

SUMMARY OF INCIDENT

On August 26, 2016, at approximately 11:45 a.m., CPD Officer A was cleaning his duty weapon at his residence at XXXXX N. Monticello and inadvertently pulled the trigger while aligning his sights causing the weapon to discharge.

ALLEGATIONS

It is alleged that while cleaning his duty weapon at his residence, located at XXXX N. Monticello Ave. on August 26, 2016, at approximately 11:45 a.m., accused **CPD Officer A, Star XXXXX**:

1. was careless in the handling of his duty weapon when he discharged a round which struck a residence across the street.

APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

Rule 10: Inattention to duty

INVESTIGATION

In his Initiation Report, responding **Sgt., #XXXX**, related that he was assigned to an unintentional weapon discharge on 26 August 2016 at XXXX N. Monticello. Sgt. B reported that upon his arrival, he found Officer A in his living room surrounded by gun cleaning supplies. Officer A said that he was cleaning his duty weapon, a Glock 19 pistol, when he accidentally discharged it. Officer A said that the fired bullet passed through his living room window and entered the living room window at XXXX N. Monticello, and was ultimately recovered from a cereal box. (Att. 4)

In the **synoptic report** completed by **Sgt. C, #XXXX**, of BIA Area North Investigations, reported that he had been notified by Sgt. D of CPIC of the incident involving Officer A and arrived at the XX District station at 1320 hours to administer the test for BrAC (Breath Alcohol). Sgt. C reported that he administered the breath test at 1429 hours with a BrAC result of .000. Officer A also provided a urine sample at 1455 hours. The results of the BrAC were given to the OCIC, Commander D.

Sgt. C reported that he was also advised by Sgt. B that the bullet exited Officer A's residence through a window and entered the window of a residence next door and lodged in a cereal box. The bullet was recovered and inventoried. (Att. 5)

The **Original Case Incident Report** states that off-duty Chicago Police Officer A had finished cleaning his duty weapon when he accidentally pulled the trigger while aligning his weapon's sights. Officer A saw that the discharged bullet traveled through his front living room window and ended up across the street at XXXX N. Monticello, through the first-floor window. No person was struck by the bullet and no injuries were reported. The bullet was found in a box of cereal. The bullet was recovered by Sgt. B and inventoried. All pertinent notifications were made. (Att. 13)

The TRR (Tactical Response Report) completed by Officer A documents essentially the same information reported by Officer A. (Att. 14)

In his interview with IPRA on 18 May 2017, accused Officer A stated that after cleaning and re-assembling his duty weapon in the morning on August 26, 2016, he reinserted the gun's magazine and chambered a round. After doing so, Officer A used the restroom. When he returned, he decided that he was going to dis-assemble the weapon to make sure there was no excess oil in the weapon. Officer A then removed the magazine and began aligning the sites on his weapon while pointing the weapon in the direction of his front window. In order to fully dis-assemble his weapon, Officer A had to depress the trigger. When doing so, however, Officer A forgot that he previously chambered a round and the weapon discharged. Officer A noticed a hole in the front window where the bullet exited his residence. Officer A immediately called CPD's XX District Station to report that he accidentally discharged his weapon. While waiting for a patrol car to arrive, Officer A walked over to the townhouse across the street to see if everyone was okay. As Officer A reached the townhouse, he noticed a hole in a window. Officer A rang the doorbell of the townhouse and a woman answered. Officer A asked the woman if she was okay, but she didn't know why he was asking her that question, so he identified himself to the woman and explained what happened. The woman explained that she was fine but she added that a plate had inexplicably fallen inside the home. The woman, who was babysitting for the residence owners, said that she was going to contact the owners of the residence. Officer A provided his contact number to the woman and then called his own district to report the incident. When a sergeant from the XX District arrived in response to his earlier call, Officer A told the sergeant that he accidentally discharged his weapon while cleaning it. At some point thereafter, Officer A accompanied the sergeant to the XX District to complete a TRR. (Atts. 32, 34)

CONCLUSION

IPRA recommends that Allegation #1 be Sustained, in that, accused Officer A, Star XXXXX, was inattentive to duty when he accidentally discharged his firearm inside his home after he cleaned it. Officer A acknowledged that he forgot that he had previously chambered a round in his duty weapon when he pulled the trigger. Based on Officer A's admission and the evidence obtained in this investigation, IPRA finds that Officer A was careless in the handling of his weapon and therefore in violation of Rule 10, "Inattention to Duty."