

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Incident:	March 26, 2018
Time of Incident:	4:45pm
Location of Incident:	████████████████████
Date of COPA Notification:	March 26, 2018
Time of COPA Notification:	6:46pm

On the evening of March 26, 2018, Field Training Officer (FTO) ██████████ and his wife, ██████████, engaged in a verbal altercation in front of their children, ██████████ (████ yoa), ██████████ (████ yoa) and ██████████ (████ yoa). During an argument, FTO ██████████ became enraged and flipped a coffee table striking Mrs. ██████████ and causing a cut and swelling to the right side of her face. Mrs. ██████████ feared for her safety and went with her children to the ██████████th District Station where she filed a complaint against FTO ██████████.

II. INVOLVED PARTIES

Involved Officer #1:	██████████, Star # ██████████, Employee ID ██████████, Date of Appointment: ██████████, 2000, FTO, Unit ██████████, DOB: ██████████ 1977, Male/White.
Involved Individual #1:	██████████, DOB: ██████████ 1971, Female/White

III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
FTO ██████████	1. Engaged in verbal altercation with ██████████ ██████████, in violation of Rules 2 & 9.	Sustained / 1 days
	2. Directed profanities at ██████████. in violation of Rules 2 & 9.	Sustained / 1 days
	3. Struck ██████████ with a coffee table in violation of Rules 2 & 9.	Sustained / 5 days

IV. APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

Rules

1. Rule 2: Any action or conduct which impedes the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department.
 2. Rule 9: Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.
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V. INVESTIGATION

a. Interviews

Attempts made by COPA to interview Mrs. ██████ were met with negative results. However, Mrs. ██████ and her children were interviewed by Detectives ██████ and ██████ and the interviews were reported under Case Supplementary Report RD# ██████.¹ An Affidavit Override² was requested and approved and the investigation proceeded.

In an interview with COPA³ FTO ██████ and his wife, ██████, have been married for almost 12 years and have three children, ██████, ██████ and ██████. FTO ██████ said that Mrs. ██████ works as a nurse and is a cancer survivor. Prior to the incident, FTO ██████ said that he and Mrs. ██████ had been arguing on how to best discipline ██████ for swearing while playing video games and about his homework. On the day of the incident, FTO ██████ came home with groceries and no one helped him bring in groceries and had to slam the door shut with his foot. FTO ██████ said that his wife and children were home and he and Mrs. ██████ engaged in an argument. FTO ██████ described the argument as getting out of hand and both were antagonizing each other. FTO ██████ said that arguing escalated when Mrs. ██████ flipped her middle finger at him. At that point, FTO ██████ showed off his aggravation by flipping the coffee table and causing it or item that was on table to strike Mrs. ██████. FTO ██████ did not intend to injure Mrs. ██████, but admitted that his actions did cause an injury to her face. FTO ██████ did not know what struck Mrs. ██████ on her face, but recalled there being everyday items on the table.

After being struck, Mrs. ██████ stood up and screamed at FTO ██████ to leave. FTO ██████ went to his room and packed a bag and then left the house. FTO ██████ felt ashamed and embarrassed for his actions and that his children witnessed the incident. FTO ██████ said that he and Mrs. ██████ have attended family counseling together and continue to work on their relationship. FTO ██████ was later informed by Mrs. ██████ that an item off the table had struck her on the face. At a later date, FTO ██████ said that detectives arrived at his home and individually interviewed him, Mrs.

¹ Attachment #11, Case Supplementary Report RD# ██████.

² Attachment #25, Affidavit Override.

³ Attachment #24, Transcription interview of FTO ██████.

██████, their sons and later their daughter at school. FTO ██████ admitted that he engaged in a verbal altercation and directed profanities at Mrs. ██████. FTO ██████ also admitted that he flipped the coffee table that subsequently caused an item off the table to injure Mrs. ██████'s face.

b. Digital Evidence

Evidence Technician photographs,⁴ taken of Mrs. ██████ depicted a scratch and swelling to the right side of her face.



c. Documentary Evidence

The **Initiation Report,**⁵ authored by Sergeant ██████, detailed the initial investigation into the incident, including a summary of the interview with Mrs. ██████. While at their home, FTO ██████ engaged in verbal altercation with Mrs. ██████ and directed profanities at her while in the presence of their children. FTO ██████ became enraged with Mrs. ██████ and flipped a coffee table, striking Mrs. ██████ and causing a cut and swelling to the right side of her face.

The **Original Case Incident**⁶ and **Case Supplementary Reports for ██████,**⁷ authored by Detectives ██████ and ██████, details the investigation into the incident, including summaries of interviews with FTO ██████, Mrs. ██████ and their children, ██████, ██████ and ██████.

The **detectives interviewed Mrs. ██████** who stated the incident occurred in their residence and in the presences of their children while arguing over child rearing issues and school work. FTO ██████ began to scream profanities and intentionally flipped the living room coffee table and caused it to strike Mrs. ██████ on her face. Mrs. ██████ feared for her safety and went with her children to the ██████th District Station and filed a complaint against FTO ██████. Mrs. ██████ sustained a cut and swelling to her face and photographs of her injuries were taken by an Evidence Technician. Mrs. ██████ did not file an Order of Protection and refused to file criminal charges against FTO ██████ because she feared he would lose his job.

⁴ Attachment #14, Evidence Technician photographs.

⁵ Attachment #4, Initiation Report of Sgt. ██████.

⁶ Attachment #5, Original Case Incident Report

⁷ Attachment #11, Case Supplementary Report.

The **detectives interviewed** [REDACTED] ([REDACTED] yoa) who said that his parents had been arguing for several days about his brother's school work. On the date of the incident, [REDACTED] said that his father began to argue again and flipped a table striking his mother's legs. [REDACTED] said that he was not sure if his father intentionally flipped the table onto his mother. [REDACTED] said that his mother then took him, his brother and sister to the police station.

The **detectives interviewed** [REDACTED] ([REDACTED] yoa) who said that his mother and father were arguing about the punishment for his misbehavior. During the argument, his father flipped the coffee table and caused it to strike his mother about her knees. [REDACTED] believed that his father did not intend to hurt his mother.

The **detectives interviewed** [REDACTED] ([REDACTED] yoa) who said that her parents had been arguing during the previous two nights. On the date of incident, her father began "slamming doors" and was so upset that he flipped the coffee table that landed on top of her mother causing a scratch on her face. [REDACTED] was not sure if her father's intentions were to strike his mother with the table. [REDACTED] said that her mother then took her and her brothers to the police station.

The **detectives interviewed** FTO [REDACTED] who said that he and his wife had been arguing for several days about child rearing issues regarding [REDACTED]. FTO [REDACTED] was still aggravated about previous arguments and when he arrived home there was no one to assist him with groceries. FTO [REDACTED] said that he had to shut the door close with his foot and caused it to slam. FTO [REDACTED] said that an argument ensued between him and Mrs. [REDACTED] who flipped her middle finger at him. FTO [REDACTED] said that he reacted with anger and flipped the coffee table at Mrs. [REDACTED]. FTO [REDACTED] said that he did not intentionally mean to strike Mrs. [REDACTED] with the table and did not see the table strike Mrs. [REDACTED]. At this point, FTO [REDACTED] said that he and Mrs. [REDACTED] left their home separately.

VI. ANALYSIS

FTO [REDACTED] stated that he and Mrs. [REDACTED] have been married for about 12 years and have three children together. FTO [REDACTED] admitted to engaging in a domestic verbal altercation with Mrs. [REDACTED] and therefore, **Allegation #1 against FTO White is Sustained.**

Prior to the incident, FTO [REDACTED] stated that he and Mrs. [REDACTED] had been arguing about discipline and homework regarding their son, [REDACTED]. On the date of incident, FTO [REDACTED] arrived home with groceries and another argument ensued. FTO [REDACTED] stated that the argument escalated and admitted to directing profanities at Mrs. [REDACTED] and therefore, **Allegation #2 against FTO [REDACTED] is Sustained.**

FTO [REDACTED] stated that the argument got of hand and he and Mrs. [REDACTED] were both antagonizing each other. At one point, Mrs. [REDACTED] flipped her middle finger at FTO [REDACTED] who showed off his aggravation by flipping the coffee table. FTO [REDACTED] stated that something off the table struck Mrs. [REDACTED] on the face. FTO [REDACTED] stated that it was not intent to injure Mrs. [REDACTED] but admitted that his action did cause an injury to her face and therefore, **Allegation #3 against FTO [REDACTED] is Sustained.**

VII. RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE FOR SUSTAINED ALLEGATIONS

a. FTO [REDACTED]

i. Complimentary and Disciplinary History

ii. Recommended Penalty, by Allegation

1. **Allegation No. 1**, FTO [REDACTED] admitted in his statement to engaging into a domestic verbal altercation with Mrs. [REDACTED]
2. **Allegation No. 2**, FTO [REDACTED] admitted in his statement to directing profanities at Mrs. [REDACTED].
3. **Allegation No. 3**, FTO [REDACTED] admitted in his statement to flipping over the coffee table at Mrs. [REDACTED] and causing injury to her face.

VIII. CONCLUSION

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

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
FTO [REDACTED]	1. Engaged in a verbal altercation with [REDACTED]. 2. Directed profanities at [REDACTED]. 3. Struck [REDACTED] with a coffee table.	Sustained / 1 days Sustained / 1 days Sustained / 5 days

Approved:

Deputy Chief [REDACTED]

Date

Appendix A
Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad [REDACTED]	
Investigator [REDACTED]	
Supervising Investigator [REDACTED]	
Deputy Chief [REDACTED]	