



Eddie T. Johnson
Superintendent
Chicago Police Department
3510 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

December 20, 2017

**Re: Log #1086839
Officer Christopher Hackett #7447
Disciplinary Recommendations**

Dear Superintendent Johnson:

This outlines disciplinary recommendations arising from the above-captioned investigation:

I. BACKGROUND

On December 15, 2012 at approximately 11:18 AM, a Trailblazer SUV occupied by four black males was involved in a pursuit with a Chicago Police Department (CPD) vehicle driven by Officer Christopher Hackett and occupied by Officer Ruth Castelli. The pursuit ended at a gas station located at 55th and Ashland after the Trailblazer crashed. After the crash, the suspect men fled the vehicle. The fourth man exiting, [REDACTED] was hit by the CPD vehicle while trying to flee. After the two officers exited their vehicles, [REDACTED] was involved in a struggle with Officer Hackett. [REDACTED] again tried to flee, and was shot twice by Officer Castelli. [REDACTED] died shortly after. After [REDACTED] shooting, a crowd of civilians formed and numerous CPD officers came to the scene. One of the officers, identified as Officer Terrence Norris, was seen on video pushing a civilian named [REDACTED]

II. INVESTIGATIVE ALLEGATIONS AND FINDINGS

Accused: Officer Christopher Hackett, Star #7447

After careful examination of the evidence and thorough analysis of the applicable law, COPA recommends the following findings:

ALLEGATION #1: On December 15, 2012, Officer Hackett engaged in an out of policy vehicle pursuit, in violation of Rule 6 in relation to CPD General Order G03-03-01 is **SUSTAINED**.

III. DISCIPLINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

Pursuant to the Complaint Register Matrix, the starting point for the disciplinary recommendations is to first characterize the misconduct to thereby identify the applicable penalty ranges and then to determine whether any mitigating or aggravating factors are present.

Allegation number one is represented by Category Code 10W, Traffic Pursuit. The Presumptive Range for this Code is 6-10 days suspension. The Aggravated Range for this Code is 11 days suspension to separation.

COPA finds that Officer Hackett's actions on December 15, 2015, were unreasonable under the circumstances.

In sum, Officer Hackett engaged in a high speed pursuit, through multiple traffic control devices, on a major thoroughfare, in the rain that ended in both the subject vehicle crashing into a crowded gas station and Officer Hackett running over [REDACTED]. Other involved officers correctly decided to end their pursuit given the conditions. However, while the decision to pursue was not reasonable, there is no evidence to support discipline beyond the presumptive range. Officer Hackett does not have a history of discipline and was forthright in his answers to COPA. COPA believes his pursuit contributed to the officer involved shooting death of [REDACTED] however with respect to Officer Hackett culpability punishment should be limited in this case to his decision to pursue the subject vehicle.

Based on the totality of the circumstances, the recommended discipline for these violations is **6 days**.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]
Andrea Kersten
Deputy Chief Administrator