U.S. Department of Homeland Security Los Angeles Interentional Airport 5767 W. Contury Bivd., Stc. 3000 Lot Angeles, CA 90045



DATE:	June 18, 2014
TO:	(b)(6)
	Behavior Detecti

Behavior Detection Officer
Los Angeles International Airport

FROM: Br

Brian Bondoc Assistant Federal Security Director - Screening

Los Angeles International Airport

RE: DGO Response (b)(6)

On June 2, 2014, I received your grievance, in which you grieve a Three (3) Culendar Day Suspension that Transportation Security Manager (TSM) Tracy Wilson issued you on April 29, 2014. Your grievance submission included TSA Form 1115-1 (Grievance – Mediation Request); your written grievance; a copy of the April 29th Suspension with Supporting Documentation; Written Grievance Response from (b)(6) (4 pages). The remedy you seek is to receive a Letter of Counseling (LOC) in lieu of the April 29th Suspension. In addition, you seek back pay for the three days you were suspended.

On June 12, 2014, we met and discussed your grievance. In summary, you admitted failing to follow SPOT procedures and engage in a significant conversation with your BDO partner. You stated that you take full responsibility for your actions and feel as though you let management down. You went on to state that you are looking for mitigation due to the lack of formal discipline and your willingness to correct this behavior.

I have carefully considered the information you provided at the grievance meeting; your grievance and supporting documentation; and the April 29th Three (3) Calendar Day Suspension. For the reasons set forth below, I conclude that the April 29th Suspension should be mitigated to a One (1) Calendar Day Suspension.

In our grievance meeting you felt extreme remorse for your actions the day of the incident. You stated that you were looking for redemption and would prove to management that this incident was not a true reflection of your work ethic. In addition, you stated that you have been employed with the agency for five (5) years and you have never received any formal disciplinary action.

Based on the foregoing, I have decided to partially grant your grievance.

DGO Response – Page 2	-}	
This decision is final	and concludes the grieve	ance process.
		clow. Your signature does not indicate agreement ceived this notice on the date signed.
Brian Bondoc		6-20-20 4 Date
	curity Director -Screening	
Acknowledgement of	Receipt	
(b)(6)		106/20/2014 Date
Delivery Information		
(b)(6)  Hand Delivered By:		6/20/14 Date

U.S. Department of Honteland Security Los Angeles International Airport 5767 Century Blvd, Sulte 3000 Los Angeles Cn, 90045



# MEMORANDUM DATE: June 12, 2014 FROM: STSO (b)(6)

and STSO (b)(6) Participants: AFSD Brian Bondoc, BDO (b)(6) On Thursday, June 12, 2014, at approximately 1600, I sat in on a reply with AFSD Bondoc and BDO (b)(6) for a grievance response to a Three (3) Calendar Day Suspension she received on April 29, 2014. BDO (6) 16) had TSO (b)(6) serving as her representative.

 $TSO_{(b)(6)}$  began the meeting by stating that there was no dispute that  $BDO_{(b)(6)}$  was observed engaging in conversation with her BDO partner, TSO(b)(6) stated that they were looking for mitigation, BDO (b)(6) stated that she took full responsibility for her actions on the day she was observed failing to follow SPOT procedures. BDO(5)(5) went on to state that she in extremely embarrassed by her actions that day feels as though she has lost management's confidence in her ability to do her job. BDO (b)(6) stated she has been employed with the agoncy for five (5) years and has never had any disciplinary issues. In addition, BDO(b)(6) stated she has actively been involved in Admin work for the BDO program and wrote the airport proposal last year and would like to prove her true work ethic to management.

AFSD Bondoc stated that he appreciated BDO(b)(6) taking responsibility for her actions. AFSD(b)(6) went on to state that we all make mistakes and that ultimately it is what you learn from it and how you move on from it.

Nothing further to report.

RE: Grievance Response -BDO (b)(6)

www.tsa.gov

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMBLAND SECURITY Transportation Security Administration

### GRIEVANCE - MEDIATION REQUEST

NSTRUCTIONS: This request is to be used to the a generative endfor mechation request in accordance with 18A Human Capital Management (19CIA) policy, 16CIA Letter (1) 3. Indicate (19CIA) the conditions of the condition being guided of from when you lest featured or may have been reasonablely expected to form of the decision of decision being guided of from when you lest featured or may have been reasonablely expected to form of the decision of decision being guided of from when you lest featured or may have been reasonablely expected to form of the decision of ration of decisions are made in CAT-14-14 intended. This form may be submitted to the Atheura Resolution Center (18C) at Resident Center(18C) at Resident Center
The employee's obligation to provide ab necessary information and decimentation in support of the gravance as required by the IRIC. Februal to comply with these instructions could result in delay of processing artifor the discussed of the gravance.  SECTION I. Employee information  Date of Request US / 14/ 2014 Onte Gravatta Action of Decision U4 (20/ 2014)  Hame (b)(6)  August Code/Office LAX.  Current Position Master Behavior Detection Officer, 1802, F. Band factors Occupational Sense & Pay Band (e.g., 180, 1802, D. Band)  Phone Humber (3 to) 200 (b)(6)  SECTION II. Action Requested (check one)  [3] Lain bing a Gravance and Lam (1) Lain bing a Gravance and Lara (1) Lam interested in Mediation (1) The interested in Mediation (1) The interested in Mediation (1) The office of Crail Rights and Liberto's United Systems Procedure Read (CHO) (1) Pear Remine (CRI XITE), Civil Rights and Liberto's (CRI XITE), Civil Rights Occupation (CRI XITE), Civil Rights O
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Phono Humber (340) 431 (b) (2) TSA Employee (2) AFGE Representative LT Other.

15A Com 1115-17/013HF(Ib): 1800 7-41

Page 1 of 2

BDO	(b)(6)

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TSA Fono 1115-1 (1/13) (File: 1100 74)

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#### Transportation Security Administration

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ISA Form 1163-1 (RV12) [File: Yansida]

Pago Laft

	BDO (6)(6)
Date:	May 14, 2014
To:	National Resolution Center; ResolutionCenter@tsa.dhs.gov
From:	Representative (b)(6) Women's & Fair Practices Coordinator, American Federation of Government Employees Local 1260, AFL- CIO: 5757 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Subject:	Gricvance to Notice of Three (3) Calendar Day Suspension
Reference:	(b)(6)
Introduction:	
1115-1"), Thi Suspension ("Wilson to Bel TSA HCM Le 2.E.1.(b), this disciplinary a Management. Coordinator (1260, AFL-C. Angeles Interprete Screen performance of consistent wit Addressing U. Management' Specifically, a Management is supple street and supple street	etter is an attachment to TSA Form 1115-1, Grievance-mediation Request ("Form is written grievance is in response to the Notice of Three (3) Calendar Day "Suspension Notice") issued by Transportation Security Manager (TSM) Tracy havior Detection Officer (BDO) (b)(6) on April 29, 2014. Consistent with etter No. 771-4, National Resolution Center ("HCM 771-4"), Handbook Part grievance is timely as it is submitted within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the etion. BDO (b)(6) is further interested in engaging in mediation with TSA BDO (b)(6) has designated (b)(6) Women's & Fair Practices WFPC) for the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local IO as her Union representative. WFPC (b)(6) is employed by the Agency at Los national Airport (LAX) airport.  Management issued the Suspension in response to: BDO (b)(6) failure to following Passengers by Observation Techniques (SPOT) procedures and negligent of duties. BDO (b)(6) elects to file a grievance as the disciplinary action was not the applicable provisions of TSA Management Directive No. 1100.75-3, inacceptable Performance and Conduct ("MD 1100.75-3"), and Handbook. TSA is action was not consistent with the MD 1100.75-3, Handbook Section A.31(c). In three (3) calendar day suspension was not a reasonable penalty. Furthermore, TSA failed to apply the doctrine of progressive discipline per MD 1100.75-3 Section condon seeks to receive a mitigated penalty less than the issued three (3) calendar in.
Suspension No	
Sercening Pas specifies that ( BDO (LBDO)	aspension Notice lists two (2) charges. The first charge is "Failure to Follow Proper sengers by Observation Techniques (SPOT) Procedures" (Charge 1). Charge 1 on April 2, 2014, from 1720 to 1806 hours, BDO (b)(6) and her partner, Lead (b)(6) were on duty and positioned at the TSA/LAX Terminal 4 Alpha the charge goes on to specify that during this time frame, BDO (b)(6) and LBDO

(b)(6) did not walk the line and failed to engage with passengers frequently.

BDO (b)(6)
TSA Management found BDO conduct to be in violation of TSA Management Directive No. 1100.73-5, Employee Responsibilities and Code of Conduct ("MD 1100.73-5"), Sections 5.A.(7) and 6.E. Additionally, TSA Management found BDO in violation of TSA Screening Passengers by Observation Techniques (SPOT) Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), Revision #3, Chapter 2, Section 2.5 and 2.5.B, and Chapter 3, Section 3.2.F.
The second charge is "Negligent Performance of Duties" (Charge 2). Charge 2 specifies that on April 2, 2014, from 1720 to 1806 hours, BDO (b)(6) and her partner, LBDO (b)(6) were on duty at the TSA/LAX Terminal 4 Alpha Checkpoint. The charge goes on to specify that during this time frame, BDO (b)(6) was engaged in conversation with LBDO (b)(6) and ignored passengers that directly passed by her. The charge further states that BDO (b)(6) turned her back completely from the queue as passengers walked towards her.
TSA Management found BDO (b)(6) conduct to be in violation of MD 1100.73-5, Section 5.A and 5.A.(7). Additionally, TSA Management found BDO (b)(6) in violation of MD 1100.73-5, Section 6.B and 6.E.
The Suspension Notice stated that in determining the appropriateness of the penalty, TSA Management considered a number of factors. TSA Management considered BDO (b)(6) satisfactory job performance, length of service of over four (4) years, and lack of prior discipline to mitigating factors. However, TSA Management stated that the seriousness of BDO (b)(6) misconduct outweighed the mitigating factors.
TSA Management stated that although not disciplinary actions, it noted that BDO  (b)(6) received Letters of Counseling (LOCs) on November 26, 2012, and August 25, 2013.  TSA Management found the LOCs to be an aggravating matter, as the correct actions placed BDO (b)(6) on notice regarding her obligation to follow all Agency policies and procedures.
TSA Management stated that it believed the three (3) calendar day suspension was the lowest level of discipline to impress upon BDO (b)(6)—the seriousness of her action, and the important of adhering to proper security procedures. TSA Management found the discipline to be

Improper Penalty Determination:

TSA Management decided to suspend BDO (b)(6) for three (3) calendar days. However, TSA Management failed to properly carry out proper penalty determination. MD 1100.75-3, Section G provides penalty factors to serve as guidance in proper penalty determination. With all mitigating penalty factors properly considered, TSA Management should have issued a penalty less than the imposed three (3) calendar day suspension.

within the recommended penalty range on the TSA Table of Offenses and Penalties.

The following are penalty determination factors not fully and/or properly considered by the TSA Management:

- TSA Management must consider that BDO (b)(6) offenses were inadvertently committed. Furthermore, BDO (b)(6) took responsibility for her actions.
   TSA Management stated that BDO (b)(6) lack of discipline was considered a
- TSA Management stated that BDQ(10)(6) \_\_\_\_\_lack of discipline was considered a
  mitigating factor. Nevertheless, TSA Management should have given greater
  weight to this mitigating factor in penalty determination.

3	TSA Management stated that BDO (b)(6) length of service of over four (4)
٠,	years, and satisfactory job performance were mitigating factors. However, it must
	be noted that BDO (b)(6) job performance has been more than just
	satisfactory. Therefore, BDO (b)(6) job performance should have been given
	greater weight.
4.	the process of the pr
	satisfactory level, or had an effect on her supervisors' confidence in her ability to
	perform assigned duties. TSA Management incorrectly determined that the
	confidence of BDO (b)(6) supervisor was negatively impacted. Nevertheless,
	there is no evidence to support this assertion.
5.	There is no evidence to suggest that the penalty was not consistent with those
	imposed upon similarly situated employees who committed the same or similar
	offenses.
6.	BDO (b)(6) has a high potential for rehabilitation. There is no indication that
••	BDO will find herself again in this situation. Notably, BDO (b)(6) took
	responsibility for her actions, and subsequently identified the changes she will
	implement to prevent repeat offenses,
7.	TSA Management stated the LOCs issued November 28, 2012, and August 25,
,,	2013, placed BDO (b)(6) on notice regarding her obligation to follow all
	Agency policies and procedures, MD 1100.75-3, Handbook Section G.(8)
	provides the following a penalty determination factor: "the clarity with which the
	employee was on notice of any rules violated in committing the offense or had
	been warned about the conduct in question." TSA Management took the liberty
	use the LOCs as aggravating factors. The fact LOCs have a blanket statement
	with respect with need to follow Agency policies and procedures does not indicate
	a situation in which BDO (b)(6) has clarity of rules violated in committing the
	offenses, and therefore, may be used as aggravating factors.
8.	TSA Management failed to consider the adequacy and effectiveness of alternative
	actions to deter the offenses from being repeated in the future.

TSA Management did not apply the doctrine of progressive discipline in deciding an appropriate penalty. MD 1100.75-3 Section 6.J.(1) states that "progressive discipline is the process of using the least severe form of action that may be used to correct a deficiency." TSA Management stated the penalty was within the recommended range of the <u>Table of Offenses and Penalties</u>. It is noted that in Section H.5 of the <u>Table of Offenses and Penalties</u>, the recommended range shows penaltics from an LOR to a ten (10) day suspension; the mitigated penalty range is a Letter of Counseling (LOC). Applying the doctrine of progressive discipline plus the mitigating penalty factors will show that a penalty in the mitigated range (LOC) would have been an appropriate penalty to impose on BDO London.

#### Conclusion:

BDO (b)(6) accepts responsibility for her actions on April 2, 2014. BDO London will ensure she does not engage in this type of misconduct in the future. Nevertheless, the three (3) calendar day suspension was not consistent with MD 1100.75-3 and Handbook; the disciplinary

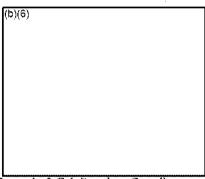
BDO <sup>(b)(6)</sup>	
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action was not a reasonable penalty. Given the issues present, TSA Management's action was not consistent with TSA policy.

#### Remedy Sought:

BDO (b)(6) seeks to have the three (3) calendar day suspension mitigated to a Letter of Counseling (LOC) plus back pay for the three (3) days suspended without pay.  $BDO^{(b)(6)}$  seeks a quick and appropriate resolution to this grievance.  $BDO^{(b)(6)}$  Union representative may be contacted at the information listed below, as needed. Thank you for your time and consideration of this grievance,

#### Respectfully,



Women's & Fair Practices Coordinator AFGE Local 1260, AFL-CIO

Contact Information: Phone: (310) 431 (b)(6) Fax: (213) 402 - 3617

Email: (b)(6)

BDO (b)(6)	
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Transportation Security Administration

U.S. Department of Homekand Security Los Augeter faternational Alepart 5747 W. Century Wood, Suite 389 Los Angeles, CA 48645

Date:

April 29, 2014 -

To:

(b)(6)

Behavior Detection Officer (BDO)
Los Angeles International Afrech

Prom:

(b)(6)

Transportation Security Manager Los Angeles International Airport

Subject:

Notice of Three (3) Calendar Day Suspension

Reference:

(b)(6)

This is notice that I have decided to suspend you from employment at the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for three (3) calendar days. You will be suspended without pay beginning on:

May 6, 2014

Through

May 8, 2014

The effective date of your return to duty is:

May 2, 2014

Your next scheduled regular workday is:

May 9, 2014

This decision is made to promote the efficiency of the service and is based on the following:

Charge 1; Patture to Follow Proper Serconing Passengers By Observation Techniques (SPOT) Procedures

Succlification: On April 2, 2014, from 1720 to 1806, you and your patter, Lend Behavior Detection Officer (LBDO) (b)(6) were on duty and positioned at the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Terminal 4 Alpha Checkpoint. During this time frame, you and LHDO (b)(6) did not walk the line and failed to engage with passengers frequently.

Your conduct is in violation of TSA Management Directive (MD) No. 1100.73-5; Employee Responsibilities and Code of Conduct (with attached Handbook): Section 5 - Responsibilities: 5.A (7); and Section 6 - Policy: 6.B.; and TSA Sercenting Passengers By Observation Techniques (SPOT) Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), Revision #3: Chapter 2: Section 2.5 BDO Duties, 2.5.B.; and Chapter 3, Section 3.2 (Preparation and Positioning) F. (WT). positioning.)

Page Lof 4

BDO	(b)(6)
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(b)(6)		 

#### Charge 2: Negligent Performance of Duties

Specification: On April 2, 2014, from 1720 to 1806, you and your partner, LBDO (b)(6) were on duty at the TSA LAX Terminal 4 Alpha Checkpoint. During this time frame, you were engaged in conversation with BDO (b)(6) and ignored passengers that directly passed by you. You also turned your back completely from the queue as passengers walked towards you.

Your conduct is in violation of TSA MD No. 1100.73-5: Employee Responsibilities and Code of Conduct (with attached Handbook): Section 5 - Responsibilities: S.A and S.A (7); and Section 6 - Palicy: 6. B and 6.f.

Prior to taking this action, I assessed the circumstances surrounding the incident and reviewed all of the relevant evidence. On April 25, 2014, 25, 2014, 1 met with you in a pre-decisional meeting to discuss fallure to follow proper SPOY procedures and your negligence in the performance of your duties on April 2, 2014. You were provided an opportunity to respond orally and/or in writing. You provided a written statement dated April 25, 2014.

in your written stylement, you said that on April 2, 2014, at approximately 1720, you began compromising best practices with your partner and engaging with passengers throughout the Terminal 4 Alpha checkpoint queue. You further stated that you falled to Walk the Line for the allotted thirty minutes, but you did engage with passengers from time to time. At 1806, you said that both you and your partner departed the checkpoint. You pointed out that the policy wording is vague and does not define the meaning of "frequent" and thus, it is up to management's discretion as to wint is considered such.

In determining the approprieteness of the penalty, I considered a number of factors. I find your satisfactory job performance and your length of service of over four (4) years to be miligating as well as the fact that you have had no prior discipline. I find that the seriousness of your misconduct, however, outweight the mitigating factors.

I also note that although not discipline, you received a Letter of Counseling on November 16, 2012 for failure to follow directions. You also received a Letter of Counseling on August 25, 2013 for your failure to maintain Government issued property. Those corrective actions, which placed you on notice regarding your obligation to follow all Agency policies and procedures, are aggravating.

Your failure to follow proper SPOT procedures and your negligence in the performance of your duties had a negative impact on your supervisor's confidence in your ability to meet the Agency's mission. As an employee in a position of trust, you are expected to meet high standards of conduct. Your actions have failed to uphold those standards.

I believe a Notice of Three (3) Calendar Day Suspension is the lowest level of discipling to impress upon you the seriousness of your authors, and the importance of adhering to propor

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BDO (p)(e)
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security procedures. This disolphine is within the recommended panalty range on the TSA Table of Offenses and Penalties.

It is hoped that this suspension will impress upon you the seriousness of your actions and that future discipline will not be necessary. Future misconduct may lead to futther and more severe disciplinary action, up to and including, termination of your TSA employment.

Enclosed is the material relied upon to support this proposed soven (7) calendar day suspension, except for the material considered SSI: TSA Screening Possengers By Observation Techniques (SPOT) Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), Revision #3; and the CCTV video that contains feetage of you and your partner's actions on April 2, 2014 at the TSA LAX Alpha Terminal 4 Checkpoint; and the Shift Log dated 04/02/2014 for Tenninal 4. If you wish to view any of the SSI material, you may make an appointment with the North Complex Administrative Office at 310-258-1858. This material will be released for review only to you and/or your designated representative.

This notice constitutes a final decision. If you choose to grieve this action under the grievance procedures in TSA HCM 771-4, Handbook, your grievance must be submitted in writing to the National Resolution Center (NRC) within fifteen (15) catendor days of receipt of this letter. The written grievance can be filted by small at <u>Resolution canteriors and transparents</u> (703) 603-4057 by using TSA form 1115, Orievance Request. A copy of HCM 771-4 Orievance Procedures is attached. The Designated Orievance Official (DGO) is Assistant Federal Scentity Director (AFSD) for Severaling Brian Bondoc, at 5767 W. Century Boulevard, Suite 3000, Los Angeles, CA 90045, (310) 258-[6]/6

If you are interested in participating in mediation of this action, you can initiate the mediation process by calling the National Resolution Center at (571) 227-5097 or emailing Resolutionscenter (513a discuss whether your case is eligible for mediation. You should not file a written request for mediation with the NRC until after this discussion has occurred.

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is available to you to provide counseling services and/or assistance and may be consisted in 1-800-222-0364. The EAP is a consideratial resource designed to help employees address a wide range of personal or family issues.

Please sign the acknowledgement of receipt below. Your signature does not indicate agreement with this action; it only represents receipt of this notice on the date signed.

#### Attachments:

1. Mono dated 4/25/2014, PR: (b)(6) BDA TSM, TO: BDA TSM (b)(6)

Subject: Employee Discussion/London

2. Mono to file, Dated 4/25/2014, FR: (b)(6) TO: (b)(6); Subject: none

3. Mono dated 04/89/2014, Fr: DAFSD Pope, Subject: BDO (b)(6)

4. Mono to file dated 04/2/2014 FR: STSM (b)(6) Fa: DAFSD Cluis Pope, Subject: 8FOT SOP Violation - LBDO (b)(6)

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BDO	(b)(6)
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5.	Memo dated 04/02/2014, Fr. STSM (b)(6) To: DAFSD (b)(6) , Subject:
	SOP Violation - Morris/London
6.	Memo to File dated 04/09/2014, From: (b)(6) To: BDA TSM (b)(6)
	Subject: BDO(b)(6) BDO(b)(6)
7.	Memo - From (b)(6) Memo To File, Subject: none, Date: 04/02/2014 from
	1720 to 1806

b)(6)	
TANADAY HAA CAMUU MAAA A	1-20-14 Date
Transportation Scounty Manager	•
Acknowledgement of Receipt	Date
Delivered By: (b)(6)	4-29-14.

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BDO	(b)(6)



Administration April 25, 2014 MEMORANDUM TÖ: BDA TSM (b)(6) SUBJECT: Memo to file - Employee Discussion (b)(6) On April 25, 2014 at about 2030 hours, 1, RDA ISM((b)(6) Inct with BOO (b)(6). In the Tamina BDO offices to have a discussion with her about her violation of the SOP that took place at Terminal 4 on Wednesday, April 2, 2014, BDO (b)(6) stated that she maintains her previous stance on the issue but in the Terminal I would like to provide more detail. Ladvised BHO (b)(6) of the allegations against her and the possible consequences of her actions, utilizing the table of penalties to suggest a range of disciplinary actions from a Letter of Reprimand up to and including removal from federal service. BDO (b)(6) stated that she maintains her previous source on the issue but would like to provide more detail in her written responses. I asked BDO (b)(6) to provide a written statement and she completed her exhaust a before the end of her shift.

(b)(6)

BDA TSM

BDO (b)(6)

U.S. Department of Höperland Security any Augelia Interpational Alepan 100 World Way T.A. Duor 335 Lon Augeles, California and 18



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DATE:04-25-2014

Control #

FROM: (b)(6)

το; (b)(6)

SUDJECT:

At approximately 1720 hours on 144-02-2014, I began compromising their practices with my parmer and engaging, with passengers throughout the Tenninal 4 Alpha checkpoint quene. I stepped off the floor to handle my feminine needs after a few minutes. Upon returning to the floor, for about a half hour or so, I continued to engage with my partner while we engaged with passengers from time to time but follout to Walk the Line for the altotted thirty minutes. According to Section 3.2.P. i. BIOS must not remain in one place for an extended period of more. At 1806, my partner and I departed the encekpoint. Unyself was called off the floor to discuss secratio based training by TSM (b)(c) and TSM Africco Parmer. My partner proceeded to the OLC Room for online topining.

Section 3.2 F.1 demands that a BDO change positions with their given partner and move through the queue frequently and as much as possible. Although this wording is very vague and debatable, anongement holds discretion and power to define what is considered "frequent" and "as much as possible." Because management believes that I could have performed my SPOT abilities with a higher toval of efficiency, I will do so in the forms. I believe that I can always better myself when a direct order is given; therefore I will Walk The Line and establish the correct positioning as directed by immagements' interpretation of the SOP from here forth.

Respectfully.

(b)(6)

Behavior Detection Program Los Angeles International Auport

uww.tsa.gar