

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	December 26, 2018; Approximately 7:10 p.m.; Jesse Owens Park, 8800 S. Clyde
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	December 27, 2018, at 7:41 a.m.
Involved Officer #1:	Marvin Christmon; Star #18636; Employee # [REDACTED]; DOA: December 5, 1994; Officer; 006; DOB: [REDACTED], 1969; Male; Black.
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED] [REDACTED], 1980; Female; Black.
Case Type:	Domestic Violence

I. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Officer Marvin Christmon	1. It is alleged that on December 26, 2018, at approximately 7:10 p.m., at or near Jesse Owens Park, located at 8800 S. Clyde, the accused struck [REDACTED] [REDACTED] on the face multiple times.	Not Sustained
	2. It is alleged that on December 26, 2018, at approximately 7:10 p.m., at or near Jesse Owen Park, located at 8800 S. Clyde, the accused punched [REDACTED] with a closed fist on the face.	Not Sustained
	3. It is alleged that on December 26, 2018, at approximately 7:10 p.m., at or near Jesse Owens Park, located at 8800 S. Clyde, the accused threw [REDACTED] [REDACTED] inside a vehicle.	Not Sustained
	4. It is alleged that on December 26, 2019, at approximately 7:10 p.m., at or near Jesse Owens Park, located at 8800 S. Clyde, the accused pinned [REDACTED] [REDACTED] down using his body weight.	Not Sustained

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE¹

In an interview with COPA on December 28, 2018, ██████████ ██████████ stated that she was ██████████ ██████████ to Officer Marvin Christmon, but they had mostly lived separately since 2017 due to his infidelity. She stayed at their property that housed her daycare business, while he lived at a nearby property that they owned. Her adult ██████████ from a previous relationship, resided with Officer Christmon, as did her ██████████ ██████████. Ms. ██████████ has no children with Officer Christmon. The ██████████ had discussed ██████████ in November 2018 and were dating other people but reconciled the week prior to Christmas 2018.

On December 26, 2018, Ms. ██████████ found out that Officer Christmon had contacted a woman he previously dated. Ms. ██████████ called Officer Christmon and told him that she was coming to Jesse Owens Park, where her worked as a part-time security guard, so they could talk. Officer Christmon entered Ms. ██████████ Dodge Durango, sitting in the front passenger seat. They argued about a tracker she suspected he put on her vehicle, which he denied.³ They argued about his contact with the woman, which he also denied. They argued about an upcoming Las Vegas trip and about her previous relationship with his friend, ██████████. Ms. ██████████ took off her ██████████ rings to give to Officer Christmon and he pushed her arm with the rings away. Ms. ██████████ pushed him back.

Officer Christmon “smacked” her on the face, and she hit him back with her fist closed around the rings she was giving back. She broke his chain with his police star emblem.⁴ Officer Christmon then punched her on the face with a closed fist on the left side of her face, possibly leaving a mark under her left nostril. Officer Christmon exited the vehicle, leaving the passenger door open. Ms. ██████████ exited the vehicle and approached Officer Christmon, striking him on the right side of his face. He struck her back. She struck him again and he struck her back. Officer Christmon then threw her inside of the Durango, pinning her down with his body weight. Ms. ██████████ told him he was hurting her, and spit on his face. Officer Christmon got off her and out of the vehicle. She then got her phone and called 911 but hung up when she saw that he was on his phone.

Police arrived, and Sergeant Coleman, spoke with Ms. ██████████. She stated that she told him that she did not need medical treatment, did not want Christmon stripped, and did not want a report. She left the scene and decided to go to the hospital in case Officer Christmon put a report on her and had her arrested. She also called a friend (who she declined to identify to COPA) that advised her to make a report and get documentation to protect herself. She signed complaints against Officer Christmon while at Little Company of Mary Hospital. Ms. ██████████ also stated that the video recording from Jesse Owens Park would show her hitting Officer Christmon first but that he had been the aggressor inside vehicle.⁵

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 Atts. 4, 55

³ ██████████ presented COPA with a receipt from MSI Detective Services for a sweep of her vehicle. No tracker was found. Therefore, COPA did not give this allegation. See Attachment #11

⁴ Att. 55, Pg. 24, Ln. 8.

⁵ ██████████ made additional allegations that were forwarded to BIA for Confidential investigation.

In the **Initiation Report**, Sergeant Oscar Lopez, #1251, documented that he responded to the Little Company of Mary Hospital Emergency Room where he interviewed battery victim [REDACTED] Ms. [REDACTED] related that she confronted her [REDACTED] Officer Marvin Christmon, at Jesse Owens Park over his infidelity and possibly placing a tracker on her car. Officer Christmon punched her on the right side of her face and struck her numerous times. Ms. [REDACTED] sustained swelling to the right side of her face and a swollen lip.⁶

The **Case Report** for Domestic Battery Simple, RD #JB568397, documented that Ms. [REDACTED] said that she sat in the driver seat of her vehicle while Officer Christmon sat in the passenger while they discussed [REDACTED] issues. A verbal altercation ensued. Officer Christmon struck Ms. [REDACTED] on the face with his right hand, and she struck him back. They continued to argue verbally. Officer Christmon struck Ms. [REDACTED] on the face a second time and exited the vehicle. Ms. [REDACTED] exited the vehicle and approached Officer Christmon, who then punched her several times about the face and body with closed fists. Ms. [REDACTED] fought back until Officer Christmon pushed her inside the passenger side of the vehicle and pressed his weight on her upper body.

Ms. [REDACTED] stated that they then separated, and she called 911. They both waited for the police to arrive. Ms. [REDACTED] spoke with a supervisor on the scene, and it was agreed that they would both go their separate ways. No report was generated. Ms. [REDACTED] became “distracted” as she drove home and went to the hospital for treatment. It was documented that Ms. [REDACTED] thought her [REDACTED] was depressed and may be taking antidepressants.⁷

The **Supplemental Case Report** was classified as “cleared Closed --- Arrest and Prosecution” and documented that Ms. [REDACTED] was concerned for her [REDACTED] mental health because they had marital issues and he had threatened suicide when she suggested a divorce. It was also noted that Ms. [REDACTED] had been on the phone with her [REDACTED] on December 26, 2018, when she decided to continue the conversation in person and drove to his part-time job at Jesse Owens Park. Officer [REDACTED] struck her on the face with an open hand. She hit him back and they engaged in a physical altercation. Ms. [REDACTED] called 911 but hung up. Officer Christmon called 911 and reported that he was being attacked by his [REDACTED]

Ms. [REDACTED] stated that she and Officer Christmon went their separate ways after police responded and she went to the emergency room after feeling pain in her lip face. Ms. [REDACTED] signed complaints against Officer Christmon as a means for him to seek help for his issues. Officer Christmon turned himself in and was arrested for Domestic Battery on December 27, 2018. He was taken to court and released on bond. The case was Nolle Prosequi on January 10, 2019.⁸

Ms. [REDACTED] obtained **Order of Protection #18OP8** [REDACTED] against Officer Christmon on December 28, 2018. It was documented in the **Petition for Order of Protection** that Officer Christmon struck Ms. [REDACTED] on the face and shoved her inside the vehicle, pinning her down with his body weight. This Order of Protection was vacated on January 10, 2019.⁹

⁶ At, 3,

⁷ Att. 15.

⁸ Atts. 16, 17, 32 – 35, 78.

⁹ Atts. 9. 10.40, 41.

The **Office of Emergency and Communications (OEMC)** documented that Ms. ██████ called 911 at 6:40:17 p.m. and requested that the police come to Jesse Owens Park. Ms. ██████ terminated the call before the call taker obtained more information. Officer Christmon called 911 at 6:40:40 p.m. and requested that the police come to Jesse Owens Park because his ██████ was “hitting on [him].” He also requested a sergeant. At 6:40:47 p.m., OEMC called Ms. ██████ back, and she stated that she was in an “altercation.” She yelled, “You lying motherfucker. You lying on me,” to Officer Christmon.¹⁰ She then stated that Officer Christmon hit her in the face, threw her in the car, choked her, and they fought. She declined an ambulance. She is heard stating to Officer Christmon, “They can’t see what happened in the car.”¹¹ OEMC instructed Ms. ██████ to talk to the police on the scene.¹²

The **Medical Records** from Little Company of Mary Hospital documented that Ms. ██████ sought treatment in the Emergency Room on December 26, 2018 and was diagnosed with a facial contusion.¹³

The **Evidence Technician photographs** of Ms. ██████ taken on December 27, 2018, depict an area of redness inside her upper left lip and what appeared to be either two vertical scratches or abrasions the right side of her face. An abrasion was also documented on the upper left side of her chest. The **photographs** of Ms. ██████ taken at COPA on December 28, 2022, depicted the same.¹⁴

The **Video Surveillance Recording** from Jesse Owens Park on December 26, 2018, begins at 6:26:51 p.m. and has a running time of 33:27 minutes. Ms. ██████ drove into the parking lot and parked. Officer Christmon approached the vehicle and opened the passenger door. Officer Christmon closed the passenger. Officer Christmon opened the passenger door at 5:58 minutes but did not exit. Ms. ██████ opened the driver’s side door at 5:50 minutes and exited while appearing to talk into the vehicle. Ms. ██████ entered the driver’s side and appeared to lean in as if reaching or sliding over. At 6:05 minutes, Ms. ██████ threw something out of the vehicle. The passenger door then swung open, and Officer Christmon exited. Officer Christmon speaks through the open passenger door.

At 11:26 minutes, Ms. ██████ exited the vehicle and walked around the vehicle to Officer Christmon. She is seen extending her hand and striking Officer Christmon, who raises his hand but does not strike back. Ms. ██████ continues to hit Officer Christmon, who takes a defensive, covered position while Ms. ██████ continues to advance and strike him. At 11:45 minutes, Officer Christmon grabbed Ms. ██████ by the arm as she struck at him again and pushed her into the open passenger door, entering immediately after her. Officer Christmon exited the vehicle at 13:16 minutes.¹⁵

¹⁰ Att. 63, 01:26 minutes.

¹¹ Att. 63, 02:25 minutes.

¹² Atts. 62—65.

¹³ Att. 8.

¹⁴ Atts. 13, 56.

¹⁵ Att. 80, File 6.

The **Body Worn Camera Recording (BWC)**¹⁶ from Officer Marciano, #12409, documented Ms. ██████ on the phone with OEMC and yelling at Officer Christmon. Ms. ██████ stated they had an altercation inside the car, and he hit her. She hit him back. They got out of the car. He pushed her in the car and “choked” her with his hand around her neck and then called the police when he let her go.¹⁷

The **BWC Recording** from Sergeant Coleman documented Officer Christmon stating the sergeant should look at his face because he was injured. Officer Christmon stated that his ██████ came up to his job and started “talking crazy.”¹⁸ They were inside the car when she punched him, and he exited the car, but she came after him and punched him two to three times with her off rings removed from her fingers. Sergeant Coleman asked if he hit his ██████ and he denied it. Sergeant Coleman spoke separately with Ms. ██████ who stated that her ██████ hit her inside the car, and she hit him back. They exited the car and “got to fighting again.”¹⁹ Ms. ██████ said she had no injuries, but then Sergeant Coleman saw a mark on her face.²⁰

In a statement with COPA on September 20, 2019, **Officer Marvin Christmon**²¹ stated that he and Ms. ██████ were living together and getting along in December 2018 despite Ms. ██████ extramarital relationship. On December 28, 2018, Ms. ██████ called him and told him that she was coming to his job at Jesse Owens Park. Officer Christmon went outside to the parking lot and sat in the passenger seat of her vehicle, a Dodge Durango. There was a large console between the driver and passenger seat. Ms. ██████ accused him of having an extramarital relationship, which he denied. Ms. ██████ referenced conversations that he had on his phone in his vehicle, and he realized that she had put a recording device and/or tracker in his vehicle.²² Officer Christmon denied the accusations. After two to three minutes of conversation, Ms. ██████ punched him. Officer Christmon exited the car to get away from Ms. ██████ who followed him out of the vehicle.

Ms. ██████ then came over to Officer Christmon and punched him twice on the face. Officer Christmon grabbed her and attempted to block her strikes. Officer Christmon said that they fell into the open car door, where his ██████ spat on him as he told her to stop. Officer Christmon stated that he laid on top of her to restrain her, tire her out and keep her from hitting him. He also dodged her phlegm as she spit on him. He exited the vehicle, followed by Ms. ██████ after she “got tired” and stopped punching at and spitting on him. Ms. ██████ also ripped his chain off his neck while he was on top of her. Officer Christmon then called the police. Ms. ██████ also called the police. Because the call came from the park, which is located in both the 044th District and the 006th District, ten to twelve officer and two sergeants responded.

Officer Christmon spoke with Sergeant Coleman and showed him the mark on his face, under his eye, that he sustained from being punched. Ms. ██████ spoke with Sergeant Coleman.

¹⁶ Att. 80 File 4.

¹⁷ Att.80, File 4, 3:38 minutes

¹⁸ Att. 80, File 5, 1:05 minutes.

¹⁹ Att. 80, File54, 2:27 minutes.

²⁰ Att. 80, File 5.

²¹ Atts. 73, 81.

²² Officer Coleman stated he located a tracker in his vehicle after this incident.

Officer Christmon stated that he did not want a report and did not want his [REDACTED] arrested; however, he did want a record that he had been battered by her. Ms. [REDACTED] did not want a report and he did not either. Officer Christmon and Ms. [REDACTED] were told to go their separate ways. Officer Christmon went to his job at the Chicago Housing Authority after finishing at Jesse Owens Park and stayed at [REDACTED] residence on Jackson because it was closer to that job. Officer Christmon had no contact with his [REDACTED] during this time. Officer Christmon was there when he was called by a superior to turn himself in at the 006th District.

Officer Christmon denied striking Ms. [REDACTED] on the face, stating that he grabbed her to stop her from hitting him and they fell into the car, where his body weight was on top of her and he restrained her from further punching and spitting on him, until she tried out. When shown photographs of Ms. [REDACTED] Officer Christmon stated that the scratch on her face could have been caused by him but most likely was caused by her own rings or Pandora charm bracelets that have dozens of charms on them.

Officer Christmon stated that he posted bond and was told to have no contact with his [REDACTED] so he stayed in hotels until the January 10, 2019, court hearing when Ms. [REDACTED] did not proceed, and the case was: Nolle Prosequi.” Officer Christmon continued to have no contact with his [REDACTED] until she called him and told him to stay in one of his houses and stop staying in hotels. By April 2019, they travelled together to Miami even though the [REDACTED] had each separately filed for divorce. The [REDACTED] have since reconciled and reside together again.

III. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

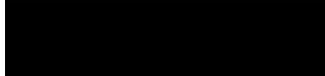
COPA finds that **Allegations 1 – 4** against Officer Marvin Christmon, that on December 28, 2018, at approximately 19:10 p.m., at or near Jesse Owens Park, located at 8800 S. Clyde, he struck [REDACTED] on the face multiple times, punched her on the face with a closed fist, threw her inside a vehicle, and pinned her down using her body weight, are **Not Sustained**. Ms. [REDACTED] stated to COPA that she was the aggressor toward Officer Christmon outside of the vehicle. The video recording documented her punching Officer Christmon, who grabbed her arms to stop her from continuing to hit him. He admitted grabbing her and falling into the vehicle’s open door. He also admitted using his body weight to restrain her from continuing to hit and spit on him. Ms. [REDACTED] also admitted that she continued to hit and spit on Officer Christmon inside the car and that she ripped his chain off his neck. While it seems reasonable for Officer Christmon to restrain Ms. [REDACTED] and he was in the vehicle for approximately one minute, there is insufficient evidence to determine whether this conduct was justified.

Ms. [REDACTED] stated that she was punched on the face and sought medical treatment. She was diagnosed with an abrasion and had a scratch and an abrasion inside her lip. However, Ms. [REDACTED] provided differing accounts of the incident, stating that she broke his chain when they were first inside the vehicle and then stating that she broke it after when he was on top of her choking her. Ms. [REDACTED] also told responding officers that she was choked by Officer Christmon inside the vehicle and did not make this allegation to COPA.

There is no video documenting what occurred inside the car. There are no witnesses. There is no way to determine if Officer Christmon was the aggressor in the vehicle prior to the video

documenting her being the aggressor outside the car. Therefore, COPA finds the allegations against Officer Christmon should be **Not Sustained**.

Approved:



Sharday Jackson

Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

November 22, 2022

Date