## BEFORE A MEMBER OF THE POLICE BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

IN THE MATTER OF THE	)	
RECOMMENDATION FOR DISCIPLINE OF	)	
POLICE OFFICER NOBLE WILLIAMS,	)	No. 22 RR 13
TAR No. 7073, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE,	)	
CITY OF CHICAGO.	)	(CR No. 2019-3354)

## **REQUEST FOR REVIEW**

On June 10, 2022, the Executive Director of the Police Board of the City of Chicago received from the Chief Administrator of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability ("COPA") a request for review of the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline of Police Officer Noble Williams, Star No. 7073, arising out of the investigation of Complaint Register No. 2019-3354 ("Request for Review").

The investigation stems from an incident on August 21, 2019, at the home of Officer Williams. Officer Williams, who was off duty at the time, encountered an alleged burglar and attempted to stop him. During a struggle, Officer Williams discharged his firearm two times, striking the man, who fled on foot and escaped before responding officers arrived. Following the conclusion of the investigation, the Chief Administrator issued a recommendation for discipline of Officer Williams. The Superintendent of Police did not agree with the Chief Administrator's recommendation and proposed less discipline for Officer Williams.

The Chief Administrator recommended that the following allegations against Officer Williams be *Sustained*:

On or about August 21, 2019, at approximately 12:32 p.m., at or near 5137 South Ingleside Avenue in Chicago, Officer Williams:

1. Discharged his firearm at or in the direction of an unknown individual in violation of Chicago Police Department General Order 03-02; and

2. Failed to comply with Chicago Police Department Directive U04-02 by failing to fully load his firearm with only one manufacturer and style of prescribed ammunition.

The Chief Administrator recommended that Officer Williams be discharged from the Chicago Police Department.

The Superintendent disagreed with the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline of Officer Williams. The Superintendent did not agree that Allegation No. 1 be *Sustained*, agreed that Allegation No. 2 be *Sustained*, and recommended that Officer Williams be given a Reprimand.

According to the Certificate submitted by the Chief Administrator: (1) the Chief Administrator issued the recommendation for discipline on October 29, 2021; (2) the Chief Administrator received the Superintendent's written response on February 1, 2022; (3) the Chief Administrator's designees met with the Superintendent's designees and concluded their discussion of this matter on June 3, 2022; and (4) the Request for Review was sent via email to the Executive Director of the Police Board on June 10, 2022.

The Executive Director of the Police Board prepared and forwarded the Request for Review file to Mareilé B. Cusack, the member of the Police Board who was selected on a random basis, pursuant to Article VI of the Police Board's Rules of Procedure ("Reviewing Member"). On June 24, 2022, the Reviewing Member reviewed the Request for Review pursuant to Section 2-78-130(a)(iii) of the Municipal Code of Chicago and Article VI of the Police Board's Rules of Procedure.

## **OPINION**

It is my opinion that, based on a thorough review of the Request for Review material, the Superintendent did not meet the burden of overcoming the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline. Based on the facts and circumstances of this matter, an evidentiary hearing before the Police Board is necessary to determine whether Officer Williams violated any of the Chicago Police Department's Rules of Conduct and, if so, the appropriate disciplinary action.

Therefore, pursuant to Section 2-78-130(a)(iii) of the Municipal Code of Chicago, the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline of Police Officer Noble Williams, Star No. 7073, shall be deemed accepted by the Superintendent.

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 05<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2022.

MAREILE B. CUSACK

Member Police Board

Attested by:

MAX A. CAPRONI

**Executive Director** 

Police Board