



Brandon Johnson  
Mayor

Department of Police · City of Chicago  
3510 S. Michigan Avenue · Chicago, Illinois 60653

Larry B. Snelling  
Superintendent

April 19, 2024

Andrea Kersten  
Chief Administrator  
Civilian Office of Police Accountability  
1615 West Chicago Avenue, 4th Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60622

Re: Superintendent's Non-Concurrence with Penalty Recommendation  
Complaint Log No. 2021-0000683

Dear Chief Administrator Kersten:

After a careful review of the above referenced complaint log number, the Chicago Police Department (Department) concurs with all of the recommended findings but does not concur with the penalty recommendation as they pertain to Officer Irving Sanchez, Star No. 18147. Pursuant to the Municipal Code of Chicago, the Department provides the following comments.

The COPA investigation recommended a suspension of 30 to 60 days for Officer Sanchez, along with Anger Management after concluding that he;

1. Pushed and/or slammed [REDACTED] into a sink;
2. Pushed [REDACTED] about her body;
3. Obstructed [REDACTED] from using her cell phone to call 911.

The Department concurs with the sustained finding for all three allegations. But the Department believes that a more appropriate penalty would be a 25-day suspension.

In this specific case, the COPA investigation does not include the member's complimentary and disciplinary history. The Department has reviewed both and note that his complimentary history consists of 10 total awards, with 8 Honorable Mentions, 1 Military Service Award and 1 Physical Fitness award and his disciplinary history consists of one sustained allegation with a penalty of a reprimand.

The Department acknowledges that the allegations are very serious. The Department also acknowledges that it is very difficult to determine if Officer Sanchez was the true aggressor in the situation. But as the Department believes the burden of proof has been met, an appropriate disciplinary action has to be determined. But if the purpose of discipline is to correct errant behavior, then discipline should be imposed as soon after the conduct as possible. This was not a complicated investigation as it only involved the accused, the complainant and one witness who was a Department member. All three were interviewed within 9 months of the incident. However, after the

interviews, there was a period of inactivity for almost 12 months. More activity occurred for about 6 months and then no activity occurred for about 6 months. These unnecessary and unjustifiable delays make it difficult for any corrective action to be effective. As this conduct occurred more than three years ago, a higher penalty would be punitive and would not be in this member's or the Department's best interest.

The Department looks forward to discussing this matter with you pursuant to MCC 2-78-130(a)(iii).  
Sincerely,



Larry B. Snelling  
Superintendent  
Chicago Police Department