



Log # 2022-2583

FINAL SUMMARY REPORT¹

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On June 22, 2022, the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) received a telephone complaint from ██████████ reporting alleged misconduct by a member of the Chicago Police Department (CPD). ██████████ alleged that on March 28, 2021, Police Officer Michael Wilson sent ██████████ a message with her personal information, which Officer Wilson learned using police resources, and ██████████ alleged that on April 30, 2022, Officer Wilson induced Police Officer Christopher Moore² to write false parking citations to ██████████ and failed to report Officer Moore's misconduct.³ Following its investigation, COPA reached sustained findings regarding the allegation that Officer Wilson misused CPD resources.

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE⁴

██████████ and Officer Michael Wilson met sometime between 2009 and 2014 while both were employees of the ██████████ ██████████. Both ██████████ and Officer Wilson left ██████████ for other jobs,⁵ but they maintained contact through former co-workers and text messages.⁶ Officer Wilson joined CPD on January 17, 2017.⁷

██████████ received a text message from Officer Wilson on March 28, 2021, that read, "You rolling on some nice rims."⁸ ██████████ responded the next day and asked what Officer Wilson meant. He responded that he ran the plates on a car the prior night that was registered to her, a black Dodge Charger, and included her approximate address in the text message.⁹

¹ Appendix A includes case identifiers such as the date, time, and location of the incident, the involved parties and their demographics, and the applicable rules and policies.

² Officer Moore resigned from CPD effective July 16, 2022. COPA was not able to interview Officer Moore and did not reach a conclusion concerning allegations of misconduct that implicate his conduct.

³ One or more of these allegations fall within COPA's jurisdiction pursuant to Chicago Municipal Code § 2-78-120. Therefore, COPA determined it would be the primary investigative agency in this matter.

⁴ The following is a summary of what COPA finds most likely occurred during this incident. This summary utilized information from several different sources, including BWC footage, police reports, civilian interviews, and officer interviews.

⁵ Att. 2 at pg. 4, ln. 17 to pg. 5, ln. 3 and Att. 36 at pg. 5, ln. 10 to pg. 7, ln. 24.

⁶ Att. 2 at pg. 5, lns. 14 to 22.

⁷ Att. 36 at pg. 8, lns. 5 to 7.

⁸ Att. 34 at pg. 3.

⁹ Att. 34 at pg. 3.

On the evening of April 30, 2022, ██████ was attending an event with a friend in the 2200 block of S Michigan Ave.¹⁰ ██████ drove to the area in an Audi that she owned. Her husband's cousin, ██████ borrowed her Dodge Charger and drove to the area with her.¹¹ ██████ and ██████ stopped for a time on S Wabash Ave.¹² ██████ left ██████ to attend her event and believed that ██████ was driving her Charger back to her home.¹³

After ██████ and ██████ parted ways, Officer Wilson and his partner, Officer Christopher Moore, encountered ██████ Charger stopped at a red light at S Michigan Ave. and E 24th St. and attempted to pull it over.¹⁴ Once the light turned green, the Charger drove away, and the officers did not pursue it.¹⁵ Officer Wilson ran the plates of the Charger and saw that it was registered to ██████. He called her and learned that she was in the area.¹⁶ ██████ was leaving the event that she previously attended and was going to a nearby restaurant with her friend.¹⁷ ██████ encountered Officers Wilson and Moore near the intersection of E 23rd St. and S Michigan Ave. Officer Wilson and ██████ had a brief conversation, and they both departed.¹⁸ Later that evening, Officer Wilson texted ██████ and asked her out on a date.¹⁹

On June 16, 2022, ██████ received notifications that she was issued five citations on April 30, 2022.²⁰ ██████ called 311 and was told the star number of the officer who issued the citations and was able to identify the issuing officer as Officer Moore.²¹ On June 21, 2022, ██████ sent Officer Wilson a text message and asked him why his partner issued her those citations. Officer Wilson responded with words to the effect of his partner was "nuts."²² ██████ ceased further contact with Officer Wilson.²³

On June 22, 2022, ██████ went to the 002nd District and filed a police report against Officer Wilson alleging that he was harassing her.²⁴ The following day, ██████ sought a stalking no contact order. In the petition for the order, ██████ cited the text messages from Officer Wilson in March 2021, the in person contact in April 2022, and the text messages from Officer Wilson in June 2022.²⁵

¹⁰ Att. 2 at pg. 14, lns. 12 to 18.

¹¹ Att. 2 at pg. 10, ln. 5 to pg. 11, ln. 23.

¹² Att. 2 at pg. 14, lns. 20 to 24.

¹³ Att. 2 at pg. 15, ln. 3 to pg. 16, ln. 18.

¹⁴ Att. 35 at 1:43 to 2:08

¹⁵ Att. 35 at 2:11 to 2:23.

¹⁶ Att. 36 at pg. 10, ln. 16 to pg. 11, ln. 3.

¹⁷ Att. 2 at pg. 16, ln 22 to pg. 17, ln. 1.

¹⁸ Att. 2 at pg. 7, lns. 13 to 24; Att. 36 at pg. 11, lns. 5 to 9 and at pg. 18, lns. 11 to 24.

¹⁹ Att. 2 at pg. 32, ln. 20, to pg. 33, ln. 8.

²⁰ Att. 2 at pg. 8, lns. 7 to 20 and Att. 3.

²¹ Att. 2 at pg. 22, ln. 22 to pg. 23, ln. 2.

²² Att. 2 at pg. 9, lns. 1 to 8.

²³ Att. 2 at pg. 9, lns. 11 to 13.

²⁴ Att. 5.

²⁵ Att. 6.

III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer Michael Wilson:

1. Directly or indirectly, utilized Department computerized information systems and/or Department resources and/or information obtained, during his tour of duty, regarding the victim in an unauthorized manner and not for the purpose of official police business.
 - Sustained, violation of Rules 2 and 4
2. Instructed and/or influenced PO Christopher Moore to issue [REDACTED] false parking citations and/or failed to report the Department member's misconduct.
 - Not Sustained

IV. CREDIBILITY ASSESSMENT

This investigation did not reveal any evidence that caused COPA to question the credibility of any of the individuals (sworn or unsworn) who provided statements.

V. ANALYSIS²⁶

a. March 28, 2021 Incident

The allegation that Officer Wilson contacted [REDACTED] on March 28, 2021, and shared information he learned from querying her license plate is **Sustained**. CPD members are responsible for the appropriate use and disposal of CPD computerized information systems and access to computerized information is permitted only for official police business.²⁷

[REDACTED] provided COPA with a screenshot of text messages sent to her by Officer Wilson on March 28, 2021, at 11:05 pm reading “you rolling on some nice rims” and on the following day at 11:52 am reading “I ran a plate last night on a Black charger with some nice rims...It came back to a [REDACTED].off [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]” after [REDACTED] asked what he was referring to.²⁸ CPD records show that Officer Wilson was working the evening of March 28, 2021, with Officers David Floyd and Meghan Lennhardt²⁹ and that [REDACTED] license plate was queried on a PDT that Officer Floyd was logged into.³⁰ During his statement to COPA, Officer Wilson was unable to recall details of his shift on March 28, 2021,³¹ or sending the above referenced text messages to [REDACTED].³² Officer Wilson did acknowledge that the purpose of the messages was unrelated to police

²⁶ For a definition of COPA's findings and standards of proof, *see* Appendix B.

²⁷ Att. 37, G09-01-01(A)(2), Access to Computerized Data, Dissemination and Retention of Computer Data (effective February 2, 2012, to present).

²⁸ Att. 34 at pg. 3.

²⁹ Att. 24.

³⁰ Att. 16 at rows 17 and 18.

³¹ Att. 36 at pg. 29, ln. 11 to pg. 30, ln. 21.

³² Att. 26 at pg. 31, lns. 7 to 23.

business.³³ Because Officer Wilson used information that he learned from CPD computer systems while contacting ██████ for non-police business, COPA finds by a preponderance of the evidence that Allegation 1 against Officer Wilson is **Sustained**.

b. April 30, 2022 Incident

The allegation that Officer Wilson directly or indirectly caused Officer Moore to issue false citations to ██████ or that Officer Wilson later learned that Officer Moore issued false citations to ██████ and failed to report this misconduct is **Not Sustained**. CPD's Rules of Conduct prohibits CPD members from making false written or oral reports.³⁴ CPD directives require members to report other members' misconduct which they observe or become aware of.³⁵

Officer Wilson and Moore did encounter ██████ Charger on April 30, 2022, at approximately 9:54 pm while on patrol.³⁶ Officer Wilson was driving and approached the car from behind while Officer Moore ran the plate.³⁷ The Charger stopped at a red light and Officer Moore exited the patrol car, shined his flashlight in the front passenger window, and pointed for the driver to pull to the side.³⁸ The driver drove away once the light turned green.³⁹ Officer Moore issued five citations to ██████ Charger on April 30, 2022, for the following offences:

- Operating a vehicle in an unsafe condition;
- Failing to have a valid city sticker;
- Double parking or standing;
- Missing a front or rear plate or displaying a noncompliant front or rear plate; and
- Parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant⁴⁰

Officer Wilson denied being aware that Officer Moore was writing the citations for ██████ Charger.⁴¹ ██████ contacted Officer Wilson via text message about the citations in June of 2022 after she became notified of them.⁴² Officer Wilson did not learn of the nature of the citations issued to ██████ from ██████ text messages.⁴³

³³ Att. 36 at pg. 52, ln. 21 to pg. 53, ln. 2.

³⁴ CPD Rules of Conduct, Rule 14.

³⁵ Att. 38, G08-01-02(III)(B)(1), Complaint Initiation and Log Number Investigation Assignment (effective December 31, 2021, to December 31, 2022).

³⁶ Att. 36 at pg. 10, lns. 16 to 22.

³⁷ Att. 35 at 1:41 to 2:02 and Att. 16 at row 31.

³⁸ Att. 35 at 2:04 to 2:10.

³⁹ Att. 35 at 2:11

⁴⁰ Att. 36 at pg. 21, ln 13 to pg. 22, ln. 19.

⁴¹ Att. 36 at pg. 23, lns. 5 to 14.

⁴² Att. 2 at pg. 8, ln. 24 to pg. 9, ln. 13 and Att. 36 at pg. 23, lns. 1 to 7.

⁴³ Att. 36 at pg. 23, ln. 11 to pg. 24, ln. 1.

Appendix ACase Details

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	March 28, 2021 / 11:00 PM / ██████████, Chicago, IL April 30, 2022 / 10:00 PM / 2255 S Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	June 22, 2022 / 10:05 am
Involved Member #1:	Officer Michael Wilson, Star 17643, Employee # ██████████, Date of Appointment: January 17, 2017, Unit of Assignment: 001, Male, Black
Involved Member #2:	Officer Christopher Moore, Star 7126, Employee # ██████████, Date of Appointment: April 16, 2018, Unit of Assignment: 001, Male, White
Involved Individual #1:	██████████ Female, Black

Applicable Rules

- Rule 2:** Any action or conduct which impedes the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department.
- Rule 3:** Any failure to promote the Department's efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals.
- Rule 5:** Failure to perform any duty.
- Rule 6:** Disobedience of an order or directive, whether written or oral.
- Rule 8:** Disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.
- Rule 9:** Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.
- Rule 10:** Inattention to duty.
- Rule 14:** Making a false report, written or oral.
- Rule 38:** Unlawful or unnecessary use or display of a weapon.
- Rule 4:** Any conduct or action taken to use the official position for personal gain or influence

Applicable Policies and Laws

- G08-01-02: Complaint Initiation and Log Number Investigation Assignment (effective December 31, 2022, to December 31, 2023)
- G09-01-01: Access to Computerized Data, Dissemination and Retention of Computer Data (effective February 2, 2012, to present)

Appendix B

Definition of COPA’s Findings and Standards of Proof

For each Allegation, COPA must make one of the following findings:

1. Sustained – where it is determined the allegation is supported by a preponderance of the evidence;
2. Not Sustained – where it is determined there is insufficient evidence to prove the allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
3. Unfounded – where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that an allegation is false or not factual; or
4. Exonerated – where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that the conduct described in the allegation occurred, but it is lawful and proper.

A **preponderance of evidence** can be described as evidence indicating that it is **more likely than not** that a proposition is proved.⁴⁷ For example, if the evidence gathered in an investigation establishes that it is more likely that the conduct complied with CPD policy than that it did not, even if by a narrow margin, then the preponderance of the evidence standard is met.

Clear and convincing evidence is a higher standard than a preponderance of the evidence but lower than the “beyond-a-reasonable doubt” standard required to convict a person of a criminal offense. Clear and convincing can be defined as a “degree of proof, which, considering all the evidence in the case, produces the firm and abiding belief that it is highly probable that the proposition . . . is true.”⁴⁸

⁴⁷ See *Avery v. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co.*, 216 Ill. 2d 100, 191 (2005) (a proposition is proved by a preponderance of the evidence when it is found to be more probably true than not).

⁴⁸ *People v. Coan*, 2016 IL App (2d) 151036, ¶ 28 (quoting Illinois Pattern Jury Instructions, Criminal, No. 4.19 (4th ed. 2000)).

Appendix C

Transparency and Publication Categories

Check all that apply:

- Abuse of Authority
- Body Worn Camera Violation
- Coercion
- Death or Serious Bodily Injury in Custody
- Domestic Violence
- Excessive Force
- Failure to Report Misconduct
- False Statement
- Firearm Discharge
- Firearm Discharge – Animal
- Firearm Discharge – Suicide
- Firearm Discharge – Unintentional
- First Amendment
- Improper Search and Seizure – Fourth Amendment Violation
- Incidents in Lockup
- Motor Vehicle Incidents
- OC Spray Discharge
- Search Warrants
- Sexual Misconduct
- Taser Discharge
- Unlawful Denial of Access to Counsel
- Unnecessary Display of a Weapon
- Use of Deadly Force – other
- Verbal Abuse
- Other Investigation