

**SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION**

**I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Date of Incident:	July 5, 2018
Time of Incident:	11:55 PM
Location of Incident:	XXXX S. Racine Avenue
Date of COPA Notification:	July 9, 2018
Time of COPA Notification:	8:20 AM

The Involved Officers responded to a 911 call for the Victim Involved Civilian #1 having a seizure. Shortly thereafter, the Chicago Fire Department (CFD) arrived at the scene. Victim Involved Civilian #1 was combative to First Responders, which resulted in her being handcuffed and restrained to a stretcher. Victim Involved Civilian #1 was transported via ambulance to XX XXXXXXXX Hospital for medical treatment. The following day, Victim Involved Civilian #1’s son, Involved Civilian #2, who did not witness the incident, alleged the Involved Officers physically abused Victim Involved Civilian #1, causing a laceration to the back of her head. This incident was captured on Body Worn Camera (BWC). The BWC footage clearly established that the Involved Officers did not physically or verbally maltreat Victim Involved Civilian #1, nor cause an injury to her head. COPA reached a finding of Unfounded without obtaining statements from the Involved Officers.

**II. INVOLVED PARTIES**

Involved Officer #1:	Officer A, Star #XXXX, Employee #XXXXXX, Date of Appointment: XXXX XX, 2017, Chicago Police Officer, Date of Birth: XXXX 22, 1988, Male, White.
Involved Officer #2:	Officer B, Star #XXXXXX, Employee #XXXXXX, Date of Appointment: XXXXXXXX XX, 2015, Chicago Police Officer, Date of Birth: XXXXX XX, 1987, Male, White.
Victim Involved Civilian #1:	Victim Involved Civilian #1, 55 Years of Age, Female, Black

**III. ALLEGATIONS**

Officer	Allegation	Finding
---------	------------	---------

Officer A	1. Physically mistreated Victim Involved Civilian #1 by striking her about her body and head.	Unfounded
Officer B IV.	2. Physically mistreated Victim Involved Civilian #1 by striking her about her body and head.	Unfounded

#### APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

**Rule 9:** Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.

#### V. INVESTIGATION<sup>1</sup>

In a **statement** to COPA, **Civilian #1** related that she had a seizure, and the Chicago Police and Fire Department responded. Victim Involved Civilian #1 alleges one of the responding officers punched her repeatedly about her body and knocked her unconscious. Victim Involved Civilian #1 sustained swelling about her legs, buttocks, thighs, and a laceration to the back of her head. According to Victim Involved Civilian #1, the physical altercation with the officer occurred in her cousin's kitchen.

Victim Involved Civilian #1 was handcuffed and restrained to a stretcher for transport to XX XXXXXXXX hospital. Per Victim Involved Civilian #1, the attending Physician informed her that she need sutures to the laceration on the back of her head, but Victim Involved Civilian #1 refused. Victim Involved Civilian #1 only sought medical treatment for the seizure<sup>2</sup>.

In a **statement** to COPA, **Witness Civilian #1** related that she and Victim Involved Civilian #1 are cousins, and that she lives in the apartment across from Victim Involved Civilian #1. Victim Involved Civilian #1 had a seizure on the back porch of their apartment building. The Chicago Police and Fire Department responded to the scene. According to Witness Civilian #1, one of the officers grabbed Victim Involved Civilian #1 by the back of her neck to place her in a paramedic transport chair. Victim Involved Civilian #1 was handcuffed and restrained to a stretcher prior to being transported to the hospital.

Witness Civilian #1 related the following day, at approximately 3:00 a.m., she heard Victim Involved Civilian #1 "hollering" outside their apartment building for someone to let her in. Once inside, Witness Civilian #1 escorted Victim Involved Civilian #1 to her apartment. Hours later, Witness Civilian #1 went to conduct a well-being check of Witness Civilian #1. Witness Civilian #1 observed blood to the back of Witness Civilian #1's head. Witness Civilian #1 took photographs of Victim Involved Civilian #1's injury. Witness Civilian #1 related that upon being transported to the hospital, Victim Involved Civilian #1 did not have any injuries. Witness Civilian #1 stated that she did not observe the injury to Victim Involved Civilian #1 upon letting her in the

<sup>1</sup> COPA conducted a thorough and complete investigation. The following is a summary of the material evidence gathered and relied upon in our analysis.

<sup>2</sup> Att. 19, 20

building that morning. Witness Civilian #1 did not observe any officer punch Victim Involved Civilian #1 during this incident<sup>3</sup>.

#### a. Digital Evidence

The Involved Officer's **BWC** captured the entirety of the response; from officers arriving at the scene of incident, until Victim Involved Civilian #1 arrived at the hospital and was removed from the ambulance. Other than handcuffing Victim Involved Civilian #1 due to her combativeness with CFD Paramedics, the Involved Officers had very little and or no further physical contact with Victim Involved Civilian #1. CFD basically had all the hands-on contact with Victim Involved Civilian #1. The BWC did not depict any physical or verbal maltreatment to Victim Involved Civilian #1. There are several instances in which the BWC captures the back of Victim Involved Civilian #1's head as she is being transported to the hospital, and there is no visible evidence of any head injury. The BWC does not capture Victim Involved Civilian #1, her family members/friends, or first-responders make any mention of Victim Involved Civilian #1 having any injury to her head or elsewhere<sup>4</sup>.

Victim Involved Civilian #1 provided COPA with a **Digital Video Disc (DVD)**. The DVD contained a photograph of the back of Victim Involved Civilian #1's head. There was a red colored substance about the center of Victim Involved Civilian #1's hair/head, and right below her hairline. The DVD also contains 5 photographs of an unknown injured male black. Per the Reporting Party Third Party Involved Civilian #2, this unknown individual is not related to Victim Involved Civilian #1's complaint. Involved Civilian #2 did not provide any further identification of the unknown individual<sup>5</sup>.

#### b. Documentary Evidence

In an **Initiation Report**, Sergeant A related that he responded to a Request for Supervisor at the location of incident. Sergeant A spoke with Involved Civilian #2, who related that his mother/Victim Involved Civilian #1 had a medical seizure, and that responding officers beat her and caused a "gash" to the back of her head. Involved Civilian #2 stated that he was not present during the alleged incident, and that he became aware of Victim Involved Civilian #1's injury on July 6, 2018. Involved Civilian #2 provided Sergeant A with Victim Involved Civilian #1's discharge papers from the hospital. The discharge papers did not show any documentation of Victim Involved Civilian #1 sustaining a head injury. Sergeant A observed that prior to a Request for Supervisor call, that Victim Involved Civilian #1 was very uncooperative and combative to First Responders. Based on the conduct of Involved Civilian #2 and onlookers, Sergeant A was unable to interview Victim Involved Civilian #1.<sup>6</sup>

The **Chicago Fire Department Incident Report** documented Ambulance XX responded to a call of an adult (Victim Involved Civilian #1) having a seizure. Upon arriving at the scene of incident, Paramedics observed Victim Involved Civilian #1 sitting on the porch floor in care of

---

<sup>3</sup> Att. 21

<sup>4</sup> Att. 27

<sup>5</sup> Att. 14, 22, 26

<sup>6</sup> Att. 6

CFD Engine XX and the Chicago Police Department. A family member of Victim Involved Civilian #1 informed Paramedics that Victim Involved Civilian #1 had a seizure. Victim Involved Civilian #1 was agitated and confused. First Responders and family members unsuccessfully attempted to calm Victim Involved Civilian #1, and get her to stand to be prepared for transport. Victim Involved Civilian #1 begin swinging and biting at First Responders, at which time Officers placed her in protective custody by handcuffing her in front of her body<sup>7</sup>.

**XX XXXXXXXX Hospital medical records** report that Victim Involved Civilian #1 was transported by the Chicago Fire Department; her Chief Complaint was a Seizure. A Physical Exam showed Victim Involved Civilian #1's General Appearance to be well, awake, alert, and no apparent distress, and her head and face to be normal. Victim Involved Civilian #1 denied having a seizure, and related that she had been non-compliant with her medication. Victim Involved Civilian #1 refused all treatment. Victim Involved Civilian #1 described generalized soreness after the seizure, though no focal complaint. Victim Involved Civilian #1 was discharged in Stable Condition<sup>8</sup>.

## ANALYSIS

COPA recommends a finding of **UNFOUNDED** for **Allegation #1**, that **Officer A** physically maltreated Victim Involved Civilian #1, by striking her about her body and head. Victim Involved Civilian #1 alleged she sustained swelling about her legs, buttocks, thighs, and a laceration to the back of her head, for which she provided a photograph. Victim Involved Civilian #1 stated that this physical maltreatment occurred in Witness Civilian #1's kitchen. Witness Civilian #1 contradicted Victim Involved Civilian #1's account of the incident and stated that she did not observe any officer punch Victim Involved Civilian #1, nor did she observe any injury to Victim Involved Civilian #1, prior to Victim Involved Civilian #1 being transported to the hospital. BWC shows when officers encountered Victim Involved Civilian #1, Victim Involved Civilian #1 was on the back porch of the apartment building.

BWC captured the officers' response to Victim Involved Civilian #1 when Victim Involved Civilian #1 arrived at the hospital and was removed from the ambulance. There were several instances in which the BWC captured the back of Victim Involved Civilian #1's head as she was transported, and there was no visible evidence of a head injury. BWC footage clearly showed that Victim Involved Civilian #1's account of the incident did not occur as alleged, which is corroborated by the CFD Incident Report and medical records. Although the photograph Victim Involved Civilian #1 provided to COPA showed an injury to the back of her head, the evidence gathered during this investigation clearly confirmed that Officer A was not the cause of her injury. It is unknown when and how Victim Involved Civilian #1 sustained the injury to her head.

COPA recommends a finding of **UNFOUNDED** for **Allegation #1** that **Officer B** physically maltreated Victim Involved Civilian #1, by striking her about her body and head. Victim Involved Civilian #1 alleged she sustained swelling about her legs, buttocks, thighs, and a laceration to the back of her head, for which she provided a photograph. Victim Involved Civilian #1 stated that this physical maltreatment occurred in Witness Civilian #1's kitchen. Witness

---

<sup>7</sup> Att. 25

<sup>8</sup> Att. 24

Civilian #1 contradicted Victim Involved Civilian #1’s account of the incident and stated that she did not observe any officer punch Victim Involved Civilian #1, nor did she observe any injury to Victim Involved Civilian #1, prior to Victim Involved Civilian #1 being transported to the hospital. BWC shows when officers encountered Victim Involved Civilian #1, Victim Involved Civilian #1 was on the back porch of the apartment building.

BWC captured the officers’ response to Victim Involved Civilian #1 including when Victim Involved Civilian #1 arrived at the hospital and was removed from the ambulance. There were several instances in which the BWC captured the back of Victim Involved Civilian #1’s head as she was transported, and there was no visible evidence of a head injury. BWC footage clearly showed that Victim Involved Civilian #1’s account of the incident did not occur as alleged, which is corroborated by the CFD Incident Report and medical records. Although the photograph Victim Involved Civilian #1 provided to COPA showed an injury to the back of her head, the evidence gathered during this investigation clearly confirmed that Officer B was not the cause of her injury.

**CONCLUSION**

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

<b>Officer</b>	<b>Allegation</b>	<b>Finding</b>
Officer A	1. Physically mistreated Victim Involved Civilian #1 by striking her about her body and head.	Unfounded
Officer B	1. Physically mistreated Victim Involved Civilian #1 by striking her about her body and head.	Unfounded

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator A

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

---

<b>Squad#:</b>	X
<b>Investigator:</b>	Investigator A
<b>Supervising Investigator:</b>	Supervising Investigator A
<b>Deputy Chief Administrator:</b>	Deputy Chief Administrator A