

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION¹

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Incident:	November 30, 2015
Time of Incident:	7:24 pm
Location of Incident:	XXXX W. Ainslie St. Apt #XX
Date of COPA Notification:	November 30, 2015
Time of COPA Notification:	11:09 pm

Off Duty Chicago Police Officer, Officer A, was at home trying to clear his service weapon when it accidentally discharged. The fired round traveled through Officer A’s front door and entered the apartment across the hall. Officer A knocked on the neighbor’s door to no avail. Officer A contacted the XXXth District and requested a supervisor. CFD was requested to make a forced entry. Evidence Technician A² requested to recover the round from the neighbor’s wall.

II. INVOLVED PARTIES

Involved Officer #1:	Police Officer A, Star XXXX, Employee #XXXXX, Appointment Date XXXXXX XX, 20XX, Unit XXX, Male, White, Birth Date XXXXXX XX, 19XX.
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III. ALLEGATION

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer A	1. Accidentally discharged his weapon while clearing it, in violation of Rule 10.	Sustained

IV. APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

Rules
1. Rule 10: Inattention to duty.

¹ On September 15, 2017, the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) replaced the Independent Police Review Authority (IPRA) as the civilian oversight agency of the Chicago Police Department. Therefore, this investigation, which began under IPRA, was transferred to COPA on September 15, 2017, and the recommendation(s) set forth herein are the recommendation(s) of COPA.

² Evidence Technician 1 *ID* on Crime Scene Processing Report. Att. 9

V. INVESTIGATION³

a. Interviews

In a **statement to COPA** on March 26, 2018, **Accused Officer A**,⁴ stated that he was going to the store and at the last minute decided he did not want to take his weapon just in case he went to visit a friend after leaving the store. Officer A stated he was in the hall of his apartment attempting to clear his weapon when it accidentally discharged. He further stated that the round exited through his front door and entered his neighbor's apartment across the hall.

Officer A knocked on his neighbor's door and got no response. Officer A immediately contacted the XXXth District and requested a supervisor. CFD was called to enter the neighbor's apartment to ensure no one was injured. Upon entering the neighbor's apartment, it was determined that no one was home. A round was found lodged inside the neighbor's wall.

Officer A stated that he discharged his weapon once.

b. Digital Evidence

ET Photographs⁵ document multiple photos of the scene and the bullet that was found inside the neighbor's wall.

c. Documentary Evidence

Sergeant A's **Initiation Report**,⁶ stated that Officer A was at home trying to clear his service weapon when it accidentally discharged. It further detailed that the round passed through Officer A's front door and entered the apartment next door. No one was home and CFD was called to make a forced entry. Evidence Technician, Beat #XXXX, was requested to recover the round from the neighbor's wall.

In Officer A's **Tactical Repose Report**,⁷ he related that he discharged his semi-auto 9MM pistol while securing his weapon. It further stated that the round struck an object as a result. CPIC and OEMC were notified.

Lieutenant A noted that based upon the information available at that time and during the preliminary stages it was determined that Officer A acted in compliance with Department policy. Officer A, while in the process of securing his weapon, extracted the magazine and attempted to clear the chamber when his weapon accidentally discharged.

³ COPA conducted a thorough and complete investigation. The following is a summary of the material evidence gathered and relied upon in our analysis.

⁴ Att. 10

⁵ Att. 14

⁶ Att. 4

⁷ Att. 7

The **Original Case Incident Report**,⁸ provides information that is consistent with the statement given by Officer A.

VI. ANALYSIS

COPA recommends a finding of **SUSTAINED** for the allegation against Officer A. Officer A was careless, in that, he accidentally discharged his weapon while trying to clear it.

VII. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis set forth above, COPA makes the following findings:

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer A	2. Accidentally discharged his weapon while clearing it, in violation of Rule 10.	Sustained

Approved:

 [Name]
 Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

 Date

⁸ Att. 5

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad:	1
Major Case Specialist:	Major Case Specialist 1
Supervising Investigator:	Supervising Investigator 1
Deputy Chief Administrator:	Deputy Chief Administrator 1