

**SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION**

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	May 11, 2021 / 01:00AM / ██████████, Chicago, IL 60605.
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	May 17, 2021 / 4:35PM
Involved Officer #1:	Freeman, Alec; Star #3945, Employee ID # ██████████, Date of Appointment: 18/11/2019, Rank: PO, Unit of Assignment: 001, DOB: ██████████, 1998, Male, White.
Involved Individual #1:	██████████ DOB: ██████████, 1976, Male, Black.
Involved Individual #1: Case Type:	Civil Rights Violation Improper Stop/Seizure

**I. ALLEGATIONS**

Officer	Allegation	Finding/ Recommendation
Freeman, Alec	It is alleged that on May 17, 2021, at approximately 4:35PM, at or around ██████████ Chicago IL 60605, Officer Alec Freeman:	
	1. Arrested ██████████ without justification.	Unfounded
	2. Detained ██████████ for an unreasonable amount of time.	Exonerated
	3. Placed handcuffs tightly on ██████████ causing bruises to his wrist.	Unfounded

**II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE<sup>1</sup>**

The complainant ██████████ stated he was at the location of incident where he works from time to time, and he knows the owner of the building and people who are redeveloping the property. ██████████ was notified by tenants in the building that the SWAT team and additional officers were inside of the building. ██████████ walked out of the building per the instructions of the

<sup>1</sup> COPA 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.

officers and was detained. ██████ gave Officer Freeman his identification and Officer Freeman placed ██████ in handcuffs and leg restraints. ██████ stated he complained about the handcuffs and an officer told him that the handcuffs were not too tight because he could fit his fingers in the handcuffs. ██████ questioned the officers about what was happening, and Officer Freeman told ██████ he was not being detained or arrested.

Officer Freeman placed ██████ inside of a transport wagon and left him inside of the transport wagon for hours. ██████ was eventually transported to the 1<sup>st</sup> District Station to be processed. At the district, ██████ was released without charges. ██████ stated that he sustained bruises to his ankles from the leg restraints and his fingernails were blue from the handcuffs being on too tightly. ██████ stated he did not receive medical treatment.<sup>2</sup> ██████ stated after the incident he learned that there was a hostage situation at the building but stated he had nothing to do with the incident.

An Arrest Report for ██████ and Original Case Incident Report documented the incident that occurred at the location of incident. The Original Case Incident Report noted that officers responded to a call of a person with a gun. Upon arrival, witnesses stated that a gathering was occurring and that they observed multiple males with rifles and handguns while attempting to commit a robbery/hostage situation. The SWAT team and multiple officers arrived on the scene and secured the building without further incident. A walkthrough of the building revealed it to be an illegal gambling lounge with an alcoholic bar. The remainder of the property was described to be in disarray with broken walls, ceilings, and floor and several droplets of blood was located in the hallway near the entrance to the gambling lounge. While evacuating the building, officers observed a surveillance video which showed the listed suspects<sup>3</sup> participated in the robbery/hostage incident. The victims, ██████ and ██████ and witnesses of the incident refused to cooperate with detectives and all of the suspects were released. The Arrest Report listed Officer Nova, #4926, and Officer Diliberto, #10150, as the arresting officers. The Arrest Report also documented that ██████ was charged with Unlawful Restraint but was released without charging.

Body Worn Camera (BWC) footage from officers on the scene depicts SWAT and several officers on the scene. ██████ is detained, handcuffed, and placed in a CPD<sup>4</sup> wagon. ██████ is belligerent and starts kicking inside the CPD wagon. A sergeant requests that leg restraints be placed on ██████ and Officer Navarro places leg restraints on him. ██████ is eventually transported to the 1<sup>st</sup> District Station. At the station, ██████ complains about his handcuffs and instructs officers to loosen his handcuffs. Officer Freeman checks ██████ handcuffs and places his fingers inside the handcuffs. Officer Freeman informs ██████ he could fit three of his fingers inside the handcuffs so he could not loosen the handcuffs any further. In the holding area, ██████ yells profanities and refuses to sit down. ██████ states words to the effect of, "I was at my friend's house, fuck you! You think you wouldn't be mad if you got arrested like me at your mother fucking friend's house? Your family's house? ██████ house?" An officer asks ██████ who was

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<sup>2</sup> ██████ had not received medical attention at the time of his interview dated May 18, 2021.

<sup>3</sup> ██████ was listed as Suspect #4.

<sup>4</sup> Chicago Police Department

he talking about and ██████ does not reply. ██████ states that his outrage was due to him being detained and being late for work. Officer Freeman tells ██████ that he just transported him, and detectives are going to talk to him.

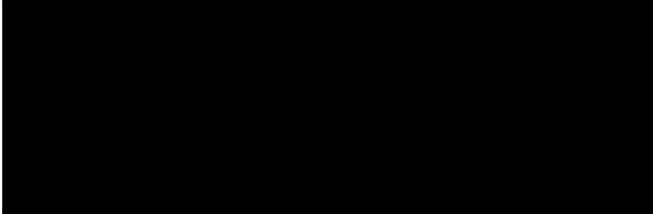
### III. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

COPA finds that Allegation #1 against Officer Freeman, in that he arrested ██████ without justification, be classified as **Unfounded**. Officers responded to the location of incident due to a call of a person with a gun. ██████ was detained for investigation after officers learned that there was a robbery/hostage situation. Officer Freeman was an assisting officer who transported ██████ to the district station, not the arresting officer. Officers Nova and Diliberto were listed as the arresting officers on ██████ Arrest report. Due to the circumstances surrounding the nature of the incident, officers were justified in detaining and arresting ██████ was later released without charges after the victims and witnesses refused to cooperate.

COPA finds that Allegation #2 against Officer Freeman, in that he detained ██████ for an unreasonable amount of time, be classified as **Exonerated**. Officers may detain a suspect only for the length of time necessary to confirm or dispel the suspicion of criminal activity. According to department reports, officers viewed surveillance cameras and observed ██████ participated in the robbery/hostage incident giving officers probable cause to detain him. ██████ was transported to the district station so detectives could question him but was later released after the victims and witnesses refused to cooperate. Due to the circumstances surrounding the nature of the incident, ██████ was not held for an unreasonable amount of time.

COPA finds that Allegation #3 against Officer Freeman, in that he placed handcuffs tightly on ██████ causing bruises to his wrist, be classified as **Unfounded**. ██████ stated that Officer Freeman was the person who handcuffed him, but BWC depicted that ██████ was already in handcuffs prior to encountering Officer Freeman. ██████ complained about his handcuffs and asked Officer Freeman to loosen them. BWC depicted Officer Freeman checking ██████ handcuffs and informing ██████ that he could fit three fingers inside the handcuffs indicating that the handcuffs were not on too tightly. Officer Freeman ensured that ██████ was not in any discomfort while being in handcuffs. Additionally, there is no evidence to document that ██████ sustained any injuries, and he did not receive any medical treatment.

Approved:



1-31-2022

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Angela Hearts-Glass  
*Deputy Chief Investigator*

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Date