

IN THE MATTER OF THE POLICE (CONDUCT) REGULATIONS 2020

IN THE MATTER OF FORMER SPECIAL CONSTABLE 77081 PEDRO GORDO-SOARES

Accelerated Misconduct Hearing on 28 August 2026

By

Chief Constable Jeremy Vaughan

Decision on Outcome

Former Special Constable 77081 Pedro Gordo-Soares has resigned as a special constable. It follows that he is no longer a serving officer. Therefore, this Accelerated Misconduct Hearing, held under Part 5 of the Police (Conduct) Regulations 2020, is concerned with a former special constable and I direct that the Regulations be amended to the extent required for a former officer.

Former Special Constable Gordo-Soares has not attended the hearing today. He has stated that he does not wish to be legally represented at this hearing or to be represented by a Police Federation friend. I direct that this hearing proceed in the absence of former Special Constable Gordo-Soares under the provision of Regulation 57 (3) (b) of the Police (Conduct) Regulations 2020.

There are seven allegations against the former special constable. These are contained in the Regulation 51 Notice served on former Special Constable Gordo-Soares. I have summarised the allegations as follows:

The first allegations is that on Sunday 10/08/2025 South Wales Police officers received reports from members of the public that a person, now known to be former Special Constable Gordo-Soares, was at his home address and could be heard shouting words which included: *“War is the only way”, “Kill, Kill, Kill”, “We must Kill the British Pig Dogs” “Killing is the only way”, “The British Nation is inferior” and “Heil Hitler”*. Former Special Constable

Gordo-Soares was a special constable in South Wales Police at the time this incident took place.

Former Special Constable Gordo-Soares was arrested at his home address and at the time of his arrest South Wales Police offices conducted a search of the premises and seized a two electronic devices, namely a Laptop and a Tablet from his home address.

Both electronic devices were subject to a forensic examination, and the remaining allegations against former Special Constable Gordo-Soares are in relation to the content discovered on his Laptop and Tablet.

The second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth allegations relate to total five cartoon images which were found on the Laptop and Tablet. The hard drive of the Laptop contained the first two images, and Tablet contained the remaining three images. The Appropriate Authority contends that four images are of racist and the fifth image is antisemitic.

The cartoon images are fully described by the Appropriate Authority in the Regulation 51 Notice, and the images are annexed to the Notice. I have no need to describe them further.

It is common ground that former Special Constable Gordo-Soares had these images in his possession when at the time he was as a serving special constable.

The seventh allegation also in connection to material found on former Special Constable Gordo-Soares' Tablet. This relates to a conversation former Special Constable Gordo-Soares had on a social media platform with another person which contained racial slurs, in which former Special Constable Gordo-Soares posted the following words:

- *"Make Europe SS again",*
- *" Oh I remember that group got deleted so may time it's incredible, but it was wholesome",*
- *"oh I can't anymore I deactivated my FB account" and*
- *"Nigger (ia) and*

- *“I literally sent it yes because I am a policemen and I can be charged with gross misconduct and lose my job”*

The Appropriate Authority contents that each allegations is a breach of the Standards of Professional Behaviour in relation to:

Standard 9: Discreditable Conduct, namely that: *“Police Officers behave in a manner, which does not discredit the police service or undermine confidence in it, whether on or off duty.*

Police officers report any action taken against them for a criminal offence, any conditions imposed on them by a court or the receipt of any penalty notice.”

The Appropriate Authority’s position is that former Special Constable Gordo-Soares’s behaviour whether individually or collectively amounts to gross misconduct, which is defined in Regulation 2 (1) of the Police (Conduct) Regulations 2020, as amended, as *“a breach of the Standards of Professional Behaviour that is so serious as to justify dismissal.”*

As former Special Constable Gordo-Soares has resigned and is now a former special constable, this is amended to the effect that the breach of the Standards of Professional Behaviour is so serious that the former special constable would have been dismissed if he had not ceased to be a member of a police force.

Former Special Constable Gordo-Soares has had limited engagement in these misconduct proceedings, although, he has provided a written response to the allegation in accordance with Regulation 54. In his response, he accepts the allegations made against him but disputes the severity assessment, submitting that the allegations amount to misconduct only and not gross misconduct. Accordingly, he accepts that he has breached the Standards of Professional behaviour as alleged, but he denies that the allegations amount to gross misconduct.

Having carefully considered all the evidence, on the balance of probabilities, I have no hesitation in finding all the allegations to be proved. Former Special Constable Gordo-Soares has brought discredit on the police service, and his behaviour has undermined the confidence of the public in policing. I am satisfied that his conduct amounts to gross misconduct.

I also wish to record that former Special Constable Gordo-Soares has made allegations which could disclose misconduct on the part of other police officers and police staff. These claims have been referred to the Professional Standards Department for assessment and investigation. These separate disclosures will be investigated in accordance with the Police (Conduct) Regulations 2020, but they do not afford any immunity to former Special Constable Gordo-Soares in relation to the present proceedings and allegations against him.

Outcome

Having found gross misconduct, I must impose disciplinary action on the former special constable, and I have no hesitation on doing so. The disciplinary action can only be that former Special Constable Gordo-Soares would have been dismissed if he had not ceased to be a member of a police force.

In reaching my decision, I have fully considered the College of Policing Guidance on Outcomes in Police Misconduct Proceedings which has formed the basis for my conclusion. I have tested the seriousness of the allegations and the purpose of imposing a sanction, which I have to consider in deciding an outcome. I have given due consideration to culpability, harm, any aggravating factors, and any mitigating factors as set out in the Guidance.

In assessing the seriousness of the conduct, I recognise the more culpable or blameworthy the behaviour in question, the more serious the misconduct and the more severe the likely outcome. Former Special Constable Gordo-Soares held a position of trust and responsibility,

and his misconduct is a serious abuse of that trust. His admitted behaviour in relations to all three allegations is totally unacceptable and is abhorrent. The language used is simply awful. All these matters significantly increase culpability. There can be no doubt that former Special Constable Gordo-Soares behaviour has an adverse impact on public confidence in policing.

The harm caused by the former officer's actions is reputational harm and affects the police service and public confidence in the service as a whole. A factor of the greatest importance is the impact of the misconduct on the standing and reputation of the profession as a whole. I am satisfied that former Special Constable Gordo-Soares has caused damage to that reputation.

Aggravating factors are those tending to worsen the circumstances of the case, in relation to either the former officer's culpability or harm caused. I found that there are a number of significant aggravating factors present. The conduct was premeditated, intentional and deliberate. The conduct is a significant deviation from instructions which includes orders, force policy and national guidance. Former Special Constable Gordo-Soares' behaviour is reprehensible and totally unacceptable. His behaviour continued after he realised, or should have realised, that it was improper. There are also multiple breaches of the Standards of Professional Behaviour.

In terms of any mitigating factors which lower the level of culpability and harm, in the present instance there is a clear absence of any mitigating factors. However, I acknowledge that former Special Constable Gordo-Soares has resigned, and it would appear that he has at least taken some responsibility for his actions. I give him some very small credit for that.

I have reminded myself of the threefold purpose of the outcomes in police misconduct proceedings which is to maintain public confidence in policing and the reputation of the police service; to uphold high standards in policing and to deter misconduct; and to protect the public.

Former Special Constable Gordo-Soares has not put forward any personal mitigation. He has not even apologised for his actions and there is a complete lack of remorse. I recognise that due to the nature and purpose of disciplinary proceedings, the weight attached to any personal mitigation will necessarily be limited, particularly where serious misconduct has been found, as is the case here.

In the circumstances, there is only one possible outcome which I am able to impose, and I have absolutely no hesitation in doing so. Therefore, my decision on Outcome is that I am satisfied that the misconduct is so serious that former Special Constable Gordo-Soares would have been immediately dismissed had he not resigned as a special constable. No other outcome is justified or appropriate.

There is no room in South Wales Police for this type of behaviour. The Standards of Professional Behaviour apply the moment you walk through the door. This type of behaviour whether on or off duty will not be tolerated in any way. All police officers, including special constables should be trusted to the ends of the earth. The public rightly expect our officers to uphold the highest professional standards, and former Special Constable Gordo-Soares has significantly failed to do so.

The vast majority of the Police officers, staff and volunteers, who work for South Wales Police conduct themselves impeccably and work tirelessly to protect the public, those very few who choose to breach the standards expected of them undermine the public's trust in policing.

Thankfully, volunteers for South Wales Police have limited and infrequent contact with the public, and that contact would have been closely supervised. He should never have sought to be a part of the police with these views and I and barred him so that he never will be.

In accordance with the Police (Conduct) Regulations 2020 the Findings and Outcome from this hearing will be referred to the College of Policing in order for former Special Constable 77081 Pedro Gordo-Soares to be placed on the Police Barred List.