

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE</b>	)	
<b>RECOMMENDATION FOR DISCIPLINE OF</b>	)	
<b>SERGEANT ONETA SAMPSON,</b>	)	<b>No. 22 RR 06</b>
<b>STAR No. 1496, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE,</b>	)	
<b>CITY OF CHICAGO.</b>	)	<b>(CR No. 2021-4307)</b>

**REQUEST FOR REVIEW**

On May 20, 2022, the Office 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 Sergeant Oneta Sampson, Star No. 1496, arising out of the investigation of Complaint Register No. 2021-4307 (“Request for Review”).

The investigation stems from an incident during the evening of October 30, 2021, in the parking lot of Sam’s Club in Evergreen Park. Sergeant Sampson, who was off duty, and her husband were loading groceries into the back of their car when three juveniles approached them. One of the juveniles entered the driver’s side and stole the car. As the juvenile was driving away, Sergeant Sampson unholstered her weapon and fired one shot toward the rear of the car. The bullet struck the pavement and did not hit any people or vehicles. Following the conclusion of the investigation, the Chief Administrator issued a recommendation for discipline of Sergeant Sampson. The Superintendent of Police did not agree with the Chief Administrator’s recommendation and proposed less discipline for Sergeant Sampson.

The Chief Administrator recommended that the following allegations against Sergeant Sampson be *Sustained*:

On or about October 30, 2021, at approximately 6:45 p.m., at or near 9400 South Western

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Avenue, in Evergreen Park, Illinois, Sergeant Sampson:

1. Discharged her firearm, in violation of General Order G03-02;
2. Failed to timely and/or accurately notify the appropriate agency that she discharged her firearm, in violation of General Order G03-06;
3. Failed to register her firearm (Serial # [REDACTED] with the Chicago Police Department, in violation of Uniform and Property Order U04-02 II.F.; and
4. Failed to qualify with her firearm (Serial # [REDACTED] in violation of Uniform and Property Order U04-02 II.D.

The Chief Administrator recommended that Sergeant Sampson be discharged from the Chicago Police Department.

The Superintendent did not agree with the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline of Sergeant Sampson. The Superintendent recommended that Allegation Nos. 1, 3, and 4 be *Sustained*, that Allegation No. 2 be classified as *Not Sustained*, and that Sergeant Sampson be suspended for a period of one-hundred-eighty (180) days.

According to the Certificate submitted by the Chief Administrator: (1) the Chief Administrator issued the recommendation for discipline on January 18, 2022; (2) the Chief Administrator received the Superintendent's written response on April 19, 2022; (3) the Chief Administrator's designees met with the Superintendent's designees and concluded their discussion of this matter on May 17, 2022; and (4) the Request for Review was sent via email to the Executive Director of the Police Board on May 20, 2022.

The Executive Director of the Police Board prepared and forwarded the Request for Review file to Paula Wolff, 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 May 20, 2022, the Reviewing Member reviewed the Request for Review pursuant to Section

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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 Sergeant Sampson violated any of the 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 Sergeant Oneta Sampson, Star No. 1496, shall be deemed accepted by the Superintendent.

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2022.

/s/ PAULA WOLFF  
Vice President  
Police Board

Attested by:

/s/ MAX A. CAPRONI  
Executive Director  
Police Board