



Borough of State College  
*"A Home Rule Municipality"*

## STATE COLLEGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Phone 814-234-7150  
Fax 814-231-3070

243 South Allen Street  
State College, PA 16801  
[www.statecollegepa.us](http://www.statecollegepa.us)  
[police@statecollegepa.us](mailto:police@statecollegepa.us)

JOHN F. GARDNER  
Chief of Police



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### MEDIA RELEASE

July 23, 2021

A former State College Police Officer has been charged with criminal offenses by the Pennsylvania State Police. Charges were filed in District Court 49-3-05. These charges are the result of an on-duty incident where the former officer took possession of a vape pen which was turned over to our agency for return to its owner. The former officer converted the vape pen to their own use. Upon learning of this criminal offense, the State College Police Department contacted the Pennsylvania State Police to conduct an independent investigation and notified the Centre County District Attorney's Office. The Pennsylvania State Police investigation resulted in criminal charges being filed.

The State College Police Department also immediately placed the officer on administrative leave. The State College Police Department conducted a separate internal investigation. The former officer resigned from the department prior to the conclusion of the internal discipline process.

The State College Police Department prides itself on our professionalism and integrity and are deeply saddened by the negative impact this event may have on the public's trust. We hope that the department's actions will help restore credibility in The State College Police Department commitment to provide the exemplary police services our community expects.

The ongoing criminal case is being handled by the Centre County District Attorney's office. To avoid any interference or conflict of interest with that process, the State College Police Department cannot comment any further. Questions should be directed to the Centre County District Attorney's office.