



# BENT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



**SHERIFF JAKE R. SIX**  
**UNDERSHERIFF WICK TURNER**

## RECORD OF TERMINATION

Rank First Last  
Deputy Tanner Chastain

Immediate Supervisor  
Sergeant William Williams

Date of Termination  
May 14, 2020

**VIOLATED POLICY:** 5-1-215 CONDUCT UNBECOMING, 5-4-221 ON AND OFF DUTY CONDUCT  
**DATE OF VIOLATION:** 05/08/2020

### DETAILS OF VIOLATION:

On May 8, 2020, at approximately 1400 hours, Tanner Chastain was involved in an altercation while off duty at 346 5th Street in Las Animas. The Internal Investigation revealed a verbal exchange between the business owner and a patron took place in Chastain's presence. The Patron disengaged the conversation, left the store, got into his vehicle, placed it into reverse and yelled obscenities. The patron entered his vehicle and prepared to leave the scene.

Camera footage of the verbal altercation on the Patron's cell phone displays no crime being committed up to this point to a reasonable person.

Chastain followed the patron outside and engaged with the Patron and the passenger in the vehicle. Chastain stated he identified himself verbally as a "cop". All witnesses and involved persons, said they did not hear Chastain announce himself as a peace officer sufficiently, nor did he make any declarations of his association with the Bent County Sheriff's Office nor show a badge/identifying credentials.

Chastain then had a physical altercation with the two parties in the vehicle. The Patron and the passenger sustained injuries. During the physical altercation, Chastain failed to maintain control of his off duty weapon and it was dislodged from his holster, but he was able to recover it.

The investigation has shown that Chastain did not make it sufficiently known he was a peace officer or that he was acting under the authority of the Sheriff's Office. Chastain did not show or possess the conduct that is required and expected by the members of the Bent County Sheriff's Office.

Chastain is found to be in violation of Bent County Sheriff's Office Policy and Procedure 5-1-215 (Conduct Unbecoming) and 5-4-221 (On and Off Duty Conduct) for his part in the incident on May 8th.

On Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Chastain was reprimand for Conduct Unbecoming for another instance where he was involved in an physical altercation while off duty.

With this finding, Tanner Chastain's employment with the Bent County Sheriff's Office shall be terminated immediately. Chastain's employment contract shall be paid, in full, in the amount of \$6,048.58 to the Bent County Sheriff's Office by September 11, 2020.

Employees may appeal this termination to the Sheriff; request for appeal must be done in writing via email (jsix@bentsheriff.com) within 5 days upon receipt of this termination letter. If not appealed, the Undersheriff's decision is final.

Undersheriff Wick Turner