

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Incident:	January 21, 2017
Time of Incident:	8:30 pm
Location of Incident:	[REDACTED]
Date of COPA Notification:	January 23, 2017
Time of COPA Notification:	5:40 pm

This incident occurred in downtown Chicago during the protest of the Presidential Inauguration of Donald J. Trump. [REDACTED] participated in the protest and provided a video of her protesting and confronting police officers who were conducting crowd control and using their bicycles as barricades.

II. INVOLVED PARTIES

Involved Officer #1:	[REDACTED] Star [REDACTED] Employee [REDACTED] Date of Appointment: [REDACTED], 2009, Police Officer, Unit [REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED], 1984, Male/White.
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED], Kalamazoo, MI 49006, DOB: [REDACTED], 1998, Female/Hispanic.

III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Officer [REDACTED]	1. Used his assigned bicycle to push her on the leg without justification, in violation of Rule 8.	Exonerated

IV. APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

Rules

1. Rule 8: Disrespect to or a maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.
-

General Orders

1. Patrol Division Special Order (PDSO) 00-01, District Bicycle Patrols.
2. Patrol Division Special Order (PDSO) 95-02, Bicycle Safety Helments.

V. INVESTIGATION

a. Interviews

In an **interview with IPRA**¹ on March 14, 2017, ██████████ stated that on January 21, 2017, she was demonstrating the President Inauguration with her younger, 15-year-old sister, ██████████. Ms. ██████████ stated that the demonstration began in front of the Trump Towers and through the streets of downtown Chicago. While walking through the streets, Ms. ██████████ observed a black male on the ground being handcuffed by officers. Ms. ██████████ observed other officers use their bicycles form a circular perimeter around the black male that was being arrested. Ms. ██████████ walked toward the front of the crowd and stood in front of Officer ██████████ who was using his bicycle to stop the protesters from moving forward. While standing in front of the officers, Ms. ██████████ alleged that Officer ██████████ used his bicycle to push her back, striking her on her left thigh with the bicycle's tire.

Ms. ██████████ stated that she continued to yell at Officer ██████████, who did not respond. After leaving the protest, Ms. ██████████ observed scratches to her left thigh and took a photograph of her injury with her cellular phone.² Ms. ██████████ stated that she did not seek any medical attention. Ms. ██████████ observed a video that was posted by Fox Chicago News onto Facebook, which showed the incident involving her and Officer ██████████. Ms. ██████████ said that she obtained the accused officer's name from his uniform name plate. Ms. ██████████ stated that she did not observe any physical maltreatment of the black male that was being arrested. (Atts. 22-23)

b. Digital Evidence

Fox News Chicago video provided by ██████████ was obtained through Facebook. The source of the video, which appeared to be filmed from a cell phone, was unknown to Ms. ██████████. The video is one minute and forty-two seconds in length and showed several civilian demonstrators surrounding several uniformed officers, who are holding onto bicycles next to them. The camera view pans the scene from left-to-right and up-and-down and shows two male uniformed officers

¹ Att. 18, Interview of ██████████.

² Atts. 7-8, Photograph provided by Ms. ██████████.

holding a male civilian on the ground. The video also shows other officers holding their bicycles in a circular formation surrounding the male black on the ground. Ms. [REDACTED] is observed standing in front of a uniformed white male officer who is holding a bicycle. Ms. [REDACTED] and other persons are observed attempting to advance forward while officers are using their bicycles as a barricade to hold back the protesters. (Att. 24)

VI. ANALYSIS

[REDACTED] admitted that on January 21, 2017, she was demonstrating the President Inauguration of Donald J. Trump and protesting in front of Trump Towers. While continuing to protest through downtown, Ms. [REDACTED] observed a black male on the ground being placed under arrest. Ms. [REDACTED] observed officers conducting a circular barricade with their bicycles around the black male. Ms. [REDACTED] admitted to walking to the front of the protest and standing in front of officers who were holding their bicycles and blocking her and others from moving forward. While standing in front of the officers, Ms. [REDACTED] alleged that Officer [REDACTED] used his bicycle to push her back, striking her on her left thigh with the bicycle's tire.

The video showed Ms. [REDACTED] and many other protesters yelling, screaming, and confronting police officers who were conducting crowd control and using their bicycles as a barricade. The video showed several of the protesters attempting to overrun the police barricade and officers using their bicycles to push and hold back protesters. Although Ms. [REDACTED] alleges that she sustained scratches to her leg, it is conceivable that she may have been injured by a bicycle as she confronted the officers. The video clearly depicts that the actions taken by the officers with their bicycle were used as a barricade and conjunction with crowd control. The video did not show any officer(s) use their bicycle in a manner to would be construed as using excessive force. Instead, the officers were professional and maintained their composure through a very difficult protest.

VII. CONCLUSION

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

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Officer [REDACTED]	1. Used his assigned bicycle to push her on the leg without justification.	Exonerated

|

|

Approved:

Deputy Chief Angela Hearts-Glass

Date

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:
Investigator [REDACTED]
Supervising Investigator [REDACTED]
Deputy Chief Angela Hearts-Glass