

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	September 28, 2018 / 9718 S. Charles
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	November 16, 2019 / 4:49 P.M.
Involved Officer #1:	Officer Jamesa Jackson #5622 / Employee ID # [REDACTED] / DOA: 2 Apr 2017 / Unit: 004 / DOB: [REDACTED] 1976 / Female / Black
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED] / DOB: [REDACTED] 1981 / Male / Black
Case Type:	

I. ALLEGATIONS¹

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer Jamesa Jackson	It is alleged by the above that on or about September 28, 2018, at approximately 11:00 P.M., at or near 9718 S Charles, Chicago, IL 60643, that you, Officer Jamesa Jackson committed misconduct through the following acts or omissions, by:	
	1. Conducted a traffic stop of [REDACTED] without justification.	Not Sustained
	2. Arrested [REDACTED] without justification.	Exonerated
	3. Searched the vehicle [REDACTED] was driving, without justification.	Exonerated
	4. Acting unprofessionally towards [REDACTED]	Not Sustained

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

Mr. [REDACTED] alleges that Officer James Jackson and Officer Karolina Stasinopoulos initiated a traffic stop of the vehicle he was driving. The traffic stop resulted in the arrest of [REDACTED] for driving on a suspended license and the impoundment of the vehicle that he was driving. [REDACTED] accused Officer Jackson of improperly initiating a traffic stop, false arrest, searching the vehicle and acting unprofessionally during their interaction. [REDACTED] claimed that the vehicle he was driving was very recently purchased from a co-worker and that he was unaware his driver’s license was suspended. Because of this encounter with CPD, [REDACTED] claims that his employment was terminated, and various familial logistical issues ensued because the vehicle he was driving was impounded.

¹ Officer Jackson initiated that traffic stop and was the primary officer that communicated with [REDACTED] therefore, formal allegations were only served against Officer Jackson.

Both officers were interviewed regarding their encounter with ██████² Both officer statements are similar to one another in their recollection of the stop and arrest of ██████ Initially, the Officers believed ██████ was lost and admittedly followed ██████ for several minutes. The Officers conducted a traffic stop of ██████ when he improperly changed lanes.³ Further investigation exposed that the information provided to the Officers by ██████ about the vehicle he was driving was inconsistent and aroused suspicion. Officer Jackson admittedly believed that the vehicle ██████ was driving was stolen from Indiana but had yet to be reported. Unable to locate further evidence that supported her suspicion, Officer Jackson determined that ██████ would be arrested for driving on a suspended license and the vehicle would be impounded.⁴ The Officers both deny the allegation that Officer Jackson repeatedly called ██████ a “car thief” and acted unprofessionally at any point during their encounter.

BWC footage was available from the start of the stop of ██████ until their arrival at the 022nd District Lockup. There is no known video footage capturing the interaction between the officers and ██████ while at the 022nd District during ██████ processing. Finally, there was no ICC footage available for review, which may have captured the alleged improper lane change that resulted in ██████ being pulled over and subsequent arrest for driving on a suspended license.

III. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

COPA finds the allegation that Officer Jackson conducted a traffic stop of ██████ without justification, is not sustained. A traffic stop of ██████ was conducted for improper lane change⁵ and given a ticket for the violation.⁶ ICC footage was unavailable to objectively determine if ██████ had committed an improper lane change. No evidence found in this investigation could independently support whether ██████ had in fact committed a traffic violation. Accordingly, COPA finds the allegation that Officer Jackson conducted a traffic stop of ██████ without justification, is **not sustained**.

COPA finds the allegation that Officer Jackson arrested ██████ without justification, is exonerated. A check of ██████ driver’s license in the Secretary of State’s Office database revealed that his license was suspended and therefore subject to arrest under 625 ILCS 5/6-303. ██████ was arrested and released under the conditions of Special Order S04-14-05.⁷ Accordingly, COPA finds the allegation that Officer Jackson arrested ██████ without justification, is **exonerated**.

COPA finds the allegation that Officer Jackson searched the vehicle ██████ was driving, without justification, is exonerated. ██████ was arrested for driving on a suspended license. The vehicle ██████ was driving was subsequently impounded⁸ and searched incident to arrest by Officer Jackson who drove it to the 022nd District. Special Order S04-14-05 allows an arresting officer to impound a vehicle if the driver has a suspended or revoked license if conditions are met by the arrestee under 720 ILCS 5/36-1. Municipal Code of Chicago § 9-80-240 allows for the impoundment of a vehicle operated by a person with a suspended driver’s license.⁹ Accordingly, COPA finds the allegation that Officer Jackson searched the vehicle ██████ was driving, without justification, is **exonerated**.

² Att. 9 and Att. 10

³ Att. 6

⁴ Att. 5

⁵ 625 ILCS 5/11-709-A

⁶ Att. 6

⁷ Special Order S04-14-05: Traffic Violators, Name Checks, and Bonding

⁸ Att. 5

⁹ MCC § 9-80-240: Driving with a suspended or revoked license – Impoundment

Finally, COPA finds the allegation that Officer Jackson acted in an unprofessional manner towards [REDACTED] is not sustained. [REDACTED] specifically accused Officer Jackson of repeatedly calling him a “car thief” and being rude in general. Review of the Officers’ BWC footage of their interaction with [REDACTED] refutes a lack of professionalism by Officer Jackson. BWC records Officer Jackson discussing the possibility and her belief that the vehicle [REDACTED] was driving was stolen but had not been reported. However, at no point in either Officer Jackson’s or Officer Stasinopoulos’s BWCs is there any direct comment towards [REDACTED] that he is a car thief. However, video footage does not capture [REDACTED] interaction with officers during the time they were processing [REDACTED] at the 022nd District. As such, It could not be determined by clear and convincing evidence if any unprofessional behavior or language was used during the time [REDACTED] was being processed. The Officers deny any allegation that Officer Jackson acted in any unprofessional manner towards [REDACTED] while he was in their custody. COPA finds the allegation that Officer Jackson acted in an unprofessional manner towards [REDACTED] is not sustained.

Approved:

[REDACTED]

3/24/2021

Matthew Haynam
Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

Date

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:	2
Investigator:	Anthony Wall
Supervising Investigator:	Bob Coleman
Deputy Chief Administrator:	Matthew Haynam