact Info

AXON Standards Case Number:

EVT-00001149

Investigator(s):

Henry Stoffel, Division Chief # 2181
Brian Prunty, Lieutenant # 2176
Justin Montover, Sergeant # 2243

Findings:

****See “Investigation Findings” Sections****

Investigation Summary: On June 9th, 2025 at approximately 1900 hours, Western Colorado Drug Task Force (WCDF) Investigator Alexander Zwinck contacted me and advised he just saw a local news article regarding a female, Caroline Goncalves, being deported following a traffic stop in Mesa County. At the time, I was out of town for training and unaware of the news article. Inv. Zwinck advised, he wasn't sure if the MCSO was going to start receiving any kind of media questions and/or records requests regarding the incident, but wanted me and/or the Professional Standards Unit to be aware of the circumstances in the event any kind of questions and/or requests did in fact come in. Inv. Zwinck advised he was the MCSO Deputy who had stopped Caroline, but his stop was a routine drug interdiction stop on the interstate. Inv. Zwinck explained, shortly after he provided Caroline with a written warning for his traffic stop with her, she departed the stop and was ultimately contacted by Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) on a subsequent traffic stop of which he was not a part of, and that stop ultimately led to her (Caroline) being contacted, detained, and transported to HSI headquarters by HSI agents. Inv. Zwinck advised the WCDF incident number related to his traffic stop with Caroline was 25-35409.

Due to me being out of town for training, I provided the above information to MCSO Command Staff in the event any questions or requests came in prior to my return to the office on 06/16/25.

On 06/16/25, at approximately 0800 hours, as I was returning to my office from training, MCSO Division Chief Stoffel contacted me and advised he was aware of the information I had provided regarding Inv. Zwinck's traffic stop on 06/05/25. DC Stoffel advised he had called and talked to Inv. Zwinck on 06/13/25 to get a better understanding of the incident and advised he would provide me with a report regarding his conversation with Inv. Zwinck on 06/13/25. DC Stoffel subsequently asked that an Administrative Review be opened and conducted regarding the circumstances surrounding the incident as the MCSO was preparing to release information and details surrounding the incident.

DC Stoffel's Initial Communication with Investigator Alexander Zwinck:

Initial Information – Deputy Zwinck/Dias Goncalves
June 13, 2025
Henry Stoffel, Division Chief

On Friday, June 13, 2025, I received a message from Sheriff Todd Rowell asking, "Are you working today?" Along with the message was a link to an article in the Salt Lake Tribune about a 19-year-old University of Utah student, Caroline Dias Goncalves, who was contacted on a traffic stop in Mesa County on June 5, 2025, and was later detained by federal immigration officers and was being held in a federal facility near Denver.

I contacted Sheriff Rowell, and he requested that I investigate the contact to determine if the Mesa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) had any involvement in the initial traffic stop or the detention of Dias Goncalves.

After reviewing the MCSO Records Management System, I found that Deputy Alexander Zwinck, who is assigned to the Western Colorado Drug Task Force as an Interstate Interdiction Officer, made the original traffic contact with Dias Goncalves on June 5, 2025 (GJPD Inc. # 25-35409).

I reviewed the Body-Worn Camera (BWC) video of the contact and found that Deputy Zwinck contacted Dias Goncalves at 1:36 pm on eastbound I-70 near the Port of Entry station. The traffic stop was for following too closely behind a semi-truck.

During the contact, Deputy Zwinck was very cordial and spoke with Dias Goncalves in a calm, reassuring manner. During the contact, Deputy Zwinck asked Dias Goncalves to come to his vehicle, and he had her sit in the passenger side of his car. During this time, they made "small talk," which included Deputy Zwinck asking Dias Goncalves where she was from. Dias Goncalves stated she was from Utah but later explained that she came to the United States from Brazil when she was 7 years old. Deputy Zwinck released Dias Goncalves at 1:56 pm with a written warning. The BWC ended at that time.

At this point, based on the CAD notes and BWC video, I did not see Deputy Zwinck interacting with any federal agents, and it appeared that his contact was appropriate. However, I wanted to follow up with Deputy Zwinck to see if there were any other details regarding the contact.

On June 13, 2025, at 8:57 am, I called Deputy Zwinck on his cell phone. I asked Deputy Zwinck if he recalled the contact and what he could tell me about it. Deputy Zwinck stated he did remember the contact and was aware of the article in the Salt Lake Tribune. Deputy Zwinck said he made the contact because Dias Goncalves was following too close to a semi-truck. After obtaining her driver's license, Deputy Zwinck returned to his patrol car and "ran her through DICE." Deputy Zwinck explained DICE is a federal computer base which he runs all contacts through, looking for known associations to drug organizations, traffic contacts, border crossings and LPR hits. Deputy Zwinck said this is a common practice, and he runs almost all of his contacts through the system. Deputy Zwinck explained, he takes a picture of the driver's license to run it through the DICE program. NOTE – In watching the BWC video, you can see Deputy Zwinck using his cell phone, although it is not clear what he was specifically doing. Taking a photo of the driver's license would be consistent with what is observed in the BWC video.

Deputy Zwinck said he did have Dias Goncalves sit in his car and they did speak with her, but he was trying to help her relax. He released her on a written warning, and Deputy Zwinck stated that he had no further contact with Dias Goncalves.

Deputy Zwinck said he was aware federal agents detained Dias Goncalves, but he was not present when she was taken into custody.

The entire phone call lasted approximately 3 minutes and was not recorded.

Western Colorado Drug Task Force – Traffic Stop Summary (25-35409):

The following summary is compiled from information contained within the call notes of Inv. Zwinck's traffic stop (WCDTF / GJPD: 25-35409), a review of his body-worn camera footage from the same contact, and a review of messages and content from a multi-agency communication platform known as Signal Chat. Any and all data and material used to compile this summary has been added to this internal case file.

On 06/05/25, MCSO / WCDTF Inv. Alexander Zwinck was working his assigned duty as a WCDTF Interdiction K9 Officer on Interstate 70 in Mesa County, Colorado.

On the same date (06/05/25), around 1336 hours, Inv. Zwinck observed a black colored Hyundai Elantra with Utah license plates (UT: 2T5GZ) to be traveling east bound on I70 and subsequently following a semi too close. Inv. Zwinck caught up to the previously described vehicle, activated his emergency lights and proceeded to pull the vehicle over.

Inv. Zwinck contacted the driver and sole occupant of the vehicle, Caroline Goncalves and advised her he pulled her over for following a semi too closely. Caroline seemed very receptive and apologetic for her traffic violation and subsequently provided Inv. Zwinck with her driver's license and vehicle information upon Inv. Zwinck's request.

Inv. Zwinck returned to his patrol vehicle where he ran (researched) all of Caroline's information, to include sending a picture of her driver's license to local Homeland Security Investigators (HSI) and Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) agents for them to utilize their databases to determine her involvement, if any, in the transportation of illegal narcotics or other criminal behavior. While this information sharing was taking place, Inv. Zwinck asked Caroline to come back to his patrol vehicle to go over her paperwork.

Once at the patrol vehicle, Inv. Zwinck sat in his driver seat and Caroline sat in the front passenger seat of the patrol vehicle. During this time, Inv. Zwinck had received information from HSI that Caroline appeared to be clear of any criminal involvement, but was showing to be a Brazilian National in the United States on a Visa over-stay. Inv. Zwinck then began asking Caroline about her accent and eventually asked where she was from to which she responded she was from Brazil. Inv. Zwinck and Caroline continued talking about Caroline going to school and other topics which appeared to be routine, or "small talk" in nature, and during this time, Inv. Zwinck began completing a written warning for Caroline.

Once Caroline's written warning was completed and provided to her, she got out of Inv. Zwinck's patrol vehicle and departed the traffic stop. As Caroline was departing the traffic stop, HSI agents advised they were in route to his stop as they wished to contact Caroline. Inv. Zwinck advised the HSI agents he was no longer in contact with Caroline and further advised she had departed the stop heading east bound; Inv. Zwinck also provided Caroline's vehicle description.

A short time later, HSI agents advised Inv. Zwinck they had subsequently contacted Caroline and detained her.

Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement – Alexander Zwinck:

On 06/16/25 at approximately 0800 hours I called and spoke with MCSO / WCDTF Inv. Alexander Zwinck. I advised the MCSO had received several records / media requests related to the traffic stop he had previously informed me of and an Administrative Review was being opened and conducted regarding the same incident. I further advised, I was trying to get the Administrative Review process started prior to any records or media releases. With that, I advised Inv. Zwinck, in order to start the process, I needed to meet with him to read, explain, and provide him with an MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form. Inv. Zwinck told me he understood and advised he would be

by my office as soon as he could. He also advised, he would work on getting an FOP representative to accompany him for the advisement in hopes it would help not delay the Administrative Review process any longer than needed for the MCSO.

On the same date (06/16/25) at approximately 1000 hours, I met with Inv. Alexander Zwinck in my PSU Office, and upon his entry into my office, MCSO Sergeant and Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) President Brian Eldridge accompanied him (Inv. Zwinck) as Inv. Zwinck's FOP representative. I provided Inv. Zwinck with an MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form, which I read to him and he stated he understood. Inv. Zwinck and I both signed the MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form and Inv. Zwinck was provided with a copy of the form; a copy of the form has also been added to this internal case file as well.

With Sgt. Eldridge present as Inv. Zwinck's FOP representative, I asked both of them if they were available and willing to complete my Administrative Interview with Inv. Zwinck at that time and both advised they were.

This interaction was audio and video recorded and the recording(s) have been added to this internal case file.

I did not split the recordings between completing Inv. Zwinck's MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement process and starting into his Administrative Interview. The recording(s) continued throughout.

Administrative Interview – MCSO / WCDTF Investigator – Alexander Zwinck:

On 06/16/25 at approximately 1010 hours, I interviewed Inv. Zwinck in reference to the incident surrounding this Administrative Review. I provided Inv. Zwinck with a Subject Notification, which I read to him and he stated he understood. The following is a summary of the interview and is not a verbatim transcript. The interview was audio and video recorded and the recordings have been added to this internal case file.

I again advised Inv. Zwinck of the Administrative Review process and explained my investigation was focused on the details surrounding the traffic stop he made on 06/05/25, specifically the traffic stop in which he contacted Caroline Goncalves. Inv. Zwinck told me he understood and remembered the traffic stop.

I asked Inv. Zwinck to explain the traffic stop to me from beginning to end.

Inv. Zwinck said he could not recall the exact times, but thought it was early afternoon on 06/05/25. Inv. Zwinck said he had been in the median of I70, just west of the Loma Port of Entry. Inv. Zwinck said he observed a passenger vehicle pass by him traveling east bound. Inv. Zwinck said the vehicle was directly behind a semi as it passed by him, and he noticed the vehicle was not only illegally too close to the semi for the speeds the vehicle and semi were traveling, but it stood out to him at just how close the vehicle remained behind the semi and how "locked in" the female driver of the vehicle appeared to be even after passing by his marked patrol unit.

Inv. Zwinck told me, although it was a violation of traffic law for the vehicle to be traveling so closely to the semi, what stood out to him more was the fact the driver seemed to be

so “locked in” while driving. Upon being asked, Inv. Zwinck told me, “locked in” means a driver typically has both hands tightly gripped around the steering wheel, both arms significantly tensed and locked out, and a very direct and consistent stare straight forward. Inv. Zwinck explained, based on his training and experience regarding narcotic interdiction, this kind of “locked in” driving posture, coupled with the fact most reasonable drivers typically avoid being anywhere close to semi’s, added to his suspicion the vehicle had some possible involvement in the transportation of illegal narcotics.

Inv. Zwinck told me, he pulled out onto the interstate and proceeded to catch up to the previously described vehicle. Once he caught up to the vehicle he activated his emergency lights and proceeded to pull the vehicle over.

Inv. Zwinck said he approached the vehicle and found the female driver, Caroline Goncalves, to be the only occupant of the vehicle. He said he advised her of pulling her over for following a semi too closely and she seemed understanding and apologetic of her violation. He said he asked for her vehicle’s information and her driver’s license, which she provided and he in turn took the documents / information back to his patrol vehicle in order to confirm her information.

Inv. Zwinck said he entered Caroline’s name into his traffic stop call through the use of his patrol vehicle’s computer, and then switched his radio to the dispatch data channel and asked dispatch to run Caroline. He said a short time later dispatch advised Caroline was clear and he couldn’t recall any other information dispatch advised of. Inv. Zwinck said around that time he remembered something about either Caroline’s license plate tabs or the registration she providing not matching up. He said it was also around that time he sent a picture of Caroline’s driver’s license to a group chat using the phone application “Signal”.

When asked, Inv. Zwinck told me as part of his narcotic interdiction duties, he communicates with other interdiction officers from around the western slope of Colorado. Inv. Zwinck said this group chat included Colorado State Troopers, Investigators from Eagle County, Investigators from Vail, and several federal agents from Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). Inv. Zwinck told me his purpose behind communicating with this group was they all work together on cases and mainly share information; more so, the HSI agents and DEA agents have access to databases and resources to pull much more extensive records than local dispatchers and even the MCSO’s Intel unit can. Inv. Zwinck told me, through their databases, the HSI and DEA agents have the ability to see if drivers and occupants of vehicles are related to larger drug organizations, have any kind of drug cartel involvement, have any financial history consistent with the transportation and/or sale of illegal narcotics, if and when they last crossed any country borders, and some of their travel history. Upon being asked, Inv. Zwinck told me the agents also provide information as to the immigration status of the individuals he sends pictures and information of.

Inv. Zwinck said he then approached Caroline’s vehicle again and asked for her vehicle insurance and any other vehicle registrations she may have as the one she originally provided was either expired or related to a temporary license plate. Inv. Zwinck told me Caroline began digging through her glovebox and he noticed there were several different pieces of paper. He said he slightly remembered telling Caroline something to the effect of just having her grab whatever paperwork she had available and then coming back to his patrol vehicle so he could go over other paperwork with her.

Inv. Zwinck told me, through his training and experience with narcotic interdiction, it is his standard practice to conduct what is known as a "front seat interview". Upon being asked, Inv. Zwinck explained, a front seat interview is completed by asking the driver of a vehicle to accompany him back to his patrol vehicle and sit in the front passenger seat while he continues to clarify the driver's vehicle information and typically any form of travel itinerary. Inv. Zwinck explained, separating the driver from their vehicle is an investigative tactic which often times divides the driver's attention, and therefore, if they are not being completely honest about their travel plans or what, if any narcotic operations they are associated with, their stories often change because of their divided attention and this results in furthering the investigation into the driver's association to the transportation of illegal narcotics. Inv. Zwinck advised, if after conducting the front seat interview, the driver's explanation of travel plans seem to be consistent and accurate, and their vehicle's information returns clear, he will then complete a written warning and provide it to the driver as they are seated in his front passenger seat.

Inv. Zwinck explained, Caroline did in fact walk back to his patrol vehicle and sat in his front passenger seat while he asked her questions about her vehicle and her travel plans. Inv. Zwinck said he also asked Caroline questions about her accent as he assumed she was potentially from one of the southern states. Inv. Zwinck told me Caroline mentioned she was actually from Brazil and they began talking about her being born there and then coming to Utah for college. Inv. Zwinck told me they continued talking about Caroline's college career, all while he was completing his written warning for her. Upon being asked, Inv. Zwinck told me he wasn't intentionally asking Caroline questions regarding anything to do with immigration; he said he was simply trying to make small talk with her while he was completing her clearances and her written warning. Inv. Zwinck said at some time during this point in the stop was when he reviewed messages within the Signal chat group from the HSI and DEA agents who advised Caroline wasn't showing to have any factors related to transporting narcotics. He said he also recalled there being comments from the same agents about Caroline's immigration status and he thought the verbiage was similar to her being an "over-stay".

Inv. Zwinck told me, after completing Caroline's written warning, he provided the warning to her and advised she was free to leave. He said that was the last communication he had with Caroline as she got out of his patrol vehicle and drove away a short time later.

Inv. Zwinck told me he thought it was around that time he checked the Signal chat group and noticed some of the HSI or DEA agents in the group responded saying they were headed to his location. Inv. Zwinck said he responded to the group advising he was no longer in contact with Caroline. He said he provided the group with her vehicle description and advised she was headed east bound on I70. Inv. Zwinck said a little while later he received messages in the group advising the HSI and DEA agents stopped Caroline and were taking her to HSI. He said he asked the group if her vehicle was still on the interstate and they told him it was.

I asked Inv. Zwinck why he asked the group if Caroline's vehicle was still on the interstate. He explained, in the past, if federal, state, or any other law enforcement entity stops a vehicle, arrests the driver, and leaves the vehicle, then the only record of the vehicle having been contacted is typically the previous traffic stop and that results in local dispatch not being able to accurately research and track down the needed details about the vehicle in the event someone calls about the vehicle. Inv. Zwinck said, in order

to avoid any form of misunderstanding or confusion about the vehicle, he will advise either local dispatch or the Colorado State Patrol's dispatch center about the location of the vehicle.

I asked Inv. Zwinck if he followed Caroline to the point of where she was later stopped and contacted by the HSI and DEA agents. He told me he did not. I asked if he ever drove by the stop location while she was being stopped and contacted and he again told me he did not. Inv. Zwinck told me he has since driven past the location while traveling back and forth on the interstate, but stated he never arrived at or even proceeded to the location of where Caroline was stopped and contacted by the HSI and DEA agents.

Upon being asked, Inv. Zwinck told me his only involvement in HSI and the DEA agents contacting Caroline was advising them of her vehicle description and the fact she was no longer on scene and traveling east bound.

I asked Inv. Zwinck if any of his communication with the HSI and DEA agents was via phone calls and he told me it was not. He said his only form of communication to them was via the Signal chat group. I asked Inv. Zwinck if he was aware of anyone in the Signal chat group being part of Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE), and he told me he did not believe so.

I asked Inv. Zwinck if he was familiar with the program called "DICE". He told me he was; he said it was some kind of program where you enter phone numbers into the program and the program shows whether or not the phone number is linked to other criminal cases throughout the country. Inv. Zwinck told me he has never personally used the DICE program but believes the HSI, DEA, and other federal agencies utilize it during their research. Upon being asked, Inv. Zwinck confirmed he never used the DICE program during his traffic stop with Caroline, and was unaware as to whether or not the agents on the Signal chat group used the DICE program during their research, but again, he knows it is one of the programs they often use.

I asked Inv. Zwinck if he still had the Signal chat group on his cell phone and he told me he did. I asked if he had deleted or modified any of the content of the chat group and he told me he had not. Inv. Zwinck said the Signal application itself auto deletes any content which is four weeks and older, so the content within the chat always has anything and everything sent and received throughout the past four weeks. I asked Inv. Zwinck if I could look at his work cell phone to see the Signal chat, specifically for the content sent and received on 06/05/25 which pertained to this incident. Inv. Zwinck did not hesitate and handed me his cell phone.

Upon first looking at his cell phone, Inv. Zwinck showed me the contact list of the Signal application screen which listed out everyone who was part of the chat group. The following list details each of the names on this Signal application list, and it also details which respective agency they are affiliated with, according to Inv. Zwinck's knowledge and recollection.

- Alex Zwinck – Mesa County Sheriff's Office (Western Colorado Drug Task Force)
- [REDACTED] – Inv. Zwinck believed this subject was an analyst with Homeland Security.

- Bobby – Colorado State Patrol, Durango area (Drug Interdiction Team)
- Connor Ayd – Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)
- [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations
- [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations
- Erik Olson - Mesa County Sheriff's Office (Western Colorado Drug Task Force)
- Evan – Eagle County Sheriff's Office (Drug Interdiction Team)
- [REDACTED] – Drug Enforcement Agency
- Jake Best - Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)
- Jeff Vrbas - Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)
- [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations
- Josh Ray - Mesa County Sheriff's Office (Western Colorado Drug Task Force)
- [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations
- Mark Coe – Vail Police Department (Drug Interdiction Team)
- Michael Lamkin - Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)
- [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations
- [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations


Following my review and understanding of the individuals associated to the previously noted Signal chat group, I began reviewing the messages regarding Inv. Zwinck's traffic stop of Caroline Goncalves on 06/05/25.


The following are screenshots of the Signal chat group messages regarding Inv. Zwinck's traffic stop of Caroline Goncalves on 06/05/25:




 [Redacted]
Not seeing crim history, but I believe she has immigration issues. We are confirming
6/5/2025 1:43:22 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(2\)](#)


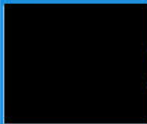
 [Redacted]
What mile marker?
6/5/2025 1:43:32 PM(UTC-6)

 [Redacted]
Brazilian National, visa overstay. No crim, no financials or HSI cases
6/5/2025 1:43:44 PM(UTC-6)


[Sources \(2\)](#)

Alex Zwinck Mesa County K9 I70 (owner) 
Port
6/5/2025 1:50:05 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(2\)](#)

 Evan ECSO I-70 Colorado
Can I get checks on this guy and number please?
 image/jpeg
signal-2025-06-05-135130.jpeg
6/5/2025 1:51:30 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(3\)](#)

 [Redacted]
We are en route to the port
6/5/2025 1:51:56 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(2\)](#)

Alex Zwinck Mesa County K9 I70 (owner)



You can turn back around. She's gone

6/5/2025 1:55:40 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(2\)](#)



Which direction?

6/5/2025 1:56:01 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(2\)](#)

Alex Zwinck Mesa County K9 I70 (owner)



Unless yall wanna stop here. Black Hyundai Elantra with a huge dented trunk east bound

6/5/2025 1:56:06 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(2\)](#)

Alex Zwinck Mesa County K9 I70 (owner)



Utah 2t5GZ

6/5/2025 1:56:28 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(2\)](#)



[Redacted]

Eh we'll give it a shot

6/5/2025 1:57:02 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(2\)](#)



[Redacted]

She speak English?

6/5/2025 2:02:54 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(2\)](#)

Alex Zwinck Mesa County K9 I70 (owner)



ya

6/5/2025 2:03:14 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(2\)](#)



[REDACTED]

Stopping her at the 24

6/5/2025 2:04:15 PM(UTC-6)

[Sources \(2\)](#)



[REDACTED]

Transporting to HSI

6/5/2025 2:09:24 PM(UTC-6)

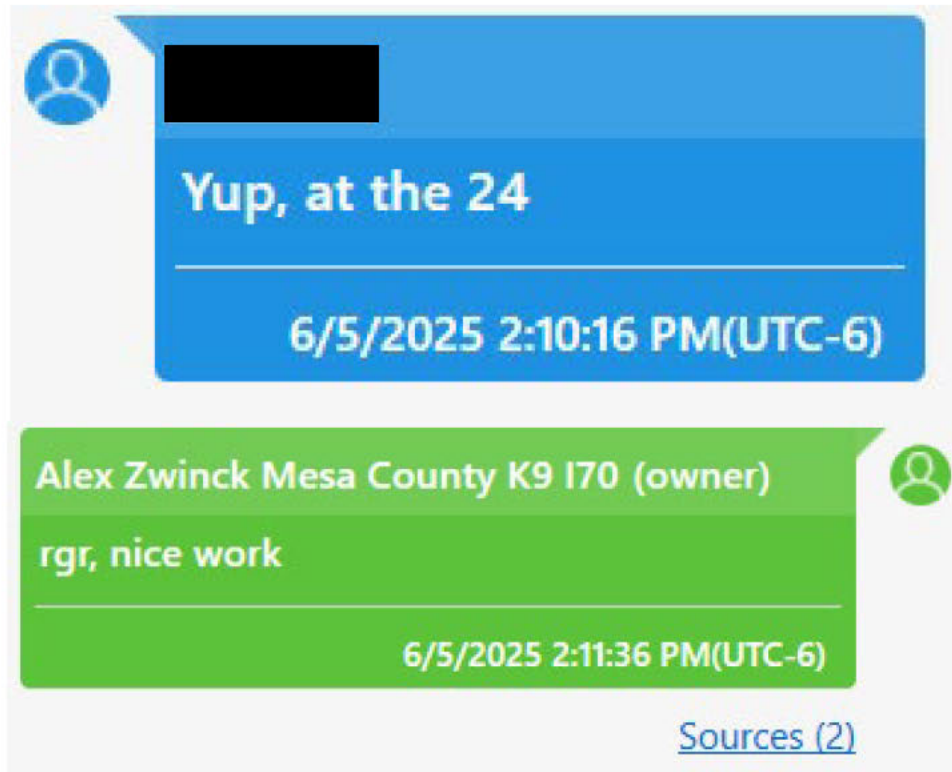
Alex Zwinck Mesa County K9 I70 (owner)

rgr. her vehicle on the interstate?

6/5/2025 2:09:45 PM(UTC-6)



[Sources \(2\)](#)



After reviewing these messages with Inv. Zwinck, I advised I had no further questions and asked if he did. Sgt. Eldridge, on Inv. Zwinck's behalf, asked what specific MCSO policies he (Inv. Zwinck) was alleged to have violated. I told them, at the time of this interview, I was gathering details surrounding the incident to simply ensure Inv. Zwinck's actions during the incident fell in line with MCSO policies and procedures; and when coupling my knowledge of the case with Inv. Zwinck's recollection, answers, and my initial review of the body-worn camera footage, I believed the applicable policies to be MCSO's Immigration Violations policy (413) and MCSO's Standards of Conduct policy (320).

Upon Sgt. Eldridge asking, I advised, at the time, based on the information I had, coupled with Inv. Zwinck's statements, I did not find Inv. Zwinck's actions to be in violation of any MCSO policies and/or procedures. My interview with Inv. Zwinck ended a short time later and he (Inv. Zwinck) and Sgt. Eldridge departed my office.

MCSO Command Staff Meeting / Briefing:

Immediately following my interview with Inv. Zwinck, I contacted MCSO Command staff and advised of the details, facts, and statements obtained throughout the interview. As I was providing this information, MCSO Command staff advised of and provided me with copies of Colorado Senate Bill 25-276. As I began reviewing this Senate Bill, I found it to have been signed and placed into effect on 05/23/25 at 2:00pm. Up and to this point, I had no knowledge of this Senate Bill, therefore it was not brought about and/or discussed during my previously noted interview with Inv. Zwinck. MCSO Command staff and I discussed how the Senate Bill did in fact apply to the circumstances surrounding Inv. Zwinck's traffic stop and contact with Caroline on 06/05/25.

With knowledge of this Senate Bill in mind, it was determined the content of the Signal Chat group from Inv. Zwinck's MCSO issued cell phone would be extracted, saved to this internal case file, and reviewed for its applicability to this case. It was also determined, more likely than not, a second or follow-up interview with Inv. Zwinck would need to take place pending the review of the content of the Signal chat group.

A copy of the previously noted Senate Bill (25-276) has been added to this internal case file.

Follow-Up Conversation – MCSO / WCDTF Investigator – Alexander Zwinck:

Following my previously noted meeting / briefing with MCSO Command staff, I contacted Inv. Zwinck via phone. I advised I needed to obtain his MCSO issued cell phone in order to get the content of the Signal chat extracted and reviewed. Inv. Zwinck advised he could come back by the MCSO whenever I needed him to. During this timeframe I was also communicating with the MCSO Digital Forensic Unit and it was decided, based on work schedules, the MCSO Digital Forensic Unit would be able to start the extraction process on Inv. Zwinck's cell phone the following morning (06/17/25).

During this conversation with Inv. Zwinck I advised him of my discovery of the previously noted Colorado Senate Bill (SB 25-276). Inv. Zwinck advised he had never heard of the bill and asked that I explain it or send it. I subsequently emailed the Senate Bill (25-276) to Inv. Zwinck and his FOP representative (Sgt. Eldridge).

On 06/17/25 Inv. Zwinck met me at the MCSO and the MCSO Digital Forensic Unit began the extraction process on his cell phone to obtain the content of the Signal chat group. Once this process was completed, the content of the Signal chat group was provided to me and I subsequently returned Inv. Zwinck's MCSO issued cell phone back to him.

Notice of FOP / Attorney Representation:

On 06/18/25 at approximately 1435 hours, I received an email from Inv. Zwinck's FOP representative (Sgt. Brian Eldridge) advising Inv. Zwinck was now being represented by the law firm of Bruno, Colin, Goddard & Lowe, P.C.; who would be acting as Inv. Zwinck's FOP representation throughout the remainder of this Administrative Review. A short time later, Marcus Barone with the same law firm responded and confirmed his representation of Inv. Zwinck. Through that same communication, I advised all future communication with Inv. Zwinck in regards to this investigation be completed through him (Marcus).

A copy of this email string and communication has been added to this internal case file.

Summary of Review of Signal Chat Group – “GJ Highway Hitters”:

Based on the way the specific Signal chat group related to this Administrative Review was set up / administered by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] it was set to override / delete any

messages over four (4) weeks old; however, the application still maintained date and time stamps of when members were added and / or removed from the chat group regardless of the timeframe. With that information at hand, when the MCSO Digital Forensic Unit completed the extraction of the content of this Signal chat group, they advised they were able to obtain everything within that four week time frame which resulted in the obtainment of 1164 total messages, which, when printed onto a readable document, resulted in 433 pages of messages.

Outside of the date and timestamps for when members were added and / or removed from this chat group, the actual communication messages started on 05/20/25 and went to 06/16/25, which was the date when [REDACTED] [REDACTED] removed Inv. Zwinck, Inv. Olson, and Inv. Ray from the chat group.

Based on an overall review of each and every message within this chat group, I found the content and data to be consistent with what Inv. Zwinck explained during his interview. The content of the messages appeared to be that of Inv. Zwinck, Inv. Olson, and several other law enforcement members submitting driver's licenses and subject information to the chat group and HSI members on the chat group would then respond / provide information regarding the subject's criminal history, financial transaction history, immigration status, criminal case history, and border crossing history. On several occasions within the chat group there were messages from the HSI agents asking for locations of the traffic stops and / or directions of travel in the event the traffic stop had already been completed. During these instances, Inv. Zwinck, Inv. Olson, and all other interdiction officers would subsequently provide this requested information within the chat group.

Some of the concerning messages within this chat group are listed as follows:

05/20/25 – Inv. Olson and Inv. Zwinck contacted an El Salvador national and a Honduran national on the same stop and sent their ID's out to the group chat. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] advised he needed to "chat" with them and that he was responding to the stop. Upon Inv. Olson requesting a check on the Honduran ID, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] replied that he returned "alien inadmissibility." Inv. Olson advised he had been released, but he would be at one of the truck stops if they needed him.

05/22/25 - [REDACTED] messaged about a subject potentially having immigration issues, but added "they might be full for the day." Inv. Zwinck then asked, "what's max capacity?"

05/23/25 – Inv. Zwinck shared an Arizona license plate number with the group chat and added, "for you eastern guys, might be a body haul but tons of good reactions. 2f 1m. Could not get pc."

*06/03/25 – Inv. Zwinck made a traffic stop on the interstate with two subjects in the vehicle. He conducted his investigation, searched the vehicle under consent and then HSI agents arrived on scene and detained the driver and passenger. HSI asked for help (asked for handcuffs or restraints – windy noise in BWC). The chat content showed Inv. Zwinck asking for his handcuffs back. *** (Upon a further review of this specific incident via Inv. Zwinck's body-worn camera footage: 25-34879 – it was found that Inv. Zwinck had actually handcuffed the male himself in assistance to the HSI agent).****

06/10/25 – Inv. Zwinck replied to comments [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had made about a Mexican national that had potentially over-stayed his visa. Inv. Zwinck replied, “Oh my gosh. We better get some bitchin Christmas baskets from you guys,” and then provided the stop location.

Again, as noted above, these are only a small fraction of the total messages within this specific Signal chat group.

The entire content of the Signal chat group related to this Administrative Review has been added to this internal case file.

Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement – Joseph “Joe” LeMoine:

On 06/19/25 at approximately 0953 hours, Lt. Prunty met with Sgt. Joe LeMoine in his office in order to provide Sgt. LeMoine with an MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form regarding this Administrative Review. Lt. Prunty read the MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form to Sgt. LeMoine and then signed the form. Sgt. LeMoine signed the form as well, but did not initial the form as he advised he would be seeking an FOP Representative. Sgt. LeMoine departed Lt. Prunty’s office a short time later.

A copy of Sgt. Lemoine’s MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form has been added to this internal case file.

This interaction was audio recorded and the recording has been added to this internal case file.

Additional Notice of FOP / Attorney Representation:

On 06/20/25 at approximately 1554 hours, I received another email from Marcus Barone (Bruno, Colin, Goddard & Lowe, P.C.). Marcus advised his firm (Bruno, Colin, Goddard & Lowe, P.C.) was now, in addition to Inv. Zwinck, also representing Inv. Olson, Inv. Ray, and Sgt. LeMoine in regards to this investigation; as their respective FOP Representation.

Through this same communication, Marcus asked if it were possible to schedule any future Administrative Interviews during the week of 07/07/25. After briefly consulting with Lt. Prunty, I advised Marcus, if his firm, and Inv. Zwinck, Inv. Olson, Inv. Ray, and Sgt. LeMoine were available, we could schedule each of their respective interviews for Monday, 07/07/25.

A copy of this email string and communication has been added to this internal case file.

Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement – Erik Olson:

On 06/20/25 at approximately 1542 hours I received an email from attorney Marcus Barone. Marcus asked that I send Inv. Olson’s MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form to him via email due to the fact Inv. Olson was currently [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] At the time of reception of this email I was out of my office and did not have access to Inv. Olson's MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form. With that, I advised Marcus I would email an MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form to Inv. Olson as soon as I returned to my office on 06/23/25.

On 06/23/25 at approximately 1248 hours, I sent Inv. Olson an MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form and ensured Marcus was attached to the same email communication. On the same date at approximately 1439 hours, Inv. Olson replied, advising he had signed and attached his MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form. I printed Inv. Olson form, signed my portion, and scanned the completed MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form into this internal case file.

A copy of this email string and communication has been added to this internal case file.

Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement – Joshua “Josh” Ray:

On 06/23/25, while communicating with Marcus, I also sent an MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form to Inv. Ray via email.

On 06/25/25 at approximately 1035 hours, Inv. Ray replied, advising he had signed and attached his MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form. I printed Inv. Ray's form, signed my portion, and scanned the completed MCSO Notice of Internal Affairs Interview Advisement form into this internal case file.

A copy of this email string and communication has been added to this internal case file.

Additional Notice of FOP / Attorney Representation:

On 06/25/25, I received an email reply from Marcus' paralegal, Julie Bozeman, advising their firm has since communicated with Inv. Zwinck, Inv. Olson, Inv. Ray, and Sgt. LeMoine; and collectively, everyone was in agreeance of facilitating Administrative Interviews on 07/07/25. Through follow up communication with Julie, we tentatively compiled the following Administrative Interview schedule for 07/07/25:

- Sgt. LeMoine at 1000 hours: To be interviewed by Lt. Prunty.
- Inv. Zwinck at 1000 hours: To be interviewed by me (Sgt. Montover).

- Inv. Ray at 1100 hours: To be interviewed by Lt. Prunty.
- Inv. Olson at 1100 hours: To be interviewed by me (Sgt. Montover).

A copy of this email string and communication has been added to this internal case file.

MCSO Command Staff Meeting / Briefing:

Prior to conducting Inv. Zwinck's second interview, and Inv. Olson, Sgt. LeMoine, and Inv. Ray's initial interviews; on 07/03/25, Lt. Prunty and I met with MCSO Command staff

for purposes of compiling a list of structured questions needing to be asked and answered during the upcoming interviews. These lists of questions have been added to this internal case file.

2nd Administrative Interview – MCSO / WCDTF Investigator – Alexander Zwinck:

On 07/07/25 at approximately 1000 hours, I conducted a second (follow-up) interview with Inv. Zwinck in reference to the incident surrounding this Administrative Review. More specifically, this second interview pertained to details and additional information which was discovered following my first, previously detailed interview with Inv. Zwinck. A large portion of these details and additional information came from the review of the content with the Signal chat group once its content was extracted from Inv. Zwinck's MCSO issued cell phone.

I provided Inv. Zwinck with another Subject Notification, which I read to him and he stated he understood. The following is a summary of the interview and is not a verbatim transcript. The interview was audio and video recorded and the recordings have been added to this internal case file.

Of note, attorney Michael "Mike" Lowe with Bruno, Colin, Goddard & Lowe, P.C. was present for the entirety of this interview and acting as Inv. Zwinck's FOP representative. Attorney John Rhoads with the Mesa County Attorney's Office was also present throughout the entirety of Inv. Zwinck's second interview on behalf of the MCSO.

Based on the additional information and details obtained from the review of the Signal chat content, as well as details and information obtained from a subsequent review of Inv. Zwinck and Inv. Olson's traffic stops during the same period encompassed within the dates of the Signal chat; a list of questions needing to be addressed and answered by Inv. Zwinck was compiled for this interview. This list was compiled to provide structure to the interview, and to ensure key topics and/or elements were covered.

These questions and Inv. Zwinck's respective answers are as follows. The questions have been italicized for clarity purposes.

- *Did you observe in the Signal chat that Caroline Goncalves was a Brazilian national with a visa over-stay?*

Inv. Zwinck stated, "yes".

- *Why did you ask Caroline about where she was born and raised, after you overserved this information within the group chat?*

Inv. Zwinck advised he asked these questions for two reasons. He explained the first reason was simply to make small talk with her while he was working on filling out her written warning. He said the second reason he asked Caroline the questions was because they are considered to be "pressure questions". Upon further clarification, Inv. Zwinck advised, through training and experience with drug interdiction, he has learned and been trained to ask questions which he personally knows the answers to in order to see if the subject, in this case Caroline, answers them honestly and accurately. Inv.

Zwinck explained if subjects deviate from the question, take longer than reasonable amounts of time to answer, or provide differing answers compared to the information he receives from HSI's databases, then it adds to his reasonable suspicion of the subject hiding something or possibly being involved in drug trafficking or other criminal actions.

- *We talked about you asking HSI where Caroline's vehicle was located after they detained her. You advised it was for purposes of being able to let dispatch know. Describe this purpose more in depth. Was the purpose so you weren't linked to her detainment?*

Inv. Zwinck told me, to his knowledge, HSI does not contact any local dispatch centers when they detain someone and subsequently leave the subject's vehicle(s) on the side of the road. Inv. Zwinck said this practice in turn causes local dispatch centers to have to spend extra time digging through records when they receive a call about an abandoned vehicle on the side of the roadway, which in turn causes local law enforcement agencies to have to spend extra time trying to gather details as to why the vehicle had been left. Inv. Zwinck informed me, there have been several occasions when he's received calls or other communication from dispatch and / or Deputies asking about a vehicle left on the side of the road; so in order to get this information out to dispatch on the front end, he simply asks HSI if and where the vehicle was left. Inv. Zwinck stated his purpose behind this practice was not to avoid the subject's detainment being linked to him and/or his traffic stop.

- *Have you received any training on enforcing immigration laws? If yes, was the training conducted by the MCSO or another law enforcement agency?*

Inv. Zwinck stated he has not received any training on enforcing immigration laws.

- *At some point in your time as an interdiction deputy with the WCDTF, did your responsibilities take a noticeable shift from drug interdiction to immigration enforcement? What would you say is an accurate ratio of your workload, i.e., drug interdiction vs. immigration enforcement, 50/50?*

Inv. Zwinck told me his duties as an Interdiction Deputy have never shifted from drug interdiction to immigration enforcement. He said his duties were and are "100 % drug interdiction".

- *Was there ever any form of meeting between you, Inv. Olson, the WCDTF, HSI, ICE where there was discussion of you guys assisting with immigration enforcement? If yes, was this a meeting at the DEA Office, HSI Office, or an informal roadside meeting?*

Inv. Zwinck told me there has never been any form of meeting pertaining to this topic.

- *At approximately what date was the Signal group chat initiated and who was responsible for setting it up?*

Inv. Zwinck told me the Signal Chat group in question already existed when he first started his assignment as an Interdiction Deputy. Inv. Zwinck advised he officially started training and working as an Interdiction Deputy around the late summer months of 2024, and he believed he was added to the Signal chat group around that same time. Inv.

Zwinck said he also believed [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (HSI) was the "owner" and creator of the Signal chat group.

- *Can you explain the assignment, roles, and agencies of the individual members of the Signal group chat? Example: the difference between the responsibilities of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED]*

Alex Zwinck – Mesa County Sheriff's Office (Western Colorado Drug Task Force)

[REDACTED] – Inv. Zwinck believed this subject was an analyst with Homeland Security.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] – Emergency Removal Operations (ICE)

Bobby – Colorado State Patrol, Durango area (Drug Interdiction Team)

Connor Ayd – Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations

Erik Olson - Mesa County Sheriff's Office (Western Colorado Drug Task Force)

Evan – Eagle County Sheriff's Office (Drug Interdiction Team)

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] – Drug Enforcement Agency

Jake Best - Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)

Jeff Vrbas - Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations

Josh Ray - Mesa County Sheriff's Office (Western Colorado Drug Task Force)

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations – Analyst

Mark Coe – Vail Police Department (Drug Interdiction Team)

Michael Lamkin - Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations – Nebraska area.

[REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations

Inv. Zwinck told me, aside from [REDACTED] [REDACTED] everyone else on the Signal chat assisted with and participated in drug interdiction and overall criminal interdiction. He said he wasn't sure when [REDACTED] was added to the chat group.

- *The acronym USC was used multiple times in the group chat. What does it mean to you? (United States Citizen?)*

Inv. Zwinck said he has always assumed “USC” met United States Citizen, which he described as being someone who is legally a United States Citizen.

- *What was the criteria for uploading name information or photos to the group chat for further checks?*

Inv. Zwinck told me there has never been any specific or “cut and dry” criteria for when information and / or driver’s licenses are uploaded or sent through the Signal chat group. He said it was a case by case basis, and he only sends information when he’s looking for additional details to assist with building probable cause to believe the subject is possibly involved in drug trafficking or some other criminal action.

- *What information are you trying to obtain from submitting DL’s and any other information to the group chat?*

Inv. Zwinck said he’s looking for information regarding when the subject last crossed one of the US borders, how many times and/or often they cross US borders, if they’re linked to or related to any drug cases, related to any criminal investigations, their criminal history, and their money transferring history. He said he’s looking for this information as it adds to and supports elements needed to be able to search a vehicle for illegal narcotics and build a drug interdiction case.

- *Was it discussed that HSI/ICE needed numbers or statistics to support their immigration enforcement efforts?*

Inv. Zwinck told me he has never been a part of, or known of, conversations pertaining to HSI / ICE needing numbers and statistics to support their immigration enforcement efforts.

- *At any time, were details about stops pertaining to immigration communicated over your in-car or hand-held radios? If no, why was only this Signal group chat used and why wasn’t this information aired over the radio or documented in Mobile?*

Inv. Zwinck advised nothing about the information within the Signal chat group was ever communicated over the radio. When asked why, Inv. Zwinck said he did not believe HSI or any of the other Federal members within the chat group had radios, or had access to the local radio channels used by the MCSO and CSP. Inv. Zwinck also explained, based on the case law generated out of *Rodriguez v. United States, 575 U.S. 348 (2015)*, it is standard practice throughout all of the interdiction teams to avoid phone conversations or any other element during a traffic stop which would unreasonably extend the traffic stop.

In regards to documentation within Mobile, Inv. Zwinck explained at one point within the past several months, Inv. Olson advised of having had a conversation with Lt. Jim Fogg about dispatch and patrol units struggling with finding information when they were contacted about abandoned vehicles on the interstate. Inv. Zwinck said it was his understanding that Lt. Fogg and Inv. Olson came to the consensus it would be most

beneficial for them (Inv. Zwinck and Inv. Olson) to place some type of call note into their traffic stop call in order to provide supporting details should dispatch and/or anyone else need to have those details in order to deal with calls regarding abandoned vehicles. Inv. Zwinck explained, this is why they started adding the verbiage of "ERO" to their call notes if it in fact applied to that specific traffic stop.

- *At any time while working with immigration officials, were there any documented reports, call notes, FIR cards, demographics, or call clearances indicating this cooperation? i.e., TRA to HSI/ICE.*

Inv. Zwinck advised the only documentation related to immigration was Inv. Olson and him adding the verbiage of "ERO" to their call notes in the event it applied to that specific traffic stop. Inv. Zwinck added, the only call clearances he and/or Inv. Olson use or used are those applicable to their specific traffic stops and applicable to the reason they conducted the traffic stop in the first place; which per Inv. Zwinck, were clearances such as "warning", "assist", "ticket".

- *How often do you and Deputy Olson meet with your immediate supervisor, Sgt. LeMoine? Was Sgt. LeMoine aware of this Signal group chat, the content of the messages, and your cooperation with immigration enforcement?*

Inv. Zwinck advised there have never been any scheduled meetings with Sgt. LeMoine. Inv. Zwinck said, outside of a meeting pertaining to a large operation involving the entire Drug Task Force, he and Inv. Olson seldom ever met face to face or even had routine phone conversations with Sgt. LeMoine. Inv. Zwinck told me, since becoming an Interdiction Deputy during the late summer months of 2024, he estimated he had met or personally interacted with Sgt. LeMoine on less than ten occasions, at least in a professional setting, and further advised that number was probably closer to 5. Inv. Zwinck confirmed there have never been any formal, daily, or routine briefings between him, Inv. Olson, and Sgt. LeMoine.

Inv. Zwinck said he was not sure if Sgt. LeMoine was aware of the Signal chat group or not.

- *At any time, did you receive any orders, directives, or any other form of support from anyone at the MCSO regarding the enforcement of federal immigration laws; to include any conversations, orders, or directives which lead you to believe your practices and actions were supported? If yes, from who?*

Inv. Zwinck told me, he could not recall an exact date, but believed it was this past spring (2025) shortly after DC Smith's immigration email came out (01/30/25) when Inv. Olson informed him (Inv. Zwinck) that he (Inv. Olson) had spoken with either Sergeants or Lieutenants about HSI / ICE showing up on their traffic stops. Inv. Zwinck said Inv. Olson's comments to him were something along the lines of the Sergeants and/or Lieutenant's advised to continue with their duties because their stops were not targeted towards immigration enforcement. Inv. Zwinck said Inv. Olson could have advised of who he specifically spoke to, but if he in fact did, he (Inv. Zwinck) did not recall who it was. Inv. Zwinck said he understood this information to mean their practices were of no issue.

- *On 05/22/25, ██████ messaged about a subject potentially having immigration issues, but added "they might be full for the day." You then asked, "what's max capacity?" Why did you ask this question?*

Inv. Zwinck said he asked this question out of "pure curiosity" and for no other specific purpose(s).

- *On 05/23/25 you shared an Arizona license plate number with the group chat and added "for you eastern guys, might be a body haul but tons of good reactions. 2f 1m. Could not get pc." Can you explain what a "body haul" is and how it relates to drug interdiction investigations?*

Inv. Zwinck told me a "body haul" is a vehicle full of people; typically people who are paying someone so that someone can and will facilitate their transportation from one point to another. Inv. Zwinck said the only reason a "body haul" relates to his interdiction duties is because they are a "waste of his time". Upon further clarification, Inv. Zwinck explained, if he knows a vehicle is a "body haul", then there is statistically a very small, if any chance, of the vehicle also transporting illegal narcotics, and therefore he does not stop it as his duties pertain to the interdiction of illegal narcotics or related crime. Inv. Zwinck said during the specific communication related to my question, he simply advised of this information on the Signal chat because he wanted the Eagle County interdiction guys to be mindful the vehicle may only be a "body haul" and not be drug related.

- *On 06/03/25 at approximately 1341 hours you made a traffic stop on the interstate with two subjects in the vehicle. You conducted your inv. Searched the vehicle under consent and then HSI agents arrived on scene and detained the driver and passenger. HSI asked for help (asked for handcuffs or restrains – windy noise in BWC). You provided your handcuffs and you personally handcuffed the male for HSI – Do you recall this? Why didn't you just provide the HSI guy with your handcuffs?*

Inv. Zwinck informed me he recalled the traffic stop I was asking about. He said the HSI agent I was referring to who asked for handcuffs was ██████ ██████. Inv. Zwinck said he recalled ██████ had already detained another person from the traffic stop. Inv. Zwinck then slightly sighed and stated something along the lines of, on the interstate back-up officers can sometimes be several minutes away and when cars are driving at high speeds right beside you I just simple don't want to "fiddle fuck around" so I stepped up and placed my handcuffs on the male ██████ was dealing with. Inv. Zwinck said he was simply just helping another law enforcement officer out.

- *On 06/06/25, you commented on the group chat, ██████ probably filled you in but they had 1000\$ they claim was honest money they were using for gas." ██████ ██████ replied, "Lotta gas! Good stop." You responded, "For you guys." ██████ said, "Fair enough." ██████ then replied, "Zwinck is gonna get ERO interdictor of the year." Based on the comments in this portion of the chat, it appears the federal agents are recognizing your efforts in their Enforcement and Removal Operations. Did ██████ statement give you pause or make you consider the interdiction unit's mission?*

Inv. Zwinck told me he disagreed with the perception this comment was the Federal agents recognizing his efforts. He told me he can see how it could be seen as that, but

his comments in the conversation were his "smart and otherwise sarcastic" way of telling them it may have been a good contact and stop for them (Federal agents), but it was a waste of time for him because the stop didn't result in locating any drugs. Inv. Zwinck said [REDACTED] comment did not cause him pause because he knows his duties and practices are drug interdiction and that's what he's been doing.

- *On 06/10/25, you shared a driver's license photo of an Ecuadorian national and stated, "Not gonna have much time with this one if y'all end up wanting him." [REDACTED] replied that ERO is in Montrose and probably wouldn't get there in time. [REDACTED] then replied, "Nothing on our end Zwinck. I don't have anyone available, can kick him." Please explain these messages and how they relate to drug interdiction efforts.*

Inv. Zwinck told me these messages didn't have anything specifically to do with drug interdiction. He said he submitted the information to the Signal chat as he was looking for additional information and details but once he was advised there were no additional details related to drug interdiction he simply just passed on the information pertaining to his stop.

- *On 06/10/25, you replied to comments [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had made about a Mexican national that had potentially over-stayed his visa. You replied, "Oh my gosh. We better get some bitchin Christmas baskets from you guys," and then provided the stop location. How was this stop and the subsequent conversation relevant to drug interdiction?*

Inv. Zwinck told me his comment within this conversation was again a "smart and sarcastic" joke. He told me he had actually sent it out of frustration because it seemed like so many of his traffic stops were resulting in little to no drug confiscations and he was frustrated HSI and the Federal partners were the only ones seeming to benefit from the stops. Inv. Zwinck said his comment was basically a passive aggressive comment towards HSI.

- *On 06/11/25, the first comment of the day on the group chat was from you asking, "Your guys office still standing?" What were you inquiring about with this question?*

Inv. Zwinck said this comment was again more of a joke than anything. He said he recalled seeing a news clip where there was mention of protests and maybe riots outside and near the Federal offices and he was joking around by asking if their office was still standing.

- *On 06/13/25, [REDACTED] commented, "Our partners are off today so no ass haulers, dope loads only!" What did this comment mean to you?*

Inv. Zwinck told me his first thought upon reading this comment on the Signal chat was, "No shit". Inv. Zwinck clarified by telling me his intentions every day he comes to work are to only find "dope loads".

- *What is an "ass hauler"? (context of the Signal chat group)*

Inv. Zwinck told me an “ass hauler” is another way of describing a “body haul” or a vehicle carrying multiple people; typically immigrants.

- *On 06/09/25, you notified me (Sgt. Montover) of your stop and the subsequent detention of Caroline Goncalves being covered by a Utah media outlet. However, after this notification you continued to participate in this Signal group chat for several days, conducting similar stops and taking part in several apparent immigration enforcement operations. Did your knowledge of the media coverage give you pause or concern about continuing in this partnership with federal agencies?*

Inv. Zwinck told me the incident and subsequent media coverage did not give him any pause because he wasn't and has not done any immigration enforcement.

- *What specific details did you provide Sgt. Montover on 06/09/25 and why did you provide those details?*

Inv. Zwinck said he provided a link to the news article he had seen and also provided the incident number to his traffic stop. He told me he provided this information in the event the MCSO started getting any phone calls or records requests, and he didn't want me to be caught off guard or have to dig through records to locate the traffic stop they were referencing.

- *When did you notify your chain of command about this incident? Upon learning of the media coverage? Who did you notify?*

Inv. Zwinck told me he could not recall an exact date or time, but remembered seeing a news or media release where there was mention of the MCSO conducting an Administrative Review of the incident and upon seeing and/or hearing this information, he subsequently spoke with Sgt. LeMoine and Lt. Holdren as he hadn't heard from any other command members. Inv. Zwinck said he didn't reach out to Sgt. LeMoine and/or Lt. Holdren to inform them of the incident, but rather reached out to them as he didn't know what an “Administrative Review” was.

- *Did you have conversations with Deputy Olson or others upon learning of the media coverage of this stop and detention?*

Inv. Zwinck told me he didn't recall having any specific conversations with Deputy Olson or anyone else. He said he just remembered waiting to hear from me (Sgt. Montover) or anyone else within the Professional Standards Unit (PSU).

- *DC Smith sent two past emails, one on 02/08/24 and the other on 01/30/25, both giving direction on immigrant issues and our interactions with ICE. Did you receive, open, read, and understand these emails? Describe your understanding of these emails. (See exhibits).*

Inv. Zwinck told me he was aware of both of these emails and recalled receiving and reading them. He said his understanding of the first email (02/08/24) was it really just emphasized the MCSO was not to get involved with buses bringing in immigrants and our only involvement would be to investigate any criminal activity. He said his understanding of the second email (01/30/25) was if anyone at the MCSO were to arrest

someone they believe may be illegal, then they are not to contact HSI or ICE as the MCDP already does that. Inv. Zwinck said his further understanding of the second email was that it was “business as usual” for him and Inv. Olson as they had never contacted HSI for immigration purposes following their arrest of anyone.

- *On several occasions throughout the group chat, questions were asked or information was given about border crossing dates, locations, vehicles, and passengers. How is this information pertinent to illegal drug interdiction?*

Inv. Zwinck told me, based on his training and experience, roughly 80% of illegal narcotics come into the United States from Mexico and 20% come from Canada. Inv. Zwinck said, with that information in mind, it’s beneficial for them to know details surrounding someone’s border crossings for two reasons; first, it helps with having confirmed information to compare to the subject’s answers, and second, it’s beneficial to know whether someone is statistically making an unreasonable amount of border crossings in an unreasonable timeframe.

- *What training have you received regarding “front seat interviews” and how long have you been conducting interviews this way?*

Inv. Zwinck explained, once he was selected to be a K9 Interdiction Deputy, he attended a several month long K9 training in Florida where they discussed the benefits of bringing subjects to patrol vehicles where K9’s were located. Inv. Zwinck said front seat interviews are also utilized by all of the other drug interdiction officers on the eastern slope of Colorado and the practice is also taught at the annual National Drug Interdiction Conference.

- *At any time did you believe the actions of the drug interdiction team conducting immigration enforcement was a violation of agency directives, policy, or the law? If so, at what point in time did you believe it was any sort of violation?*

Inv. Zwinck stated they were not conducting immigration enforcement. He continued by explaining his sole intention during his duties and assignment are for drug interdiction purposes. Inv. Zwinck again explained there are times he will intentionally not pull over a vehicle because although it may appear to be full of several immigrants, the fact it has so many immigrants limits the vehicle’s ability to also carry large amounts of illegal drugs and therefore he will intentionally not contact that vehicle as the likelihood of it containing drugs is very minimal. He again said he believes and considers it to be a waste of his time to stop a vehicle with large amounts of people inside.

- *At any point in time did you believe your actions and cooperation with HSI / ICE was within the “gray area”?*

Inv. Zwinck told me he never considered his actions and working relationship with HSI / ICE to be in any kind of gray area as he was simply providing information in order to obtain information.

- *How many people do you believe you have assisted ICE / HSI with detaining? Describe your level of assistance?*

Inv. Zwinck said the only person he assisted HSI / ICE with detaining was the male on 06/03/25 when [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (HSI) asked for his (Inv. Zwinck's) handcuffs and he (Inv. Zwinck) in turn placed his handcuffs on the male for [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Inv. Zwinck said outside of that incident, he has never assisted HSI / ICE with arresting anyone.

- *How many people have you personally seen ICE / HSI detain for immigration purposes?*

Inv. Zwinck said he was unsure, but guessed he had observed HSI / ICE detain maybe 20 subjects.

- *Have you ever initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle at the sole discretion of ICE / HSI; or based solely on the amount of people within the vehicle?*

Inv. Zwinck told me, he has never initiated a traffic stop based on immigration purposes. He said he did recall a traffic stop he initiated following intel from HSI about the vehicle carrying a "money load" which he confirmed to be a large amount of money / funds which statistically have some form of nexus to drug distribution. Inv. Zwinck then reiterated he prefers to watch and focus on vehicles with either one or two occupants, and subsequently with license plate data which shows them to have made unreasonably long driving trips with little to no rest within certain timeframes.

- *At what time did you become aware of Colorado Senate Bill 25-276? And, how did you become aware of this Senate Bill?*

Inv. Zwinck said the first time he heard about or became aware of this Senate Bill (25-276) was approximately four to six hours following his initial interview with me, which would have been sometime during the afternoon of 06/16/25. Inv. Zwinck said it was upon his reception of my email to him where I attached the Senate Bill that he had seen and become aware of it for the first time. He said outside of me advising of and sending this Senate Bill to him, he had never heard of it or knew it to exist and be in effect.

This concluded my questions for Inv. Zwinck and I subsequently asked him and his attorney / representative (Mike Lowe) if either of them had any questions for me. Inv. Zwinck asked if I knew when he may hear any updates from MCSO Command Staff regarding the investigation as he had not heard from them. I advised of the Administrative Review process and explained he should be hearing from someone within his chain of command within the coming weeks.

My interview with Inv. Zwinck ended a short time later.

Administrative Interview – MCSO / WCDTF Investigator – Joseph "Joe" LeMoine:

On 07/07/25 at approximately 1000 hours, Lieutenant Prunty, interviewed Sgt. Joe LeMoine in reference to the incident surrounding this Administrative Review. Lt. Prunty provided Sgt. LeMoine with a Subject Notification, which he read to Sgt. LeMoine and Sgt. LeMoine stated he understood. The following is a summary of the interview, completed by Lt. Prunty, and is not a verbatim transcript. The interview was audio recorded and the recording has been added to this internal case file.

Of note, attorney Marcus Barone with Bruno, Colin, Goddard & Lowe, P.C. was present for the entirety of this interview as Sgt. LeMoine's FOP representative. Attorney Patrick Barker with the Mesa County Attorney's Office was also present throughout the entirety of Sgt. LeMoine's interview on behalf of the MCSO.

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I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he had any knowledge of the Signal group chat utilized by his drug interdiction deputies. He advised he did not have knowledge of this Signal group chat. He stated he knew there was communication amongst interdiction units throughout the state, but that he did not know that it was specifically a Signal group chat. I asked Sgt. LeMoine what units or agencies he was aware of participating in the group chat. He advised he knew of the group consisting of MCSO interdiction deputies, HSI, Colorado State Patrol, as well as possibly Garfield County Sheriff's Office deputies. Sgt. LeMoine advised Deputy Olson advised him of this communication group when he was assigned to the WCDF in 2023. I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he was aware of the content of the messages shared on the group and he advised he was not.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine what date and/or time he was notified by Deputy Zwinck of the incident involving Caroline Goncalves. He advised he was not ever notified of the incident by Deputy Zwinck. He stated on the morning of June 16th, his first day back to work after completing his 2-week residency at the Command College in Pueblo, he stopped by the annex to check in with Lt. Holdren. Sgt. LeMoine stated he saw Deputy Zwinck walking towards the SO main building and Deputy Zwinck told him he was headed to PSU. Sgt. LeMoine advised moments later he was advised of this incident by Lt. Holdren. Sgt. LeMoine advised he had heard nothing about this incident prior to talking to Lt. Holdren on the morning of June 16th. I asked Sgt. LeMoine what details Lt. Holdren had provided him. He stated Lt. Holdren explained his understanding of SB 25-276 and stated there was a potential violation of this new law by Deputy Zwinck.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he had any follow up conversation with Deputy Zwinck about this or if he gave him any specific direction. He advised he did not have any meetings with Deputy Zwinck, but that he did check on him to make sure he was doing okay. I confirmed with Sgt. LeMoine that he did not give Deputy Zwinck any direction to cease communication or participation with federal partners at that time. Sgt. LeMoine stated that direction did not come from him, but he believed Lt. Holdren did express this to Deputy Zwinck.

I then asked Sgt. LeMoine to tell me, in general, what the interdiction deputies duties encompass. He advised they use their training, experience, and specific technology to contact vehicles that are believed to be running heavy loads of illegal drugs or money along the I70 corridor. Sgt. LeMoine advised they utilize the resources of other interdiction units, information from technology such as License Plate Readers, and other integrated systems to make educated stops on potential illegal drug runners and couriers. He advised both deputies are also partnered with a K9 to assist them in their interdiction efforts. I asked Sgt. LeMoine if any part of the interdiction deputies duties involved immigration enforcement. He quickly responded, "No." I asked if any part of their training covered the enforcement of federal immigration laws and he responded, "Not that I'm aware of."

I asked how often Sgt. LeMoine has face-to-face interactions and/or meetings with his interdiction deputies. He advised they usually come up to the office a couple of times a month or he sees them at the MCSO for the deconfliction meetings. He explained Deputies Zwinck and Olson typically work an "Extremely earlier schedule than I do, because that's the prime time for their drug enforcement on the interstate, so yeah, once, couple times a month." I confirmed with Sgt. LeMoine that they do not have scheduled meetings in place to meet with him regularly. He advised they do not, but that they always promptly respond to the office if he asks them to. I asked Sgt. LeMoine what is typically discussed when they do meet. He advised any issues or needs they have is his first concern; explaining that he is all about supporting his people. He also advised he will pass along any information he has been given from his supervisors and address any traffic complaints involving the interdiction unit, if any have come up.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he has regular meetings with our federal partners, DEA, HSI, ICE, etc. He advised he meets with DEA on a daily basis with his office being located in their building. Sgt. LeMoine stated the only time he sees our HSI partners is when they have large group meetings, such as the weekly deconfliction meetings. Sgt. LeMoine added that he does not interact with the local HSI agents, stating "I know of them, but I don't interact with them."

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he ever hears any communication over the radio from his interdiction deputies involving immigration enforcement or if he knows of any other communication platform other than the Signal group chat. He advised he did not. I asked Sgt. LeMoine if while reviewing his deputies BWC videos in Axon Performance, if he has ever observed any communication, cooperation, or participation regarding immigration enforcement. He advised he has not.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine at what date or time he became aware of Senate Bill 25-276. He stated on the morning of June 16th when he met with Lt. Holdren. He advised this was a general information sharing meeting with his lieutenant and then he researched the bill himself after the meeting.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he had received any training, from this agency or another, about the enforcement of immigration laws. He advised other than training the division captains provided last week about the recent senate bill, he has not received any formal training on the topic. At this time, Sgt. LeMoine did mention receiving agency emails on the topic of immigration enforcement.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he was aware of any meeting that took place when the Signal group chat was initiated in late 2024, and whether it took place at the DEA or HSI building. He advised he was not aware of any such meeting. Sgt. LeMoine stated that shortly after he was assigned to the Drug Task Force, he went on a ride along with Deputy Olson to learn what he does and get a basis for his daily duties. He advised during this ride along, Deputy Olson explained how he collaborates with other law enforcement agencies, even in Utah, to share information and increase their success in drug interdiction. Sgt. LeMoine advised Deputy Olson added he and other agencies will communicate about certain vehicles where probable cause could not be established for a stop or that may have been stopped, but drugs were not located. This information in then passed on to another jurisdiction the vehicle is likely to pass through so another stop could be initiated. Sgt. LeMoine stated he knew there was collaboration between his deputies and other agencies; local, state, and federal, and he supported this. He

again advised he did not know which platform was being utilized to communicate, but he believed it was being used to share information and perform their jobs to the best of their abilities.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he recalled Deputy Olson communicating with HSI or other partners about immigration enforcement while he was on this ride along. He stated he did not. He advised Deputy Olson did text others while he was with him, but he did not inquire as to what it was about or who he was talking to. I asked him if he remembered Deputy Olson taking pictures of any ID's or driver's licenses while on this ride along and he stated he did not recall.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he was familiar with assignments, roles, and agencies of the other members of the group chat. He explained that he did not know them all, stating he has known Trooper Best for many years, dating back to when he worked for Eagle County. He explained Trooper Best now works for Colorado State Patrol's interdiction unit, although he is not a K9 officer. He advised he does not know everything that Trooper Best's job description encompasses or his role or limitations as a CSP interdiction officer. Of the HSI agents, Sgt. LeMoine advised he knows who [REDACTED] is, but he does not know his role. He added that he knows the guy they call [REDACTED] but he could not remember his actual name. Sgt. LeMoine stated he has met these agents in passing or at the before mentioned deconfliction meetings, but that he does not regularly interact with them. Sgt. LeMoine added that some overtime funding for his deputies and investigators comes from HSI, in addition to the funds he receives from HIDTA. I asked if [REDACTED] was in-charge of the local HSI contingent and Sgt. LeMoine stated that was his understanding.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he at any time received any orders, directives, or any other form of support from anyone at the MCSO regarding the enforcement of federal immigration laws. Sgt. LeMoine stated he remembers receiving an email, as well as the topic being discussed at meetings that if an immigrant is arrested and charged, the jail is responsible for notifying ICE and the arresting deputy should not call them. When asked, Sgt. LeMoine confirmed he was referring to the email DC Smith distributed on 01/30/25. I asked Sgt. LeMoine which meeting he was referencing where ICE notification was discussed. He stated it was discussed in a deconfliction meeting, as well as another meeting. Sgt. LeMoine could not remember when or where this meeting was, but advised it involved a larger group of people. Sgt. LeMoine stated he made sure his team was aware of this information that DC Smith had sent out and ensured everyone knew it was the jail's responsibility to notify ICE. I confirmed with Sgt. LeMoine that he and his team discussed this topic involving criminal matters. He affirmed and stated the conversation did not specifically address immigration enforcement, but he wanted to discuss this with his team because a large quantity of the narcotics they encounter in their duties is believed to originate in Mexico. Sgt. LeMoine stated, "It doesn't matter if our target is illegal or not. Once we arrest them on the criminal matter, we turn it over to the jail and let them do their job." I asked Sgt. LeMoine if Deputies Olson and Zwinck were present for these team meetings. He responded that he knew interdiction deputies were aware of the "email/directive" that was pushed out.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if at any time in the recent past he has observed any documented reports, call notes, or call clearances indicating cooperation with immigration enforcement. He advised he has not. I asked him if he reviews the call notes from any of Deputy Zwinck or Deputy Olson's traffic stops. He again advised he does not and stated

it would be too much to continuously monitor their constant traffic stops. I asked Sgt. LeMoine, if he were to review any call notes that ended with "ERO" and then a number, if it would mean anything to him. He advised that it would now, adding that he does not know what ERO stands for, but knows that it has something to do with immigration enforcement. I informed Sgt. LeMoine ERO stands for Enforcement and Removal Operations and that is listed in several of Deputy Zwinck and Olson's call notes.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he had ever heard any comments about "body haulers" or "ass haulers" or if he knew what either meant. He stated he did not.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he had any conversations with Deputy Olson, Deputy Zwinck or others upon learning of the media coverage of the stop and detention of Caroline Goncalves. He advised he did not have discussions about the incident specifically, but advised Deputy Zwinck did stop by his office the day before he was placed on administrative leave. He advised Deputy Zwinck said he was told not to do any enforcement on the interstate. Again, Sgt. LeMoine stated they did not discuss anything specific to this incident, and that he (Sgt. LeMoine) mainly ensured Deputy Zwinck was doing okay and felt supported. I confirmed again with Sgt. LeMoine that the first he had heard of this incident was from Lt. Holdren on 06/16/25 and that he had not received any notification from Deputy Zwinck through email, text message, or phone call while he was out of town at training. He confirmed this was correct.

I then discussed the emails sent by DC Smith concerning immigration enforcement and our interactions with ICE; the first being sent on 02/08/24 and the second on 01/30/25. I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he had received, opened, read, and understood these emails. He advised that he did recall the email from this year, as we had discussed it earlier in this interview. Sgt. LeMoine did not specifically recall the email from 2024 or what all it entailed, but stated he was sure he had read it. I then provided Sgt. LeMoine with hard-copies of these emails, as he and his attorney began to read through them. Once he was finished, I asked him if the reading the first email from 2024 refreshed his memory at all, and he advised "Roughly, yeah."

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he had received any training on the "front-seat interviews" that are commonly conducted by his interdiction deputies. Sgt. LeMoine advised he is familiar with this practice and that his deputies have received training on the topic at interdiction trainings and conferences, but that he personally has not attended any training.

I asked Sgt. LeMoine if he believed at any time the actions of the drug interdiction team conducting immigration enforcement was a violation of agency directives, policy, or state law. Sgt. LeMoine asked me to repeat this question for him, which I did. He then quickly responded, "No." I asked him if at any point he believed his interdiction unit's actions and cooperation with HSI or ICE was within the "gray area" and he again responded, "No". I asked him if at any point he believed the unit's mission deviated from drug interdiction to the enforcement of federal immigration laws or that the unit at least split their time between the two. He again answered, "No". I asked him if he remembered any HSI agents being present on any of Deputy Olson's stops when he did his ride along with him and he said he did not. I asked him if he had ever heard an estimated number on how many people had been detained for immigration purposes related to his deputies stops and he said he has not. I asked if he had any knowledge of his deputies ever

initiating a traffic stop on a vehicle at the discretion of HSI or based solely on the number of occupants in a vehicle. He advised he did not.

Sgt. LeMoine confirmed that Deputy Olson did act as the Filed Training Officer (FTO) for Deputy Zwinck upon his assignment to the team. I asked him if there is a manual to guide the training of a new member. He advised there was not and that was more of an on-the-job training setting. I asked him if any portion of this training would discuss the enforcement of federal immigration laws. He stated he was not aware of that being covered in the training.

I advised Sgt. LeMoine that I did not have any further questions for him and asked if he had any questions for me. He stated he did not. I then asked his attorney, Mr. Barone if he had any questions. He advised he was taking some notes because this was the first time he had seen the email from 02/08/24, but that he did not have anything further to add. I did advise him he could keep the copy of the emails I had provided for his reference, which he did agree to take.

Administrative Interview – MCSO / WCDTF Investigator – Joshua “Josh” Ray:

On 07/07/25 at approximately 1100 hours, Lieutenant Prunty, interviewed Inv. Josh Ray in reference to the incident surrounding this Administrative Review. Lt. Prunty provided Inv. Ray with a Subject Notification, which he read to Inv. Ray and Inv. Ray stated he understood. The following is a summary of the interview, completed by Lt. Prunty, and is not a verbatim transcript. The interview was audio recorded and the recording has been added to this internal case file.

Of note, attorney Marcus Barone with Bruno, Colin, Goddard & Lowe, P.C. was present for the entirety of this interview as Inv. Ray’s FOP representative. Attorney Patrick Barker with the Mesa County Attorney’s Office was also present throughout the entirety of Inv. Ray’s interview on behalf of the MCSO.

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I advised Investigator Ray that he was listed as a participant in a Signal group chat including members of the MCSO interdiction unit, other local agencies, Colorado State Patrol, and HSI. I asked him if he remembered why he was originally added to this group chat. Investigator Ray advised he was added to the group approximately 5-6 months ago because of a specific operation he was helping with. Inv. Ray stated from what he could remember, HSI had received specific information from another agency about a “cash car” coming through the area and he had assisted them in locating the vehicle.

I asked Inv. Ray if he ever viewed the content of the messages being shared on the group chat, aside from the specific operation he had assisted with. He advised after the operation he assisted with, he put the group chat on mute/silent. He stated since that time, the chat has existed on his phone, but he did not actively check it or receive any alerts of on-going communication. Inv. Ray advised the only reason he kept the group chat on his phone was in hopes that he would eventually have a larger scale investigation that possible involved trips out of town and he thought the group chat would be useful at that time. I confirmed with Inv. Ray that other than the operation he assisted with, he had never viewed the content of the messages. He stated he opened the group

chat "A few, a handful of times" since the operation, but he did not monitor what was being discussed or shared amongst the group. I asked if Inv. Ray recalled ever sending any messages out on the group chat and he stated he did not.

I asked Inv. Ray if he recalled ever seeing anything related to immigration enforcement on the chat and he stated he did not. I asked if the content of this group chat was ever discussed amongst him and other members of the WCDF, Group II. He advised it was not. He stated his team knew he assisted on the before mentioned case, but he advised nothing about the group chat was ever mentioned to his knowledge.

I advised Inv. Ray that we were able to retrieve messages contained within a 4-week block, from 05/20/25 forward. I asked him if he recalled any of the content in the group chat, prior to this date, relating to immigration enforcement. He stated he did not. He stated he recalled seeing pictures of drug seizures and arrests, but nothing related to immigration. I asked if he recalled seeing photos of ID cards or driver's licenses in the group chat. He stated during the operation he assisted with, he recalled seeing photos of a vehicle, which he believed were taken by an LPR. He also remembered seeing photos of a bag of cash, but could not recall seeing any driver's license photos.

I asked Inv. Ray what time or date he became aware of SB 25-276. He advised it was on Monday, June 16th while he was attending a training, Lt. Holdren called him and gave him a quick brief of the senate bill and asked him to cease communications with federal agents. Inv. Ray stated at that time he removed the Signal group chat from his phone.

I asked Inv. Ray if he has received any training on immigration enforcement during his time with the MCSO. He stated he received training covering the new senate bill last week from Captain Brammer, as well as receiving the two past emails DC Smith distributed.

I asked Inv. Ray if he at any time received any orders, directives, or any other form of support from anyone at the MCSO regarding the enforcement of federal immigration laws. He again referenced the two emails sent out by DC Smith. I asked him if he read and understood the guidance of these emails and he stated he did.

I asked Inv. Ray if he has ever been on the scene of a traffic stop where an individual was handed off to HSI or ICE for immigration purposes. He advised he has never been on scene when this occurs, but he was aware of traffic stops where Homeland Security has shown up to assist and ended up detaining someone for immigration reasons. I asked Inv. Ray if he was aware of any completed traffic stops involving our deputies, where once the subject has been released, HSI asks for information pertaining to the direction of travel or description of the vehicle. He advised he was not. When asked, Inv. Ray confirmed he has not ever done a ride along with either Deputy Zwinck or Deputy Olson.

I advised Inv. Ray that I did not have any further questions for him and asked he and Mr. Barone if they had any questions for me. They both advised they did not and the interview was ended.

Administrative Interview – MCSO / WCDTF Investigator – Erik Olson:

On 07/07/25 at approximately 1140 hours, I interviewed Inv. Olson in reference to the incident surrounding this Administrative Review. I provided Inv. Olson with a Subject Notification, which I read to him and he stated he understood. The following is a summary of the interview and is not a verbatim transcript. The interview was audio and video recorded and the recordings have been added to this internal case file.

Of note, attorney Michael “Mike” Lowe with Bruno, Colin, Goddard & Lowe, P.C. was present for the entirety of this interview and acting as Inv. Olson’s FOP representative. Attorney John Rhoads with the Mesa County Attorney’s Office was also present throughout the entirety of Inv. Olson’s interview on behalf of the MCSO.

As previously noted, based on the additional information and details obtained from the review of the Signal Chat content, as well as details and information obtained from a subsequent review of Inv. Olson and Inv. Zwinck’s traffic stops during the same period encompassed within the dates of the Signal Chat; a list of questions needing to be addressed and answered by Inv. Olson was compiled for this interview. This list was compiled to provide structure to the interview, and to ensure key topics and/or elements were covered.

These questions and Inv. Olson’s respective answers are as follows. The questions have been italicized for clarity purposes.

- *Did you act as the Field Training Officer (FTO) for Deputy Zwinck when he and his K-9 were added to the unit? If yes, was immigration enforcement a training topic or at all discussed between the two of you during his training?*

Inv. Olson advised he did act as Inv. Zwinck’s Field Training Officer upon Inv. Zwinck joining the Interdiction Unit. He said there was nothing specific discussed or trained regarding immigration enforcement. He said, to his recollection, the only thing he really discussed with Inv. Zwinck was they do not enforce immigration laws.

- *How often do you and Deputy Zwinck meet with your immediate supervisor, Sgt. LeMoine? Was Sgt. LeMoine aware of this Signal group chat, the content of the messages, and your cooperation with immigration enforcement?*

Inv. Olson said he and Inv. Zwinck’s meetings and interactions with Sgt. LeMoine were very “infrequent”. He said, since joining the Interdiction Unit around May of 2022, he believed he had officially and professionally met with Sgt. LeMoine a handful of times, but outside of having official briefings regarding large scale drug operations with the entire Drug Task Force, the meetings were very informal and more of simple and random conversations. Inv. Olson said he was unaware as to whether or not Sgt. LeMoine was aware of the Signal chat group.

- *Have you received any training on enforcing immigration laws? If yes, was the training conducted by the MCSO or another law enforcement agency?*

Inv. Olson said he has not received any training regarding the enforcement of immigration laws.

- *At some point in your time as an interdiction deputy with the WCDTF, did your responsibilities take a noticeable shift from drug interdiction to immigration enforcement? What would you say is an accurate ratio of your workload, i.e., drug interdiction vs. immigration enforcement, 50/50?*

Inv. Olson told me, "We don't do immigration enforcement, all of it is drug interdiction".

- *Was there ever any form of meeting between you, Inv. Olson, the WCDTF, HSI, ICE where there was discussion of you guys assisting with immigration enforcement? If yes, was this a meeting at the DEA Office, HSI Office, or an informal roadside meeting?*

Inv. Olson said he didn't believe there had ever been any form of meeting, at least not one he had been present for.

- *At approximately what date was the Signal group chat initiated and who was responsible for setting it up?*

Inv. Olson said he believed [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was the owner and creator of the Signal chat group and to his recollection, it was created about a year ago.

- *Was it discussed that HSI/ICE needed numbers or statistics to support their immigration enforcement efforts?*

Inv Olson said he couldn't recall any specific statements, dates, or times, but did recall having heard some of the Federal guys talking about their statistics and numbers in regards to their own duties and assignments, but it never had anything to do with him and Inv. Zwinck.

- *Can you explain the assignment, roles, and agencies of the individual members of the Signal group chat? Example: the difference between the responsibilities of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]*

Alex Zwinck – Mesa County Sheriff's Office (Western Colorado Drug Task Force)

[REDACTED] – Inv. Zwinck believed this subject was an analyst with Homeland Security.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] – Emergency Removal Operations (ICE)

Bobby – Colorado State Patrol, Durango area (Drug Interdiction Team)

Connor Aydt – Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] – Homeland Security Investigations

Erik Olson - Mesa County Sheriff's Office (Western Colorado Drug Task Force)

Evan – Eagle County Sheriff's Office (Drug Interdiction Team)

██████████ – Drug Enforcement Agency

Jake Best - Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)

Jeff Vrbas - Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)

██████████ – Homeland Security Investigations

Josh Ray - Mesa County Sheriff's Office (Western Colorado Drug Task Force)

██████████ – Homeland Security Investigations – Analyst

Mark Coe – Vail Police Department (Drug Interdiction Team)

Michael Lamkin - Colorado State Patrol, Grand Junction area (Drug Interdiction Team)

██████████ – Homeland Security Investigations – Nebraska area.

████████████████████ – Homeland Security Investigations

Inv. Olson said he wasn't very familiar with ██████████ and could not recall when he was added to the Signal chat.

- *The acronym USC was used multiple times in the group chat. What does it mean to you? (United States Citizen?)*

Inv. Olson defined this as a United States Citizen and understood it to mean someone who is a legal citizen of the United States.

- *What was the criteria for uploading name information or photos to the group chat for further checks?*

Inv. Olson said there is not any specific criteria. Inv. Olson said, whether or not they submitted information or a driver's license to the group chat just depended on the traffic stop, the information they received upon initially speaking with the occupant(s) of the vehicle and the information they knew leading up to the stop. He said the intent of submitting information to the group chat is in order to obtain more comprehensive information to further their drug investigation and further their support of probable cause.

- *What information are you trying to obtain from submitting DL's and any other information to the group chat?*

Inv. Olson told me his intent behind submitting information and driver's licenses to the group chat is in order to obtain confirmed information regarding the subject's criminal history, past and current criminal cases, border crossings, and financial transaction history.

- *At any time, were details about stops pertaining to immigration communicated over your in-car or hand-held radios? If no, why was only this Signal group chat*

used and why wasn't this information aired over the radio or documented in Mobile?

Inv. Olson stated, they do not deal with the immigration side. He also talked about the same Rodriguez case law pertaining to traffic stops and that being a reason they refrain from making phone calls or doing anything else which would unreasonably prolong the traffic stop. Inv. Olson continued by explaining, unless there was a large scale drug operation taking place where their Federal partners were provided with MCSO radios, they never communicated via radio.

- *I noticed in a couple traffic stops you entered call notes and / or clearances of "ERO" and then a number, please explain...*

Inv. Olson said he started adding the "ERO" verbiage to his traffic stop call notes as he felt it was pertinent for dispatch, Deputies, and other agencies to know in the event anyone had any questions regarding a vehicle appearing to have been abandoned along side the road. He said he also felt it was pertinent to document how often HSI was showing up on their traffic stops.

- *At any time while working with immigration officials, were there any documented reports, call notes, FIR cards, demographics, or call clearances indicating this cooperation? i.e., TRA to HSI/ICE.*

Inv. Olson said, outside of them adding "ERO" verbiage to their call notes, there was never any additional documentation regarding HSI / ICE unless HSI / ICE were part of one of their drug stops or large scale drug operations.

- *At any time, did you receive any orders, directives, or any other form of support from anyone at the MCSO regarding the enforcement of federal immigration laws; to include any conversations, orders, or directives which lead you to believe your practices and actions were supported? If yes, from who?*

Inv. Olson said, "yes but it was never about immigration". I asked him to explain.

Inv. Olson said sometime within the days following the reception of DC Smith's email (01/30/25) he had a conversation with Lt. Holdren where he (Inv. Olson) told Lt. Holdren about what he and Inv. Zwinck were doing and what HSI was doing. Upon clarification, Inv. Olson said he recalled explaining how HSI was showing up on their traffic stops on multiple occasions and detaining people for immigration reasons. Inv. Olson said he recalled Lt. Holdren telling him "Keep doing what you're doing" or something along those lines.

Inv. Olson said during a SWAT training at CLETC, he thought sometime in March or April of this year (2025), he remembered talking to Lt. Fogg and talking about their partnerships with HSI and how often HSI was showing up on he and Inv. Zwinck's traffic stops. Inv. Olson said he could not remember exactly what he relayed to Lt. Fogg, nor how the conversation even started. Inv. Olson said it could have been a conversation which started regarding vehicle's being left on the side of the interstate and patrol units having to handle them, but he wasn't sure. Inv. Olson said Lt. Fogg had told him something along the lines of, "yeah, I guess that works".

Inv. Olson said, during a couple pre-op meetings and briefings regarding the most recent WCDTF Drug Check-Point operation (May 2025), he remembered there being several different conversations about HSI being involved in immigration enforcement and he remembered again mentioning how HSI has been using information to contact and detain immigrants. Inv. Olson said Sgt. LeMoine and GJPD Sgt. Caleb Church were present for these pre-op meetings but couldn't remember any specific comments any of them made, nor even how he (Inv. Olson) specifically relayed or talked about details specifically related to HSI's practices. He was also unsure of any other specific people, especially supervisors who were at these meetings. Inv. Olson said he just simply recalled these pre-op meetings / briefings as being another point in time when HSI's practices were discussed.

- *What is an "ass hauler"? (context of the Signal chat group)*

Inv. Olson told me an "ass hauler" is a human smuggler; someone who is paid to transport humans for long distances.

- *DC Smith sent two past emails, one on 02/08/24 and the other on 01/30/25, both giving direction on immigrant issues and our interactions with ICE. Did you receive, open, read, and understand these emails? Describe your understanding of these emails. (See exhibits).*

Inv. Olson said he remembered receiving and reading both of the emails I was referencing. He told me his understanding of the first email (02/08/24) was the MCSO was not to get involved with immigration issues and simply be peace keepers and only investigate criminal matters. He said his understanding of the second email (01/30/25) was that if you were to arrest someone do not contact ICE as the jail had a process for doing so.

- *On several occasions throughout the group chat, questions were asked or information was given about border crossing dates, locations, vehicles, and passengers. How is this information pertinent to illegal drug interdiction?*

Inv. Olson told me this information is important and pertinent to their traffic stops and drug interdiction efforts because it offers confirmed answers to "baseline" questions they can in turn ask and confirm with the subjects involved within their traffic stops.

- *What training have you received regarding "front seat interviews" and how long have you been conducting interviews this way?*

Inv. Olson said he had received training through Interdiction Masterminds, Desert Snow, the annual National Drug Interdiction conference, and several online trainings where the front seat interview is trained and emphasized. He said it is also utilized by all of the Interdiction Officers on the western slope and even throughout the nation, based on conversations he's had with other interdiction officers at national conferences.

- *On 05/20/25, you and Deputy Zwinck contacted an El Salvador national and a Honduran national on the same stop and sent their ID's out to the group chat. [REDACTED] advised he needed to "chat" with them and that he was responding to your stop. Upon you requesting a check on the Honduran ID, [REDACTED] replied that he returned "alien inadmissibility." You advised that he had*

been released, but he would be at one of the truck stops if they needed him. We understand this stop occurred three days prior to the signing of SB 25-276. Was it common practice for interdiction deputies to provide information of this nature to federal immigration authorities before/after 05/23/25?

Inv. Olson said he didn't recall the specifics of this stop, but thought, based on the details I provided, that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] had actually showed up to the stop. He said it is common practice to provide and exchange information back and forth over the group chat because it's simply people from multiple agencies working together, sharing information, and creating and maintaining partnerships.

- *On 05/27/25, you provided a photo to the group chat showing two ID's for the same subject, one Colorado ID and one Mexico ID. [REDACTED] asked for your location and you provided it. He then responded to your stop. Was there any portion of your investigation on this stop that involved the interdiction of drugs?*

Inv. Olson said he again did not recall this specific traffic stop or any of the details during the stop, but he was positive the stop was not conducted for immigration purposes as his stops are only conducted for drug interdiction purposes.

- *On 06/03/25, Trooper Best sent a message to the group chat stating, "Full van at 11WB." You responded, "capital I stis" (spelling error?) [REDACTED] then asked if the van was stopped and you replied that it was. Trooper Best provided a photo of an Arizona – Limited Term DL, as [REDACTED] advised "We have Feds en route to mm 11." It appears the investigation revealed the occupants were legit workers for the Denver Water District and were eventually released. Did this stop have a drug interdiction nexus?*

Inv. Olson told me he didn't recall or remember being on this specific traffic stop. He said he believed he had just overheard Trooper Best's radio traffic regarding the stop location and that's the information he (Inv. Olson) provided to the group chat. Inv. Olson also confirmed the abbreviation "Capital I stis" within this conversation was the abbreviation for Colorado State Patrol's, Smuggling, Trafficking and Interdiction Section / Unit; the same CSP Unit Trooper Best works for.

- *On 06/03/25, Trooper Best provided a photo of a California DL to the group. [REDACTED] replied, "No criminal history but the state department hates him, where you at?" [REDACTED] [REDACTED] also advised, "Ugandan national. Prior visa fraud. Unlawfully present." You responded that Best was at mile marker 14. As [REDACTED] asked for a vehicle description, Best advised he had just released him and provided a direction of travel. Did any portion of this stop relate to drug interdiction?*

Inv. Olson told me he didn't recall being part of this stop, but based on my question, he recalled again overhearing Trooper Best's radio traffic about his traffic stop and simply relayed that information via the group chat.

- *On 06/03/25, you provided a photo of a Nebraska – Limited Term DL to the group. [REDACTED] asked for your location and you provided it. He advised he was in route, pending further decision. Do you recall a drug nexus for this stop?*

Inv. Olson said he didn't remember the exact details of the traffic stop but knows there's always some form of drug interdiction intention or effort to every stop he / they make, but he could not recall the specific nexus to this specific stop.

- *When did you learn about the incident with Caroline Goncalves and Inv. Zwinck? How did you hear about it? Did you have conversations with Deputy Zwinck or others upon learning of the media coverage of this stop and detention?*

Inv. Olson said he believed he received a text message from Inv. Zwinck on 06/16/25 and he remembered the message seeming to be odd to him. Inv. Olson said Inv. Zwinck asked him something along the lines of, "have you ever struggled with getting complaints"? Inv. Olson said he responded by saying something similar to, "no not really, why what's up". He said Inv. Zwinck told him he (Inv. Zwinck), "was getting called into Justin's office about the traffic stop and there was some media release". Inv. Olson said he did not recall any further discussion about the incident and just recalled seeing additional news articles and releases about it.

- *At any time did you believe the actions of the drug interdiction team conducting immigration enforcement was a violation of agency directives, policy, or the law? If so, at what point in time did you believe it was any sort of violation?*

Inv. Olson stated, "We don't do immigration enforcement".

- *At any point in time did you believe your actions and cooperation with HSI / ICE was within the "gray area"?*

Inv. Olson stated, "No".

- *How many people do you believe you have assisted ICE / HSI with detaining? Describe your level of assistance?*

Inv. Olson said he does not believe he has ever assisted ICE / HSI with detaining anyone throughout his career. He said he wasn't sure how many subjects ICE / HSI may have detained on subsequent traffic stops or contacts. Inv. Olson estimated there to be 10 or more incidents where HSI / ICE has shown up on his traffic stops and subsequently detained subjects from his traffic stops.

- *How many people have you personally seen ICE / HSI detain for immigration purposes?*

Inv. Olson said he could not think of an exact number, but stated there have been several.

- *Have you ever initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle at the sole discretion of ICE / HSI; or based solely on the amount of people within the vehicle?*

Inv. Olson said he has never stopped a vehicle at the sole direction of HSI and he has intentionally not stopped vehicles with large amounts of people within the vehicle as those vehicles typically or generally do not transport drugs. Inv. Olson said, based on his training and experience, for drug interdiction purposes, it is common and best practice to focus on vehicles with one or maybe two occupants.

- *In looking through BWC footage for different parts of this investigation, I noticed there were a couple “unlabeled” BWC videos and then a couple seem to be missing after about June 3rd... Just for my research and clarification purposes, are you able to confirm the ones which haven’t been labeled haven’t been labeled because you [REDACTED] being able to label them (no issues and completely understandable). Also, do you know if there are still BWC videos on your BWC that need to be uploaded?*

On 07/04/25 at approximately 1852 hours I sent Inv. Olson and his attorneys / representatives (Mike Lowe and Marcus Barone) an email advising some of Inv. Olson’s body-worn camera footage from 05/20/25 through 07/01/25 appeared to not be labeled yet, and a few recordings appeared to be missing. I further explained, based on a brief review of Inv. Olson body-worn camera footage for the past several months, it appears he has always been very diligent about uploading and labeling his footage so my assumption was Inv. Olson [REDACTED] getting his body-worn camera footage uploaded and labeled. On 07/06/25 at approximately 1644 hours, Inv. Olson responded to my email advising [REDACTED] because of such he didn’t get a chance to get his lingering body-worn footage uploaded and/or labeled. Within his same response, Inv. Olson advised he had since downloaded his footage and subsequently labeled everything.

On 07/07/25, prior to my interview with Inv. Olson I reviewed his body-worn camera footage again and found that he had in fact downloaded all the remaining footage and correctly labeled everything.

During our interview, I simply confirmed this information with Inv. Olson and thanked him for completing this process [REDACTED].

- *At what time did you become aware of Colorado Senate Bill 25-276? And, how did you become aware of this Senate Bill?*

Inv. Olson said sometime during the afternoon of 06/16/25, Inv. Zwinck forwarded him (Inv. Olson) an email I had sent to Inv. Zwinck. Inv. Olson said upon receiving that email and reading over the attached Senate Bill, was the first time he had been made aware of the bill.

This concluded my questions for Inv. Olson and I subsequently asked him and his attorney / representative (Mike Lowe) if either of them had any questions for me, to which they both advised they did not.

My interview with Inv. Olson ended a short time later.

Administrative Interview – MCSO Lieutenant – Shannon James “Jim” Fogg:

On 07/09/25, Division Chief Stoffel interviewed Lt. Fogg in reference to the incident surrounding this Administrative Review. DC Stoffel provided Lt. Fogg with a Subject Notification, which he read to Lt. Fogg and Lt. Fogg stated he understood. The following is a summary of the interview, completed by DC Stoffel and is not a verbatim transcript. The interview was audio recorded and the recording has been added to this internal case file.

Subject Interview – Lt Jim Fogg

July 9, 2025

Henry Stoffel, Division Chief

On July 9, 2025, I met with Lt. Jim Fogg in my office. During the investigation into the detention of Caroline Dias Goncalves on June 5, 2025, by federal authorities, Deputy Eric Olson provided information that he had spoken with Lt. Fogg about Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) working with the Western Colorado Drug Task Force, specifically with the Interdiction Unit. Deputy Olson provided this information after he was asked about speaking to supervisors about his interaction with HSI.

The following is a summary of the interview. The complete interview was recorded and is available for review.

I informed Lt. Fogg of the information shared by Deputy Olson. Lt. Fogg got a surprised look on his face and said he did not remember having any discussion with Deputy Olson that included federal agents and immigration. Lt. Fogg explained that he is the SWAT Commander and he is routinely at SWAT Trainings. He said he does not participate in the training but observes the tactics and safety. He continued by telling me that it is not unusual for him to speak with the different SWAT operators during breaks or while they are discussing scenarios, any discussion similar to what Deputy Olson described.

Lt. Fogg stated that when this incident occurred, he believed sharing information with federal agents regarding an immigration investigation was illegal. He continued to say that he had researched his belief but found that, before SB25-276 became law, it was not against the state statute, but rather against the directive provided by Division Chief Smith and was inconsistent with our agency's practice.

I asked Lt. Fogg about the agency's practice. He said that it has been several years since our agency has worked directly with immigration investigations, and he is not aware of any Operational Division unit cooperating with federal agencies on immigration issues.

No further information at this time.

HS

Administrative Interview – MCSO Lieutenant - David “Bucky” Holdren:

On 07/09/25, Division Chief Stoffel interviewed Lt. Holdren in reference to the incident surrounding this Administrative Review. DC Stoffel provided Lt. Holdren with a Subject Notification, which he read to Lt. Holdren and Lt. Holdren stated he understood. The following is a summary of the interview, completed by DC Stoffel and is not a verbatim transcript. The interview was audio recorded and the recording has been added to this internal case file.

Subject Interview – Lt David “Bucky” Holdren

July 9, 2025

Henry Stoffel, Division Chief

On July 9, 2025, I met with Lt. David (Bucky) Holdren in my office. During the investigation into the detention of Caroline Dias Goncalves on June 5, 2025, by federal authorities, Deputy Eric Olson provided information that he had spoken with Lt. Holdren about Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) working with the Western Colorado Drug Task Force, specifically with the Interdiction Unit. Deputy Olson provided this information after he was asked about speaking to supervisors about his interaction with HSI.

The following is a summary of the interview. The entire interview was recorded and is available for review.

Lt. Holdren became aware of the traffic stop involving Deputy Alexander Zwinck and Caroline Dias Goncalves on June 14, 2025. Lt. Holdren was at his cabin when he received a text message from Deputy Zwinck inquiring about the investigation regarding his traffic stop of Dias Goncalves. Lt. Holdren told Deputy Zwinck that he was not aware of an investigation. Deputy Zwinck then sent the link to the Salt Lake Tribune article about Dias Goncalves. The article mentioned that the Mesa County Sheriff's Office was completing an administrative review.

Lt. Holdren explained that the only other information he was aware of was a phone conversation he had with HSI Supervisor, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] on June 10, 2025. Lt. Holdren explained that he was in a patrol briefing when he was told that our patrol officers had contacted an ICE agent after the ICE agent was called in regarding a suspicious vehicle. Lt. Holdren had an agreement with HSI [REDACTED] that he [REDACTED] would notify Lt. Holdren about any operations occurring in Mesa County. During this conversation, HSI [REDACTED] mentioned to Lt. Holdren that ICE had detained a 19-year-old girl, but did not describe the circumstances around the detention. Lt. Holdren believes now that HSI [REDACTED] was talking about the Dias Goncalves contact.

When asked if he had any previous conversations with HSI [REDACTED] about MCSO personnel assisting in immigration investigations, Lt. Holdren explained that on May 16, 2025, he had a phone conversation with HSI [REDACTED]. During this conversation, he informed HSI [REDACTED] that MCSO personnel would not assist HSI in any immigration investigations. Lt. Holdren said HSI [REDACTED] indicated that he understood what Lt. Holdren was saying.

When asked specifically about a conversation Lt. Holdren had with Deputy Eric Olson regarding the Drug Interdiction Team's collaboration with HSI on immigration investigations, Lt. Holdren said he and Deputy Olson have had many conversations about HSI assisting the Interdiction Team. Lt. Holdren said HSI collaborates with the Interdiction Team on drug interdiction. Lt. Holdren said he did not remember ever having a conversation with Deputy Olson about working with HSI in regards to immigration investigations.

I spoke with Lt. Holdren about his knowledge of the Signal app that the Interdiction Team was using. Lt. Holdren said he was not aware of the communication group until June 16,

2025. He later spoke with Mike Miller (a former MCSO Interdiction member) and found out it was used nationally to share drug trafficking investigation information.

I asked Lt. Holdren about any incident in which Deputy Zwinck handcuffed an individual after he had completed his investigation but was holding the individual at the location, waiting for HSI to arrive. Lt. Holdren said he was not aware of that incident.

Lt. Holdren said he is very aware of the agency's position on working with federal agencies on immigration investigations. He said he has spoken with all of his staff about it, and this occurred before the June 5, 2025, traffic stop of Caroline Dias Goncalves. He was unable to provide the exact date.

The texts Lt. Holdren had on his phone were forwarded to me and are included with the report.

No further information at this time.

HS

Additional Communication with Attorney's Mike Lowe and Marcus Barone:

On 07/09/25 at approximately 1445 hours, I was advised of details surrounding DC Stoffel's interview with Lt. Holdren. As a result of that interview, I was advised further clarification was needed from Inv. Olson regarding the specific statements, comments, and information he and Lt. Holdren discussed during the conversation Inv. Olson advised of having with Lt. Holdren in the days following DC Smith sending the immigration email on 01/30/25.

With this information at hand, I contacted Marcus Barone via phone and advised I needed to conduct a second interview with Inv. Olson and further advised, if at all possible, I needed to conduct this second interview the following morning (07/10/25). Marcus advised he understood and didn't see a reason as to why this second interview couldn't take place the following day with Inv. Olson's attorney / representative (mike Lowe) being present via a phone call or virtual option (Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Facetime). Marcus advised he would contact Mike and have Mike reach out to me.

On the same date (07/09/25) at approximately 1530 hours, Mike Lowe called me and advised he was in support of this second interview and in support of attending virtually. Mike and I agreed on Inv. Olson's second interview taking place at 0800 hours the following day (07/10/25) and subsequently advised he would reach out to Inv. Olson and confirm. At approximately 1540 hours, Mike called me back and confirmed Inv. Olson would be at my office for this second interview the following morning (07/10/25) at 0800 hours.

These phone conversations were audio recorded and the recordings have been added to this internal case file.

2nd Administrative Interview – MCSO / WCDTF Investigator – Erik Olson:

On 07/10/25 at approximately 0800 hours, I conducted a second (follow-up) interview with Inv. Olson in reference to the incident surrounding this Administrative Review. More specifically, this second interview pertained to me needing to clarify specific details surrounding Inv. Olson's response during his first interview with me regarding the following question:

- *At any time, did you receive any orders, directives, or any other form of support from anyone at the MCSO regarding the enforcement of federal immigration laws; to include any conversations, orders, or directives which lead you to believe your practices and actions were supported? If yes, from who?*

These details and this clarification were needed as a result of DC Stoffel's previously noted interview with Lt. Holdren.

Of note, attorney Michael "Mike" Lowe with Bruno, Colin, Goddard & Lowe, P.C. was virtually present for the entirety of this interview and acting as Inv. Olson's FOP representative through the use of the Microsoft Teams video conferencing application. Attorney John Rhoads with the Mesa County Attorney's Office was also present (physically) throughout the entirety of Inv. Olson's second interview on behalf of the MCSO.

I provided Inv. Olson with another Subject Notification, and advised the only difference between this Subject Notification and the one I provided him during his initial interview on 07/07/25 was I had changed the date to reflect (07/10/25). Inv. Olson told me he understood. I asked Inv. Olson if he wished for me to read over this second Subject Notification with that information in mind and he told me he did not wish for me to read over it again. Mike Lowe was advised of this same information as well. The following is a summary of the interview and is not a verbatim transcript. The interview was audio and video recorded and the recordings have been added to this internal case file.

I advised Inv. Olson of the specific question I was needing him to clarify his answers on and then proceeded to play the audio recording of his initial interview with me; more specifically, I played only the portion of the audio recording which contained / pertained to me asking the original question and Inv. Olson's original responses on 07/07/25. Following this, I began asking Inv. Olson clarifying questions.

I asked Inv. Olson where his previously described conversation with Lt. Holdren took place and he told me it took place in the conference room just outside Lt. Holdren's office in the MCSO Annex building. He also confirmed he and Lt. Holdren were the only ones present for the conversation.

I asked Inv. Olson, in his opinion, whether his conversation with Lt. Holdren seemed to be formal or informal. He told me it was informal. He said it was not a scheduled meeting, and he wasn't sure exactly what started the initial interaction or conversation but advised it seemed like an "organic" conversation as it transpired into him (Inv. Olson) talking about DC Smith's email from 01/30/25 regarding immigration. Inv. Olson said he believed this specific conversation about the email started by him (Inv. Olson) telling Lt. Holdren something to the effect of, "He (DC Smith) knows we work with HSI every day, right? Like during our stops we're sending information and they're showing up".

I asked Inv. Olson to describe exactly what he recalled telling Lt. Holdren during this conversation. He said he recalled telling Lt. Holdren about how they send subject information and pictures of driver's licenses to HSI so HSI can get them information about the criminal records, border crossings, criminal ties and other records related to the subject(s).

I asked Inv. Olson if he recalled telling Lt. Holdren how they were sending information and he told me he didn't think he specified exactly how they were sending the information.

I asked Inv. Olson if he recalled telling Lt. Holdren HSI was not only just showing up on their stops, but they were also detaining people on their stops. He said he couldn't remember if he specifically told Lt. Holdren about HSI showing up on stops and detaining people, but knew Lt. Holdren was aware of HSI doing so from past interactions and communication. Inv. Olson later explained, he believed it was sometime earlier this year (2025) when he (Inv. Olson) had stopped a vehicle and upon HSI running the subject's information that Inv. Olson provided, the subject was cleared locally through dispatch but HSI databases showed the subject to be an MS13 gang member and have a national (Interpol) arrest warrant. Inv. Olson said HSI arrived at that traffic stop and took custody of the subject for his national warrant. Inv. Olson said he subsequently relayed that information to Lt.. Holdren following that traffic stop and did so because, "It's not everyday you come into contact with someone with a national Interpol warrant" and just simply wanted to tell Lt. Holdren about it.

I asked Inv. Olson if he recalled exactly what Lt. Holdren's response was during their conversation in the conference room at the MCSO Annex building. Inv. Olson said he couldn't recall or say it verbatim, but thought Lt. Holdren said something to the effect of, "Keep doing what you're doing".

I told Inv. Olson, during his prior interview he had mentioned, "Looking for the things we talked about". I asked if he could clarify what he met by this, more specifically, what he was referencing and looking for. Inv. Olson told me he was referencing the things he had talked about earlier in our initial interview and clarified those "things" to be; subject records, criminal histories, border crossings, and suspicious financial transactions.

I asked Inv. Olson to clarify what he met during his first interview when he started his response to my question by stating, "Yes, but never about immigration". Inv. Olson said he recalled this portion of his answer and told me his response was based on how I posed the question. He said he did in fact talk to Lt. Holdren, but wasn't talking to him about immigration enforcement as that's not what they do. He said he talked to Lt. Holdren and stated it was from a standpoint of, "This is what we're doing, it was never like, this is how we're doing immigration, because that's not what we do".

I asked Inv. Olson if he recalled an approximate timeframe of day of when his conversation with Lt. Holdren took place and he told me he could not recall an approximate time of day.

I asked Inv. Olson if, during his conversation with Lt. Holdren, he mentioned to Lt. Holdren that HSI was utilizing their information sharing to conduct immigration enforcement. Inv. Olson said he did not recall specifically telling Lt. Holdren HSI was using their information sharing for immigration purposes, but more so just assumed that

since they were talking about DC Smith's email regarding immigration, then Lt. Holdren knew or otherwise also assumed the context and content of the entire conversation was related to HSI immigration enforcement.

This concluded my questions and clarification needs from Inv. Olson. I asked Inv. Olson and Mike Lowe if either of them had any questions and both stated they did not.

My interview with Inv. Olson concluded at that point and he departed my office a short time later.

MCSO Command Staff Follow Up Meeting:

Immediately following my second interview with Inv. Olson, I met with MCSO Command staff and provided the details and clarification obtained from Inv. Olson.

Investigation Findings:

After a thorough review of this incident, including a review of the associated Signal group chat, a review of the associated traffic stops and call notes, and compelled statements taken from the involved employees; I was not able to conclude that Investigator Joshua Ray acted outside of agency policy and procedure or the law. As it relates to this incident; I do find a preponderance of evidence that Sergeant Joseph LeMoine, Investigator Alexander Zwinck, and Investigator Erik Olson acted outside of agency policy. I applied the facts, circumstances, and my review of the material surrounding the incidents in question to MCSO Policy 320 (Standards of Conduct).

Sergeant Joseph LeMoine Findings:

MCSO Policy 320 (Standards of Conduct):

320.3.2 - Supervisor Responsibilities

Supervisors and managers are required to follow all policies and procedures and may be subject to discipline for:

(a) Failure to be reasonably aware of the performance of their subordinates or to provide appropriate guidance and control.

320.5.7 – Efficiency

(a) Neglect of duty.

(b) Unsatisfactory work performance including but not limited to failure, incompetence, inefficiency, or delay in performing and/or carrying out proper orders, work assignments, or the instructions of supervisors without a reasonable and bona fide excuse.

320.5.8 Performance

(i) Any act on- or off-duty that brings discredit to this office.

320.5.9 Conduct

(m) Any other on- or off-duty conduct which any member knows or reasonably should know is unbecoming a member of this office, is contrary to good order, efficiency or morale, or tends to reflect unfavorably upon this office or its members.

Investigator Alexander Zwinck Findings:

MCSO Policy 320 (Standards of Conduct):

320.5.1 – Laws, Rules and Orders

(b) Disobedience of any legal directive or order issued by any office member of a higher rank.

(c) Violation of federal, state, local or administrative laws, rules or regulations.

320.5.2 – Ethics

(b) The wrongful or unlawful exercise of authority on the part of any member for malicious purpose, personal gain, willful deceit, or any other improper purpose.

320.5.7 – Efficiency

(b) Unsatisfactory work performance including but not limited to failure, incompetence, inefficiency, or delay in performing and/or carrying out proper orders, work assignments, or the instructions of supervisors without a reasonable and bona fide excuse.

320.5.8 – Performance

(i) Any act on- or off-duty that brings discredit to this office.

320.5.9 – Conduct

(m) Any other on- or off-duty conduct which any member knows or reasonably should know is unbecoming a member of this office, is contrary to good order, efficiency or morale, or tends to reflect unfavorably upon this office or its members.

MCSO Policy 413 (Immigration Violations):

413.4 – Detentions

A deputy should not detain any individual, for any length of time, for a civil violation of federal immigration laws or a related civil warrant.

Investigator Erik Olson Findings:

MCSO Policy 320 (Standards of Conduct):

320.5.1 – Laws, Rules and Orders

(b) Disobedience of any legal directive or order issued by any office member of a higher rank.

(c) Violation of federal, state, local or administrative laws, rules or regulations.

320.5.7 – Efficiency

(b) Unsatisfactory work performance including but not limited to failure, incompetence, inefficiency, or delay in performing and/or carrying out proper orders, work assignments, or the instructions of supervisors without a reasonable and bona fide excuse.

320.5.8 – Performance

(i) Any act on- or off-duty that brings discredit to this office.

320.5.9 – Conduct

(m) Any other on- or off-duty conduct which any member knows or reasonably should know is unbecoming a member of this office, is contrary to good order, efficiency or morale, or tends to reflect unfavorably upon this office or its members.

Disciplinary History – Sergeant Joseph LeMoine:

- Sergeant Joseph LeMoine has not received any counseling or other forms of discipline within the past year of his employment at the MCSO.

Disciplinary History – Investigator Alexander Zwinck:

- Investigator Alexander Zwinck has not received any counseling or other forms of discipline within the past year of his employment at the MCSO.

Disciplinary History – Investigator Erik Olson:

- Investigator Erik Olson has not received any counseling or other forms of discipline within the past year of his employment at the MCSO.

Conclusion:

This Administrative Review was initiated on June 16th, 2025, following the Mesa County Sheriff's Office receiving information on the stop and subsequent detention of Caroline Goncalves. This Administrative Review was conducted to analyze current agency policy and procedure and to ensure the agency's compliance with Colorado state law. After a review of this incident and the practices of the agency's Drug Interdiction Unit, adjustments have been made to prevent any future incidents of this nature. The adjustments made are as follows:

- On June 16th, 2025, the Office paused the Drug Interdiction Unit's assignment while this review was being conducted. All staff included in communication groups with federal agencies, specifically utilizing the Signal group chat, were ordered to cease this line of communication and to remove the apps from their devices.
- On June 18th, 2025, Undersheriff King distributed Colorado Senate Bill 25-276 to all MCSO employees through agency email. This was done to inform all staff of the recently signed legislation and to assist staff in understanding how it applies to them and the work they do every day.
- On June 19th, 2025, Sheriff Rowell held a command briefing where the recent legislation was discussed amongst agency leadership and direction was given on compliance with the state law.
- On June 20th, 2025, the Office's Inmate Classification policy was updated to reflect Colorado law and to provide guidance to Detentions staff on civil immigration detainer requests.
- On June 26th, 2025, the Office's Immigrations Violations policy and Reception policy were updated to provide clarity to all employees on matters concerning immigration enforcement.

Internal Case File Information:

The case file for this incident can be located in its entirety in the [REDACTED]

A confidential AXON Standards entry was also created under: EVT-00001149.

End of Summary:

JMM # 2243