

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

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	August 1, 2016/ approximately 1:30 pm – 1:55 pm/ vicinity of 1521 South Pulaski Road
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	August 1, 2016/ 4:52 pm
Involved Officer #1:	██████████ # ██████ Employee # ██████ Date of Appointment: ██████ 2013; Police Officer; Unit of Assignment: ██████ DOB ██████ 1986; Asian Male
Involved Officer #2:	██████████ # ██████ Employee # ██████ Date of Appointment: ██████ 1998; Police Officer; Unit of Assignment: ██████ DOB ██████ 1969; Hispanic Female
Involved Individual #1:	██████████ 1976; Male black
Case Type:	Excessive Force

**I. ALLEGATIONS**

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer ██████████	1. While in the vicinity of 1521 S. Pulaski Road, forcefully placed ██████ right arm behind his back without justification, in violation of Rules 2 & 8.	Exonerated
	2. While in the vicinity of 1521 S. Pulaski Road, handcuffed ██████ too tightly, in violation of Rules 2 & 8.	Unfounded
	3. While in the vicinity of 1521 S. Pulaski Road, forcefully pushed ██████ into the rear of the police vehicle without justification, in violation of Rules 2 & 8.	Exonerated

<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.

## II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE<sup>2</sup>

In sum, the complainant, [REDACTED] alleged that on August 1, 2016, Officer [REDACTED] forcefully placed his right arm behind his back, handcuffed him too tightly and forcefully pushed [REDACTED] into rear of the police vehicle.

Department reports indicate that on August 1, 2016, at approximately 1:55 pm Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] responded to a call regarding a person who had been stabbed. Upon arrival Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] observed [REDACTED] holding a large knife in his hand and the [REDACTED] bleeding from his head. Unable to determine the situation on arrival, Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] handcuffed [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. After speaking with witnesses on the scene, [REDACTED] was arrested and transported to Mount Sinai Hospital for medical treatment. [REDACTED] was released and requested medical treatment for pain to his right forearm. It is reported that the involved officers did not observe any injuries to [REDACTED] was transported to Saint Anthony's Hospital.

According to the medical records from Saint Anthony Hospital [REDACTED] was admitted to the emergency room on August 1, 2016, at approximately 3:00 PM and complained of pain to his right wrist, right forearm and the left side of his neck. It is reported that [REDACTED] was involved in an altercation and grabbed by the police. [REDACTED] was diagnosed with forearm contusion and cervical sprain.

COPA reviewed video footage recovered from body worn cameras assigned to Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. However, the video footage does not depict the interaction between [REDACTED] and Officer [REDACTED].<sup>3</sup>

## III. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

**Allegations #1 & 3 against Officer [REDACTED] are Exonerated**  
**Allegation #2 against Officer [REDACTED] is Unfounded**

[REDACTED] alleged that Officer [REDACTED] forcefully placed his right arm behind his back without justification. In his statement to IPRA [REDACTED] admitted that when the police arrived at the scene he was holding the knife that he took from [REDACTED]. According to the Department reports, Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were responding to a call regarding a person stabbed. Upon arrival the officers did not know who the victim was and who was the perpetrator, therefore they placed [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in handcuffs. Based on the information that the officers had at the time of

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<sup>2</sup>COPA conducted a full and complete investigation of this matter, including the interview of all pertinent civilian and officer witnesses, and the collection and review of digital, documentary, and forensic evidence. As part of COPA's ongoing efforts to increase case closure capacity, certain cases opened under IPRA are summarized more succinctly in a Modified Summary Report of Investigation, pursuant to COPA Guideline Modified Summary Report of Investigation Template and Approvals, effective February 13, 2019.

<sup>3</sup> COPA did not interview the involved officers as the available evidence shows that the allegations against Officer [REDACTED] are exonerated and unfounded.

arrival, Officer [REDACTED] actions were reasonable. COPA finds that allegation #1 against Officer [REDACTED] is **Exonerated**.

[REDACTED] alleged that Officer [REDACTED] handcuffed him too tightly. During his statement to IPRA, [REDACTED] stated that he sustained a bruise to his right wrist and a neck injury. COPA obtained medical records from Saint Anthony Hospital which showed [REDACTED] was diagnosed with contusion to right forearm not his wrists. Additionally, the evidence shows that [REDACTED] was in an altercation with [REDACTED] prior to the officer’s arrival. Moreover, by all accounts the handcuffs were only on for a brief period of time while officers sorted out each individual’s culpability. In sum, [REDACTED] injuries are not consistent with handcuffs being too tight. Based on the available evidence, COPA finds that allegation #2 against Officer [REDACTED] is **Unfounded**.

[REDACTED] alleged that Officer [REDACTED] forcefully pushed him into the rear of the police vehicle without justification. In his statement to IPRA, [REDACTED] admitted that he refused to sit in the rear of the police vehicle when asked to do so by Officer [REDACTED]. Upon arrival Officer [REDACTED] could not determine the victim, offender and crime. Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] handcuffed and secured both parties involved. The act of placing an uncooperative individual into a police vehicle for security reasons after a crime has been committed is reasonable. Based on the available evidence, COPA recommends that allegation #3 against Officer [REDACTED] is **Exonerated**.

Approved:

[REDACTED]

June 7, 2019

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Andrea Kersten  
*Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator*

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Date

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

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<b>Squad#:</b>	█
<b>Investigator:</b>	██████████
<b>Supervising Investigator:</b>	████████████████████
<b>Deputy Chief Administrator:</b>	Andrea Kersten