

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION<sup>1</sup>

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Incident:	November 10, 2018
Time of Incident:	11:00 PM
Location of Incident:	[REDACTED]
Date of COPA Notification:	January 22, 2019
Time of COPA Notification:	6:18 PM

This investigation involves Involved Officer [REDACTED] conducting a traffic stop of Involved Individual [REDACTED], for failure to stop at two stop signs. During the traffic stop it was learned that Ms. [REDACTED] was driving a friend’s uninsured vehicle with no city sticker. Ms. [REDACTED] alleges during this interaction with Officer [REDACTED] that Officer [REDACTED] yelled at her, refused to provide his Star number and racially profiled her. This incident was captured on Body Word Camera (BWC).

II. INVOLVED PARTIES

Involved Officer #1:	[REDACTED], Star # [REDACTED], Employee # [REDACTED], Date of Appointment: Police Officer, [REDACTED] <sup>th</sup> District, Male, White.
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED], Date of Birth: [REDACTED], 1982, Female, Black.

III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Officer [REDACTED]	1. Yelled at [REDACTED].	Unfounded
	2. Refused to provide his Star number.	Unfounded
	3. Racially profiled [REDACTED]	Unfounded

<sup>1</sup> 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.

#### IV. APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

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##### Rules

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

Rule 37: Failure of a member, whether on or off duty, to correctly identify himself by giving his name, rank and star number when so requested by other members of the Department or by a private citizen.

#### V. INVESTIGATION

##### a. Interviews

In a statement to COPA, Reporting Party Victim ██████ related she was driving her friend ██████'s vehicle when Officer ██████ conducted a traffic stop of her. Ms. ██████ did not have any passenger(s) in the vehicle. Upon her request, Officer ██████ informed Ms. ██████ that she was stopped for failing to come to a complete stop at two stop signs. Ms. ██████ provided Officer ██████ with her driver's license and the insurance card from the glove compartment. Officer ██████ informed Ms. ██████ that the insurance on the vehicle was expired. Ms. ██████ told Officer ██████ that she was driving a friend's vehicle and that she would give him a call to inquire about the status of the insurance. Ms. ██████ called Mr. ██████ who in turn called the insurance company. Ms. ██████ was on a three-way call.

Ms. ██████ did not hear Officer ██████ ask her a question. Officer ██████ became upset and stated, "Fine, if you're not going to pay attention to me I'm going to go write you a ticket." Ms. ██████ stayed on her cellular telephone with Mr. ██████ and the insurance company in an attempt to get the vehicle insured immediately. In a raised voice, Officer ██████ asked Ms. ██████ if Mr. ██████ resided in the city, because the vehicle did not have a city sticker affixed to the windshield. Officer ██████ informed Ms. ██████ that he could issue a citation for that violation. Ms. ██████ told Officer ██████ that she was not aware of the address where Mr. ██████'s vehicle was registered and that she did not know the vehicle was uninsured. Officer ██████ yelled at Ms. ██████, telling her she should know such things before borrowing someone's car. Ms. ██████ was perplexed by Officer ██████'s demeanor towards her.

After returning from his vehicle, Officer ██████ presented Ms. ██████ with a citation. As he was driving away, Officer ██████ pulled alongside Ms. ██████ and yelled, "You better hurry up and drive off, or I'm going to give you a ticket for sitting there!" Ms. ██████ asked Officer ██████ for his badge number. Officer ██████ yelled, "It's on the ticket," and "peeled off." Moments later, Officer ██████ did a U-turn and positioned his vehicle alongside of Ms. ██████'s vehicle. Officer ██████ exited the vehicle and yelled to Ms. ██████, "Pull over now and get out the vehicle, I'm not letting you drive without insurance!" Ms. ██████ asked Officer ██████ "What's your problem, you just told me to drive off." Officer ██████ stated, "Pull over right now, or I'm going to physically arrest you!" Ms. ██████ did not want to exit the vehicle because she felt threatened by Officer ██████.

Officer [REDACTED] directed Ms. [REDACTED] where to park her vehicle, but Ms. [REDACTED] chose to park across the intersection. Officer [REDACTED] stated, "Fine, I guess I'll give you a ticket for parking in a crosswalk." Officer [REDACTED] positioned his vehicle on the other side of the intersection facing the rear of Ms. [REDACTED]'s vehicle. Ms. [REDACTED] called her friend [REDACTED] and told her she was being racially profiled. Approximately 20 minutes later, Ms. [REDACTED] arrived at the scene. Officer [REDACTED] was still parked across the intersection. Officer [REDACTED] drove around the area momentarily and then drove away. Ms. [REDACTED] left Mr. [REDACTED]'s vehicle where she parked it. Per Ms. [REDACTED], Officer [REDACTED] never made any racial remarks or reference during their interaction. Ms. [REDACTED] felt she was racially profiled because she did not believe that Officer [REDACTED] would have physically threatened to arrest a white woman.<sup>2</sup>

### b. Digital Evidence

COPA reviewed the **Body-Worn-Camera (BWC)** footage from the incident, which captured the interaction between Ms. [REDACTED] and Officer [REDACTED]. Officer [REDACTED] explained to Ms. [REDACTED] why he stopped her and told her that he would give her a break and only issue one citation. Officer [REDACTED] appeared to be patient with Ms. [REDACTED] as she talked on her cellular telephone throughout the incident. Ms. [REDACTED] related that she was driving someone else's vehicle and that she was not at fault for the vehicle not having valid insurance or a city sticker. Ms. [REDACTED] became sarcastic toward Officer [REDACTED] as he explained to her that the vehicle was required to have a city sticker. At that point, Officer [REDACTED] stated, "Ok, I'm done being nice to you," and returned to his vehicle to write the citation.

Officer [REDACTED] had Ms. [REDACTED] sign the citation, returned her driver's license and told her to have a good day. Upon driving away, Officer [REDACTED] instructed Ms. [REDACTED] to move the vehicle out the crosswalk and to park legitimately. Ms. [REDACTED] asked Officer [REDACTED] for his Star number, to which he responded, "It's on the citation." Moments later, Officer [REDACTED] approached Ms. [REDACTED], who was still parked in the crosswalk. Officer [REDACTED] exited his vehicle and gave Ms. [REDACTED] verbal commands where to park the uninsured vehicle and that if she failed to do so she would be arrested. Ms. [REDACTED] exchanged words with Officer [REDACTED] and did not follow his verbal commands. Ms. [REDACTED] stated she wanted to park elsewhere and drove the vehicle across the intersection and appeared to park in a crosswalk.

Officer [REDACTED] returned to his vehicle and apparently parked on the other side of the intersection. No further interaction between Officer [REDACTED] and Ms. [REDACTED] was captured on BWC.<sup>3</sup>

### c. Documentary Evidence

Officer [REDACTED] issued Ms. [REDACTED] citation [REDACTED] for Failure to Stop at Stop Sign.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Att. 2

<sup>3</sup> Att. 12

<sup>4</sup> Att. 10

VI. ANALYSIS

COPA finds Allegation #1, that Officer [redacted] yelled at Ms. [redacted] UNFOUNDED. COPA viewed the BWC of Officer [redacted] regarding this incident. At no point during his interaction with Ms. [redacted], did Officer [redacted] yell at Ms. [redacted] as she alleged.

COPA finds Allegation #2, that Officer [redacted] refused to provide his Star number to Ms. [redacted] UNFOUNDED. When Ms. [redacted] asked Officer [redacted] for his Star number, Officer [redacted] replied in a non-aggressive tone, "It's on the ticket." Officer [redacted]'s Star number "[redacted]" is legible at the bottom of the ticket/citation issued to Ms. [redacted].

COPA finds Allegation #3, that Officer [redacted] racially profiled Ms. [redacted] UNFOUNDED. There was no racial component to the conversation between Ms. [redacted] and Officer [redacted]. In her statement, Ms. [redacted] confirmed that Officer [redacted] never made any racial remarks or reference. Furthermore, Ms. [redacted] did not dispute that she ran the stop signs when informed by Officer [redacted]. Ms. [redacted] felt she was racially profiled because she did not believe Officer [redacted] would have physically threatened to arrest a white woman. Ms. [redacted]'s belief that she was racially profiled is speculation and not confirmed by any action of Officer [redacted] towards her.

VII. CONCLUSION

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

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Officer [redacted]	1. Yelled at [redacted].	Unfounded.
	2. Refused to provide his Star number.	Unfounded.
	3. Racially profiled [redacted].	Unfounded.

[Redacted signature block]

Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

5-23-19  
Date

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

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<b>Squad#:</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Investigator:</b>	[REDACTED] # [REDACTED]
<b>Supervising Investigator:</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Deputy Chief Administrator:</b>	[REDACTED]

