



# Completed Internal Investigation Summary

Colorado State Patrol

Date of alleged misconduct: 02-05-2021

Title and name of the subject of the investigation: Trooper Scott Wermuth

Name of the complainant: [REDACTED]

Investigator(s): Sergeant Jones

Blue Team Case Number: L22021-029

Completed by Appointing Authority: Major Copley

---

## Allegation(s):

Discourteous / Rude Behavior

## Summary of the Allegation(s):

The complainant complained Trooper Wermuth was not wearing a mask during a traffic contact where he received a citation. The complainant alleged Trooper Wermuth was within 2 ft of his face during the contact while neither one was wearing mask putting him a risk.

## Statement of Fact(s) and the Investigative Process:

Trooper Wermuth made a traffic contact within agency policy and state law after clocking a vehicle for speeding 60 in a posted 45 mph zone. Upon contact, Trooper Wermuth observed the driver was not wearing a mask to cover his face. Trooper Wermuth was not wearing a mask on his initial contact in order to make observation to include impairment indicator, which is his normal contact routine after the driver presented a Department of Defense ID without requesting documentation from him. [REDACTED] did not request Trooper Wermuth to put on a mask during the initial contact. Upon the second contact as Trooper Wermuth presented the information for a traffic citation, [REDACTED] became visibly agitated and frustrated and asked why Trooper Wermuth was not wearing a mask. In an effort to deescalate the situation, Trooper Wermuth continued the service of the citation to end the contact quickly thus limiting contact with the driver. The traffic contact was captured on the patrol car dash camera audio and video recordings. The only time Trooper Wermuth leaned in toward [REDACTED] was briefly in the second contact in an effort to hear the driver better due to the noise of traffic around them. The entire contact showed Trooper Wermuth to be outside the vehicle and maintained

social distance from the vehicle and driver.

Finding(s):

Discourteous / Rude Behavior – Exonerated

Rationale for Finding(s):

After reviewing all reports and investigative documents, I have closed this complaint exonerating Trooper Wermuth's actions. Although he was not wearing a mask upon the initial contact, his explanation was appropriate and reasonable. The dash camera video recording confirmed his actions were appropriate and within agency policy for this situation.

---

Copy Sent to:

- [REDACTED]
- Member Trooper Rooks
- Requestor
- Regional Commander LTC Barba
- Professional Standards Case File via Blue Team

Information contained within this document is being released pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 24-72-303 which requires that a completed internal investigative case file regarding allegations of misconduct of a peace officer involving a member of the public be open to public inspection.