

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	January 25, 2021, 5:00 p.m., ██████████ Chicago, IL
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	January 25, 2021, 10:41 p.m.
Involved Officer #1: (Accused)	Anthony Barsano Sr., Star #5899, Employee ID # ██████████, Date of Appointment: 13-Dec-1993, Rank: Officer, Unit of Assignment: 050, DOB: ██████████-1967, Gender: Male, Race: White Hispanic
Involved Officer #2: (Complainant)	██████████ Star# ██████████, Employee ID# ██████████ Date of Appointment: 27-July-2018, Rank: Officer, Unit of Assignment: 016, DOB: ██████████-1997 Gender: Male, Race: White Hispanic
Involved Officer #3: (Witness)	Gregory Noncz, Star #1566, Employee ID# ██████████ Date of appointment: 27-Feb-1991, Rank: Sergeant, Unit of Assignment: 016, DOB: ██████████1967 Gender: Male, Race: White
Involved Individual:	██████████, DOB: ██████████1967 Gender: Female, Race: White Hispanic
Case type:	Domestic Incident

I. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer Anthony Barsano Sr.	1. It is alleged that on or about January 25, 2021 at approximately 5:00 p.m., at or near the location of ██████████, Chicago, IL, the accused pushed and/or threw ██████████ without justification.	Not Sustained
	2. It is alleged that on or about January 25, 2021 at approximately 5:00 p.m., at or near the location of ██████████ N. ██████████ Ave., Chicago, IL, the accused punched ██████████ without justification.	Not Sustained

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE¹

On January 25, 2021, at approximately 5:15 p.m. while off-duty, Officer Anthony Barsano Sr. called 911² to ██████████ located at ██████████ Chicago, IL, to report that ██████████ Officer ██████████ was intoxicated while off-duty.³ In response, Sgt. Gregory Noncz, Officer LaSteven McKinney, and Officer Michael Sas responded to the scene. According to the **Initiation Report**,⁴ while investigating the allegations for intoxication, ██████████ reported that prior to police arrival to ██████████ Officer Barsano Sr. punched him in the face three times. The incident was documented under **Case Report, RD#JE** ██████████.⁵

Responding officers initially activated their **Body-worn cameras**⁶ (BWC) as they investigated the incident and interviewed the involved parties. The footage shows ██████████ reporting to responding **Officers McKinney**⁷ and **Sas**⁸ that ██████████ battered him by throwing him on the bed and couch.⁹ He relays that although he did not want to press charges, if he had to sign a complaint, he would. Officer Barsano Sr. and ██████████, relay to the officers that they had to hold ██████████ back as he attempted to take his car keys and drive away while intoxicated. No further details regarding the allegations of physical abuse are captured on BWC. ██████████ is transported to the 16th District for further investigation into the allegations of intoxication.

To-From Reports¹⁰ from Officer McKinney and Sas document that ██████████ alleged that Officer Barsano Sr. pushed him onto the bed and couch. No visible injuries to either Officer ██████████ or Barsano Sr. were noted by any officers.¹¹

In a statement to COPA on April 15, 2021, ██████████¹² was unable to provide specific details regarding the incident. He reported that he was too intoxicated to recollect his conversations or interactions with anyone that night. ██████████ reported he drank an unknown amount of an alcoholic beverage called, “Four Loko.”¹³ It is his understanding that police arrived at his residence after receiving a call reporting that he was intoxicated while off-duty. Essentially, the only thing he recalled was that he spoke with police and was escorted to the 016th District where a breathalyzer test was administered on him by a Sergeant with the Bureau of Internal Affairs (BIA). However, he was unable to provide any information regarding the

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.

² Att. 5

³ Both parties are members of Chicago Police Dept and share residency. Allegations regarding ██████████'s off-duty intoxication are being investigated by BIA under Log#2021-0000327. (Please note that the initiation report improperly reports the Log # as 2021-0000377.)

⁴ Att. 1

⁵ Att. 2

⁶ Att. 11-15

⁷ Att. 14

⁸ Att. 15

⁹ Att.15 at 6:23

¹⁰ Att. 18

¹¹ See Att. 1 and 18

¹² Att. 22

¹³ Note: “Four Loko” is an alcoholic beverage packaged in a 23.5 oz. can and contains 14% alcohol.

allegations he made against [REDACTED] Officer Barsano Sr. but reported no injuries. Since then, he has successfully completed an alcohol/behavioral program and is working on remaining sober.

Sergeant Gregory Noncz¹⁴ provided a statement to COPA on March 25, 2021. He related, on the date of incident he responded to a request for supervisor at [REDACTED]. Upon his arrival, neither party reported a physical/domestic altercation to him. After speaking with Officer Barsano Sr. and [REDACTED], Sgt. Noncz left the residence with [REDACTED] and escorted him to the 016th District to conduct a breathalyzer.

While at the station, [REDACTED] alleged that [REDACTED] struck him in his face three times prior to police arrival to the residence. [REDACTED] stated that he was struck after a disagreement about his drinking habits and wanting to [REDACTED]. Subsequently, a log number was initiated against Officer Anthony Barsano Sr.¹⁵ Although Sgt. Noncz did not observe any visible injuries,¹⁶ an Evidence Technician was requested to photograph PO [REDACTED]. However, the technician was unable to obtain photos of [REDACTED] after relocating to a hospital.¹⁷

During a statement with COPA on May 4, 2021, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]¹⁸, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Officer Barsano Sr., relayed that after returning from the gym sometime in the afternoon of January 25, 2021, she observed [REDACTED] sitting and talking in [REDACTED]. At that time, she overheard and observed discussions regarding [REDACTED] drinking habits. Although she did not observe [REDACTED] drinking, she did notice he exhibited signs of intoxication, including slurred speech, agitation and he was confrontational.¹⁹

Subsequently, she joined the conversation [REDACTED] confronting Officer [REDACTED] about his drinking habits. [REDACTED] became angry and headed to his bedroom to retrieve his keys so he could leave the residence. Since he was in no condition to drive, [REDACTED] proceeded [REDACTED] and confiscated his keys. This made him more irate and emotional. Although he was very upset, [REDACTED] never became physically aggressive toward she [REDACTED].²⁰ However, there seemed to be no signs of de-escalating the situation. As such, [REDACTED] asked him multiple times to go to sleep and sober-up, but he declined. In a final warning, she relayed to him that if he did not sleep it off, she would have Officer Barsano Sr. call the police. [REDACTED] responded, "Go ahead and do it." At that time, she directed [REDACTED] to call the police.²¹

[REDACTED] asserted that after arrival to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] were never left alone, and she never observed the two physically aggressive with one another. While waiting for the police, she grabbed [REDACTED] around his waist, pulling him onto the couch. However, [REDACTED]

¹⁴ Att. 20

¹⁵ Att. 20 at 6:00-11:00

¹⁶ Id. at 13:55-14:05

¹⁷ Id. at 15:13-16:44

¹⁸ Att. 24

¹⁹ Id. at 8:22-9:25

²⁰ Att. 24 at 16:12-17:50

²¹ Id. at 4:25-6:35

██████████ began to wiggle his way out of her hold and slid himself onto the floor, landing on his bottom. She explained that ██████████ was uncoordinated and unable to stand alone. Therefore, she asked ██████████ to assist her with lifting him off the floor. She suggests that this was the one and only time Officer Barsano Sr. made physical contact with ██████████²² Shortly thereafter, police arrived.

When asked about discussions surrounding the incident with her ██████████ stated ██████████ relayed he did not recall much about the night of incident or making allegations against ██████████. However, he also relayed that he had no reason to believe he did not make the allegations since it was documented.²³

In a statement to COPA on June 24, 2021, **Officer ██████████ Barsano Sr.**²⁴ essentially reported the same account as ██████████. On January 25, 2021, he called 911 to report that ██████████ was intoxicated.²⁵ Earlier that afternoon, he observed ██████████ exhibiting signs of intoxication, in that he spoke loudly, had slurred speech, and had a loss of balance.²⁶ Officer Barsano Sr. reported that ██████████ started drinking excessively during Summer 2020 due to work-related stress.²⁷ Officer Barsano Sr. stated that he believed reporting ██████████ was his best chance at getting ██████████ assistance/services for his alcohol abuse.²⁸

After observing ██████████'s behavior, he decided to confront him about his excessive drinking. This made ██████████ angry, and he became angrier when ██████████ arrived home and joined the conversation. At some point during the conversation, ██████████ threatened to leave ██████████. However, he was in no condition to drive or walk.²⁹ As Officer ██████████ headed to ██████████ also proceeded ██████████ and successfully retrieved his keys and wallet before he made it to them.³⁰ ██████████ became more upset while still attempting to exit the house. Meanwhile, Officer Barsano Sr. walked back and forth to both exits positioning himself in front of both doors, while holding both hands up to block ██████████ from exiting. Officer Barsano Sr. adamantly asserted that there was no physical altercation between the two³¹ and that ██████████ never became physically aggressive with him ██████████.³²

During the commotion Officer Barsano Sr. called 911 for assistance. While waiting, ██████████ tried to calm ██████████ by hugging him around the waist, but somehow, they both fell to the floor. As such, Officer Barsano Sr. went over to assist them both up,³³ insisting that the incident never became domestic in nature.³⁴ After a while, ██████████ calmed down

²² Id. at 6:25-7:22, 18:10-20:50, and 25:25-26:25, 34:20-36:30

²³ Id. at 27:30-28:15

²⁴ Att. 28

²⁵ Id. at 6:13

²⁶ Id. at 10:30-10:50

²⁷ Id. at 7:19-7:45

²⁸ Id. at 25:24-28:50

²⁹ Att. 28 at 8:00-9:55

³⁰ Id. at 12:55-13:30

³¹ Id. at 18:25-20:15

³² Id. at 17:44-18:08 and 32:13-33:46

³³ Id. at 14:55-16:09

³⁴ Id. at 29:50-30:10

and awaited the police. Shortly thereafter, Sgt. Noncz arrived and spoke with him [REDACTED]. At that time, [REDACTED] was ordered to go into the station to take a breathalyzer. There was no further incident. At the time of this statement, [REDACTED] still receives alcohol related services.³⁵ In conclusion, Officer Barsano Sr. denied the allegations.

III. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

COPA finds **Allegations #1 and 2** that Officer Anthony Barsano Sr. pushed and/or threw [REDACTED] and punched him without justification are **Not Sustained**. The evidence available does not support the allegations by a preponderance of evidence. [REDACTED]'s accounts of the events were inconsistent. As depicted on BWC, [REDACTED] relayed to responding Officers McKinney and Sas that his dad threw him onto a bed/couch but not that he was punched in the face. However, he reported to Sgt. Noncz that he was punched in the face. [REDACTED] reported to COPA that due to his intoxicated state, he was unable to recall the events of that evening.

Officer Barsano Sr. and [REDACTED] essentially reported the same account, denying the allegations made against Officer Barsano Sr. As stated by both, [REDACTED] was made physical contact with [REDACTED] to prevent him from driving, resulting with them falling to the floor. Additionally, both asserted there was no physical altercation. Officer Barsano Sr. denied the allegations as alleged. Lastly, no injuries were observed on [REDACTED]. For the [REDACTED] stated above, there is insufficient evidence to support the allegations, and these allegations are Not Sustained.

Approved:

[REDACTED]

7/27/2021

Matthew Haynam
Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

Date

³⁵ Id. at 37:35-39:20

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:	9
Investigator:	Chantelle Hill
Supervising Investigator:	Sharday Jackson
Deputy Chief Administrator:	Matthew Haynam