SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Incident:	April 01, 2018 to May 31, 2018
Time of Incident:	00:00 – 23:59
Location of Incident:	, Chicago, IL 60631
Date of COPA Notification:	September 22, 2018
Time of COPA Notification:	2:08 a.m.
DCFS) responded to her home be there were all three types of about Supervisors, and DCFS was constepfather, "Bob" (now known as feel uncomfortable on multiple of the car alone, and Officer Schaack upset and shook her. Additionally while reaching to open a cabinet. It walking past the refrigerator, and alleged that Officer Shaack shoved a wall. Ms and concurrently involved in a customer.	g the Department of Child and Family Services (herein after cause of allegations of abuse. ase but did not provide details. Ms. notified her tacted. During a Forensic Interview, Officer Robert Schaack, hereafter Officer Schaack), made her casions. One incident occurred when the two of them were in allegedly grabbed backpack and hair when he became, Officer Schaack allegedly made contact with breasts The next incident allegedly occurred when Officer his hand made contact with her mother, (hereafter Ms. against (hereafter Mr. biological parents, were tody battle. Based on the totality of the evidence and a dard, the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) finds
II. INVOLVED PARTIE	
Involved Officer #1:	Robert Schaack, Star #13329, Employee ID#: Date of Appointment: October 25, 1999 Police Officer, Unit of Assignment: 016 DOB: ————————————————————————————————————
Involved Individual #1:	DOB: ———-2005, Female, White
Involved Individual #2:	DOB:1981, Female, White
Involved Individual #3:	DOB: 1977, Male, White

III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Officer Robert Schaack	1. It is alleged by, a minor, that on or about an unknown date and time, during the winter months 2016-2017, at an unknown location while riding in the car on the way to school, the accused grabbed her by her hair and/or book-bag and shook her without justification in violation of Rules 8 & 9.	Not Sustained
	2. It is alleged by, a minor, that on or about April 01, 2018 - May 31, 2018, at or near, Chicago, IL, the accused made contact with her breast without justification in violation of Rules 2 & 8.	Not Sustained
	3. It is alleged by, a minor, that on or about April 01, 2018 - May 31, 2018, at or near, Chicago, IL, the accused made contact with her buttocks without justification in violation of Rules 2 & 8.	Not Sustained
	4. It is alleged by, a minor, that on or about an unknown date and time, at or near, Chicago, IL, the accused pushed against a wall without justification in violation of Rules 2 & 8.	Not Sustained

IV. APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

Rules

- 2. Rule 2: Any action or conduct which impedes the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department.
- 3. Rule 8: Disrespect or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.

4. Rule 9: Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person while on or off duty.

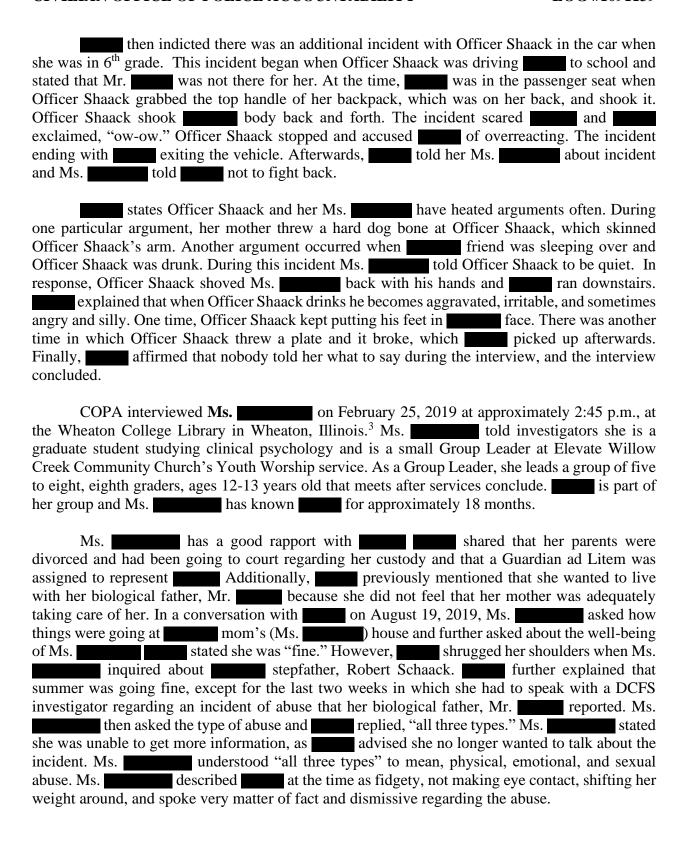
V. INVESTIGATION¹

a. Interviews

COPA Investigators visited the Chicago Children's Advocacy Center (hereafter Chicago CAC) located at 1240 S Damen Ave, Chicago, IL, on January 23, 2019, to observe the Forensic Interview of ² which was conducted on September 21, 2018. states she is 13 years old, and her birthday is August 17th. stated she temporarily lives with her biological father, her stepmom, and two half-sisters. stated her biological mother, Ms. has full custody, but she has been staying with her biological father the past week. demonstrated that she understands the difference between a truth and a lie and promised to tell the truth during the interview. During her interview, explained the instances when Officer Shaack touched her a house. recalled two incidents that occurred during April or May when she was 12 years old. During the first instance, and Officer Shaack were in the kitchen reaching for a cabinet. states that Officer Shaack put his hand up and it lingered over her breast area. was reaching for cereal and Officer Shaack was reaching for crackers. explained that Officer Shaack's hand, "kind of stayed there and it didn't go right down." One of Officer Shaack's hands slowly went across her chest over her clothes and made her feel uncomfortable. She did not recall where his other hand was. She and Officer Shaack did not speak to one another when this happened. then walked away. During the second instance, Officer Shaack touched as she stood by a kitchen cabinet. Officer Shaack walked by and put his hand out and toucher her bottom/butt area. stood at the kitchen counter writing on a calendar and Officer Shaack's hand purposely went touch her bottom. On further explanation, was unsure if Officer Shaack meant to touch her, but she thought he did because his hands were out and not at his side. One of Officer Shaack's fingers touched her thigh, because was wearing shorts. Ms. was not home during this incident. Finally, Officer Shaack did not squeeze any part of her body during either instance. stated Officer Shaack drinks a lot. He has big wine glasses and fills them to the top with wine or beer, and during both instances he was drinking wine. group leader at church, Ms. about the two times Officer Shaack touched her.

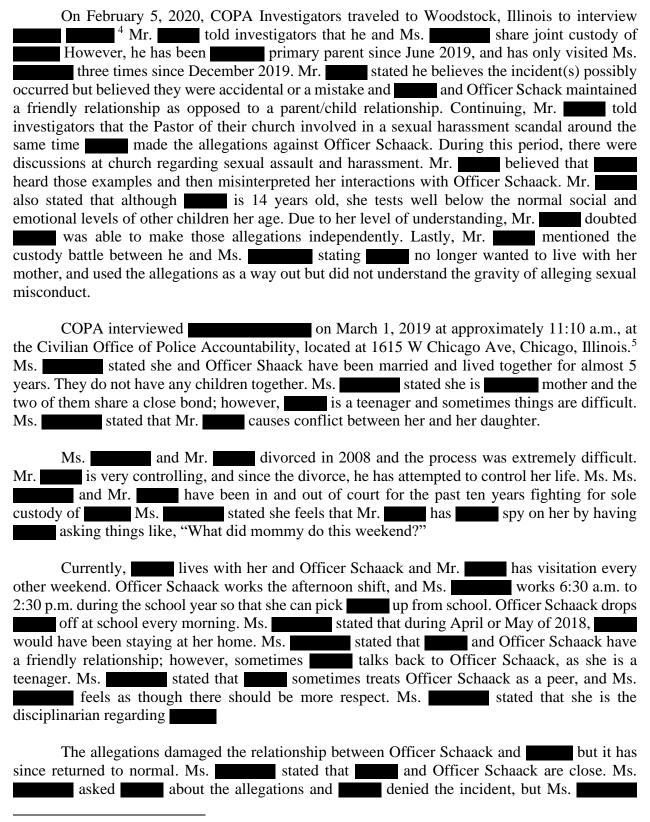
¹ COPA conducted a thorough and complete investigation. The following is a summary of the material evidence gathered and relied upon in our analysis.

² See Attachment #18. Due to Chicago CAC policy, COPA was not able to retrieve a copy of the recorded interview. COPA's observations of the Forensic Interview were documented in the Investigative Report in Att. 18.



³ See Attachment #22

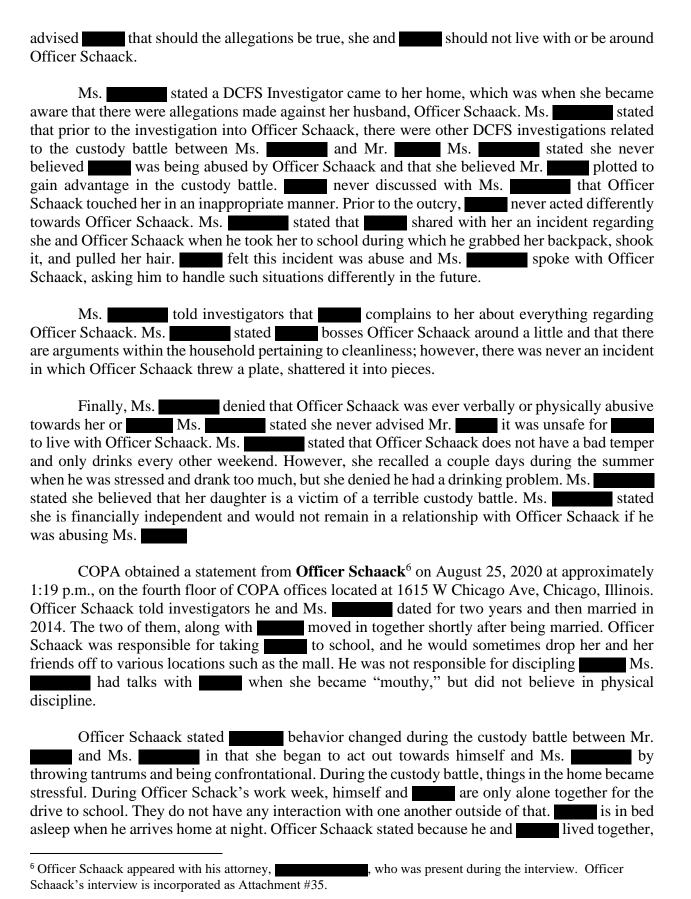
4



⁴ See Attachment #34. Due to his schedule, it was not possible to conduct a recorded interview. Therefore, an Investigatory Report was written to summarize the conversation.

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⁵ See Attachment #28



6

Officer Schaack did not recall any incidents in which he contacted breasts or buttocks. Due to the allegations, Officer Schaack was arrested and taken to the district for questioning. However, he was released without charges and was not required to go to court regarding the incident. Officer Schaack recalled an incident when he drove to school and was waiting in the drop-off lane. Officer Schaack believes that he put the vehicle in park because refused to go to school and refused to get out of the vehicle. He stated, "I took her book-bag to get her out of the car, and I guess I got maybe some of her hair with it." As Officer Schaack attempted to exit the vehicle with the book-bag in hand, simultaneously exited the vehicle. Officer Shaack during the incident. Officer Schaack and Ms. discussed behavior the night of the incident. Ms. then had a separate conversation with Officer Schaack was not present. Officer Schaack believed the abuse allegations were brought up toward the end of the custody battle due to Mr. "losing every day in court." Mr. used DCFS as a tactic Officer Schaack did not have any conversations with to gain sole custody of regarding the allegations. Finally, Officer Schaack stated he and Ms. argued from time to time. However, there were no physical altercations between the two. Alcoholic beverages are kept in the home and they consume beer or wine occasionally with dinner or while watching football games. Typically, try not to argue in presence. However, it may happen from time to time. Officer Schaack stated entire situation was stressful for he and Ms. stressful for the two of them.

the two of them could have been in the kitchen alone together but no single incident stands out.

b. Documentary Evidence

The **Original Case Incident Report**⁹ completed on September 21, 2018 describes that during an interview for a prior DCFS investigation, disclosed that her stepfather, Officer Schaack "'brushed up' against her chest and butt area on 3 occasions" during April and May 2018 and that this was not accidental. Police received the call via a hotline notification which was assigned SCR #1802307C.

The **Arrest Report**¹⁰ completed on October 12, 2018 at approximately 9:30 a.m., summarized the arrest of Officer Robert Schaack who was charged with Felony Aggravated Criminal Sex Abuse with a victim under the age of 13. Felony charges were denied by Cook County State's Attorney's Office (CCSAO), and Officer Schaack was released without charges.

⁷ See Attachment #35, *Id.* at 22:12.

⁸ *Id.* at 32:49

⁹ See Attachment #5

¹⁰ See Attachment #8

COPA requested the Detectives File ¹¹ pertaining to the log. The detective file includes the arrest report, case report, supplemental reports, DCFS report and general progress reports. The file contains a letter from Ms. which explains why she believes Mr. filed the report to full custody of their daughter. According to the supplemental report, Det. Sean McCabe, the assigned detective, also interviewed Mr. Ms. and Mr. who all related essentially the same information as they did to COPA. Det. McCabe also interviewed Officer Shaack, who denied the incident, adding that has never been uncomfortable with him and he walks around on eggshells with her. The criminal investigation was closed after felony charges were denied by CCSAO.
COPA obtained a copy of Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Report SCR#1802307B ¹⁴ which reveals there was an investigation opened on August 15, 2018 after it was reported that was a fraid to go home because Officer Shaack has a temper. alleged Officer Shaack grabbed her by the backpack while she was in the car and slapped her on the arm when she tried to get away. She also alleged that Officer Shaack and Ms. yell and throw things at one another and shove one another. She further alleged that Officer Shaack abuses alcohol.
DCFS interviewed Robert Schaack and he admitted that he grabbed hair by accident in the car and told her he was sorry. DCFS interviewed Ms. and Mr. who related essentially the same information as related to COPA. DCFS ultimately unfounded the allegations.
COPA obtained a copy of DCFS Report SCR#1202307C ¹⁶ which was opened on September 16, 2018, after disclosed that Officer Shaack touched her inappropriately on three occasions since April 2018. Officer Shaack was interviewed by DCFS regarding this incident and denied the allegations. Ms. was also interviewed by DCFS and related she did not believe the allegations, noting that she and Officer Shaack were on vacation in April 2018. Mr. related did not disclose the sexual abuse allegations to him, and he learned of the allegations when contacted by DCFS. DCFS relied on statements during the Forensic Interview for their investigation. Ultimately, the DCFS case was unfounded.
c. Additional Evidence
COPA received a printout of Text Messages ¹⁷ between and and During the conversation, Mr. stated words to the effect of "if you're not gonna be honest, I am going to be very dangerous. Just wait till I have my conversation with Bob." Throughout all the text messages, Mr. tone is aggressive toward both Ms. and in that if the two of them do not comply with his wishes, he will retaliate against them.
¹¹ See Attachment #10 ¹² Id. at 164-165 ¹³ Id. at 165-166

¹⁴ See Attachment #33 ¹⁵ *Id.* at page 7

¹⁷ See Attachment #29, page 11

In the **Case Log** COPA created for the investigation, Investigator Webber logged the following on January 15, 2019: told Inv. Weber and McPhail that he would be surprised if Robert Schaack committed alleged acts.

VI. Applicable Legal Standards

For each Allegation COPA must make one of the following findings:

- 1. <u>Sustained</u> where it is determined the allegation is supported by a preponderance of the evidence;
- 2. <u>Not Sustained</u> where it is determined there is insufficient evidence to prove the allegation by a preponderance of the evidence;
- 3. <u>Unfounded</u> where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that an allegation is false or not factual; or
- 4. <u>Exonerated</u> where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that the conduct described in the allegation occurred, but it is lawful and proper.

A **preponderance of evidence** is evidence indicating that it is **more likely than not** that the conduct occurred and violated Department policy. *See Avery v. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co.*, 216 Ill. 2d 100, 191 (2005), (a proposition is proved by a preponderance of the evidence when it has found to be more probably true than not). If the evidence gathered in an investigation establishes that it is more likely than not that the misconduct occurred, even if by a narrow margin, then the preponderance of the evidence standard is met.

Clear and convincing evidence is a higher standard than a preponderance of the evidence but lower than the "beyond-a-reasonable doubt" standard required to convict a person of a criminal offense. See *e.g.*, *People v. Coan*, 2016 IL App (2d) 151036 (2016). Clear and Convincing is defined as a "degree of proof, which, considering all the evidence in the case, produces the firm and abiding belief that it is highly probable that the proposition . . . is true." *Id.* at \P 28.

VII. ANALYSIS

COPA finds **Allegation** #1 alleged by ______, a minor, that on or about an unknown date and time, during the winter months 2016-2017, at an unknown location while riding in the car on the way to school, the accused grabbed her by her hair and/or book bag and shook her without justification is **Not Sustained**. ______ provided the same account of the incident to both the Forensic Interviewer and her Ms. ______ however, she told DCFS that Officer Shaack also slapped her arm. During his statement to COPA, Officer Schaack recalled the incident, and admitted that he grabbed the book bag. Officer Shaack denied shaking ______ during the incident. At the time of the incident, Officer Schaack stated that ______ hair was approximately shoulder length. Officer Shaack told DCFS that he grabbed her hair by accident. Given the length of her hair and the placement of the book bag, it is likely that ______ hair was pulled when Officer Schaack grabbed the book-bag. However, there is insufficient information to prove that Officer

Shaack shook or intentionally grabbed her hair. For these reasons, COPA finds the allegation is Not Sustained. COPA finds **Allegations #2 and #3** alleged by , a minor, that on or about April 01, 2018 - May 31, 2018, at or near , Chicago, IL, the accused made contact with her breast without justification, made contact with her buttocks without justification, statement to COPA, Ms. "assumed" one of the types of abuse was sexual. "never went into detail with Ms. "regarding any of the allegation." made these specific allegations during a forensic interview. Ms. about the allegations and denied the incidents occurred. Mr. related that he believed Officer Shaack may have only made accidental contact with breasts and buttocks. Mr. may have misinterpreted the contact due to the allegations against their added that church Pastor at the time. According to both Ms. and Mr. behavior was the same both before and after the outcry. Furthermore, the only person shared the incident with was the forensic investigator. None of the other parties interviewed were able to provide an account of the alleged sexual abuse. Officer Schaack was unable to recall any incident in the kitchen between he However, he did state the two of them lived together and it was possible for them to be in the kitchen as the same time as they typically at dinner together, and he was responsible for preparing lunch for school. Therefore, COPA finds the allegations are Not Sustained as there is insufficient evidence to prove the allegations by a preponderance of the evidence. COPA finds Allegations #4 alleged by , a minor, that on or about an unknown date and time, at or near , Chicago, IL, the accused pushed against a wall without justification is **Not Sustained.** During her statement to COPA, denied that Officer Schaack was physically abusive toward her. However, she did admit the two of them argued as the custody battle was a stressor in their marriage. Additionally, admitted several times that she never saw Officer Schaack and her mom engage in physical altercations other than an incident where Officer Shaack shoved Ms. Officer Shaack denied the allegation. No other evidence exists to corroborate this allegation. Therefore, COPA finds the allegation is Not Sustained as there is insufficient evidence to prove the allegations by a preponderance of the evidence.

VIII. CONCLUSION

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

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Officer Robert Schaack	1. It is alleged by a minor, that on or about an unknown date and time, during the winter months 2016-2017, at an unknown location	Not Sustained

while riding in the car on the way to school, the accused grabbed her by her hair and/or book-bag and shook her without justification. 2. It is alleged by, a minor, that on or about April 01, 2018 - May 31, 2018, at or neart, Chicago, IL, the accused made contact with her breast without			
on or about April 01, 2018 - May 31, 2018, at or near t, Chicago, IL, the		accused grabbed her by her hair and/or book-bag	
justification.		on or about April 01, 2018 - May 31, 2018, at or near t, Chicago, IL, the accused made contact with her breast without	Not Sustained
3. It is alleged by a minor, that on or about April 01, 2018 - May 31, 2018, at or near Cused made contact with her buttocks without justification.		on or about April 01, 2018 - May 31, 2018, at or near Chicago, IL, the accused made contact with her buttocks without	Not Sustained
4. It is alleged by, a minor, that on or about an unknown date and time, at or near, Chicago, IL, the accused pushed against a wall without justification.		on or about an unknown date and time, at or near Chicago, IL, the accused pushed against a wall without	Not Sustained
Approved:	Approved:		
approved.	1pp1010d.		

Matthew Haynam Date

Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:	9
Investigator:	Shakira Nubern
Supervising Investigator:	Sharday Jackson
Deputy Chief Administrator:	Matthew Haynam