SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION[1]

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	February 5, 2019/ 10:20 PM/ ██████████
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	September 24, 2019/ 1:41 PM
Involved Officer #1:	███████████ #████ Employee #████; Date of Appointment: ████████, 2015; Police Officer; Unit of Assignment: ██; DOB: █████, 1985; Male, Hispanic
Involved Individual #1:	██████████ DOB: ██████████, 1963; Male, White
Case Type:	Arrested without justification

I.   ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer ██████████	1. It is alleged that on or about February 5, 2019, at approximately 10:20 PM; in the vicinity of ████████████████, Officer ██████████ committed misconduct through the following acts or omissions, by arresting ██████ ██████ without justification.	Exonerated

II.   SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

On September 24, 2019 ██████████ registered a complaint via telephone COPA and related that on February 5, 2019, Officer ████████ pulled him over and arrested him without justification. ██████ related Officer ████████ curbed his vehicle and informed him that his headlight was out. After retrieving ████ information Officer ████████ returned to his assigned vehicle. ██████ stated that Officer ████████ returned to ██████ vehicle and directed ████ to exit his vehicle. ██████ stated that Officer ████████ informed him that ████ had to go into the station for a bond because his temporary plate did not match his vehicle. ██████ stated that he was taken to the police district where the officers later found that the temporary plate was distorted. The number "3" on the temporary plate looked like an "8." ██████ was released without charges.

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[1] 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.

COPA reviewed the OEMC Event Query, arrest report, photograph evidence and the body worn cameras of Officers ▇▇▇▇ and ▇▇▇▇▇▇▇ #▇▇▇. COPA makes the following findings of fact.

Based on a review of the body worn camera footage Officers ▇▇▇▇ and ▇▇▇ conducted a traffic stop involving Mr. ▇▇▇ because one of his headlights were out. During a preliminary investigation, Officer ▇▇▇▇ discovered that the temporary license plates on the vehicle were expired and did not belong to the ▇▇▇ vehicle. Officers ▇▇▇▇ and ▇▇▇ approached ▇▇▇ vehicle and instructed him to exit his vehicle so that they could transport him to the police station for a Traffic Violation Bond (TVB). After conducting a further investigation at the police station, it was discovered that the temporary license plate was distorted and that the "3" was mistaken for an "8." ▇▇▇ was released without charges and given citations for the registration plate (clearly legible) and an inoperable headlight.

III.   ANALYSIS

COPA finds that **Allegation #1** against **Officer ▇▇▇▇** be **Exonerated.** Based on the information that Officer ▇▇▇▇ had at the time of the incident, Officer ▇▇▇▇ actions were justified. ▇▇▇ was unable to produce an insurance card, the headlight of his vehicle was out and the temporary license plate information came back invalid. After additional investigation Officer ▇▇▇▇ discovered that the temporary license plate was distorted. However, Officer ▇▇▇ clearly had probable cause to arrest ▇▇▇ on the basis of the traffic violations, as well as the original information regarding the temporary license plate. Accordingly there is clear and convincing evidence that his conduct was justified.

Approved:

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_____   4/29/20

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Andrea Kersten   Date
Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:	▮
Investigator:	▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
Supervising Investigator:	▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
Deputy Chief Administrator:	Andrea Kersten