

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	January 24, 2020/10:43 pm/10000 W O’Hare St
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	January 28, 2020/2:27 pm
Involved Officer #1:	Karl Mattson, Star #3915, Employee ID# [REDACTED], Date of Appointment: December 2, 2002, Police Officer, 16 th District, Date of Birth: [REDACTED], 1965, Male, White
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED], Date of Birth: [REDACTED], 1989, Male, Black
Case Type:	Unlawful Arrest

I. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer Mattson	1. It is alleged that on January 24, 2020, you arrested Mr. [REDACTED] without justification.	Exonerated

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE¹

On January 28, 2020, Mr. [REDACTED] filed a complaint with the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) alleging Chicago Police Officer Mattson falsely arrested him on January 24, 2020.

[REDACTED] stated he was in his vehicle at O’Hare Airport’s Transportation Network Provider (TNP) Lot waiting to switch vehicles with someone who was going to use his vehicle for ridesharing services when Officer Mattson approached him and stated words to the effect of “[REDACTED], didn’t I tell you not to come back.” Mr. [REDACTED] replied to Officer Mattson his name is not [REDACTED] anymore, that he changed his name to [REDACTED].

Officer Mattson arrested Mr. [REDACTED] in the TNP lot in 2018 but said Mr. [REDACTED] stated was never informed he could not come back to the TNP lot. However, TNP stated that Mr. [REDACTED] could not come back on the property in 2018. Officer Mattson was an assisting officer in the 2018 arrest, so he was familiar with Mr. [REDACTED].

III. LEGAL STANDARD

¹COPA conducted a full and complete investigation of this matter, including the interview of all pertinent civilian and officer witnesses, and the collection and review of digital, documentary, and forensic evidence. As part of COPA’s ongoing efforts to increase case closure capacity, certain investigations are summarized more succinctly in a Modified Summary Report of Investigation, pursuant to COPA Guideline Modified Summary Report of Investigation Template and Approvals, effective February 13, 2019.

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

1. Sustained - where it is determined the allegation is supported by a preponderance of the evidence;
2. Not Sustained - where it is determined there is insufficient evidence to prove the allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
3. Unfounded - where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that an allegation is false or not factual; or
4. Exonerated - 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** can be described as 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 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 can be 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 ¶ 28.

IV. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

COPA finds the **Allegation** against Officer Mattson **EXONERATED**. Department records from Mr. [REDACTED]’s January 24, 2020, arrest reveal Officer Mattson recognized him from a previous arrest where he was warned not to come back to O’Hare Airport property. A Chicago Department of Aviation employee also signed complaints to have Mr. [REDACTED] arrested for trespass. There is clear and convincing evidence that indicates Officer Mattson lawfully arrested Mr. [REDACTED]. Therefore, COPA finds the allegations against him exonerated.

Approved:

[REDACTED]

6-23-2020

Angela Hearts-Glass
Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

Date

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:	Six
Investigator:	Orlando Ortiz
Supervising Investigator:	Elaine Tarver
Deputy Chief Administrator:	Angela Hearts-Glass