

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Incident:	October 1, 2014 through November 24, 2019 ¹
Time of Incident:	Various
Location of Incident:	██████████, Chicago, Illinois; ██████████ ██████████ Chicago, Illinois
Date of COPA Notification:	December 3, 2019
Time of COPA Notification:	4:54 p.m.

Sergeant Raul Alvarez (Sgt. Alvarez) was the ██████████ of ██████████ (██████████ from approximately 2010 until 2013, when they transitioned into a close friendship, that included Sgt. Alvarez acting as a ██████████ to ██████████ minor ██████████, ██████████ and autistic son, ██████████ (██████████ During November of 2019, when she was 16 years old, ██████████ ██████████ (██████████ disclosed to her teacher, ██████████ (██████████ that on multiple occasions between October 1, 2014, and November 24, 2019, Sgt. Alvarez made inappropriate contact with her. Specifically, ██████████ alleged that Sgt. Alvarez came into her bedroom while she slept, lifted her shirt to look at her chest, pulled down her pants, made lewd comments to her, touched her on her chest without justification, put her body in compromising positions against her will, pinned her against a closet door without justification, and kissed her. Based on the preponderance of the evidence, COPA finds the allegations are Sustained.

II. INVOLVED PARTIES

Involved Officer #1:	Raul Alvarez, Star #2348, Employee ID #██████████; DOA: July 30, 2001; Sergeant; Unit 630; DOB: ██████████, 1968; Male; Hispanic.
Involved Individual #1:	██████████; DOB: ██████████, 2003; Female; Hispanic
Involved Individual #2:	██████████; DOB: ██████████, 1968; Female; Hispanic.
Involved Individual #3:	██████████; DOB: ██████████, 1988; Male; White.
Involved individual #4:	██████████; DOB: ██████████, 2002; Female; Black

¹ COPA obtained permission from the Superintendent to investigate the incidents 5 years old or over. See Att. 31 & 65

III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Sergeant Raul Alvarez, Star #2348	1.It is alleged that on unknown dates and times, between October 1, 2014 and October 31, 2019, at or hear the location of [REDACTED], Chicago, IL and/or at the location of [REDACTED] Chicago IL the accused lifted the shirt, and/or pulled down the pants of [REDACTED] a minor; and/or made lewd comments to [REDACTED] Moreno, a minor.	Sustained / Separation
	2. It is alleged that on unknown dates and times, between October 1, 2016, and November 24, 2019, at or near the location of [REDACTED] Chicago, Illinois, the accused touched [REDACTED] on her chest without justification, and/or put her body in compromising positions against her will, and/or pinned her against a closet door without justification, and/or stated words to the effect of, “You’ll be tasting it soon,” to her, and/or kissed her on the mouth.	Sustained / Separation

IV. APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

1. Rule 2: Any action or conduct which impedes the Department’s efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department.
2. Rule 3: Any failure to promote the Department’s efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals.
3. Rule 8: Disrespect of maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.
4. Rule 9: Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.

Intentionally Left Blank

V. INVESTIGATION

a. Interviews²

On December 11, 2019, the Chicago Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) conducted a Forensic Interview of ██████████,³ who was sixteen years old at the time of the interview. During the interview, ██████████ stated that she was a sophomore at ██████████. ██████████ lives with her ██████████, ██████████ and fourteen-year-old brother, ██████████ who is autistic. The three of them got along very well. ██████████ has known Sgt. Alvarez since she was seven years old. Her ██████████ dated Sgt. Alvarez for a while and he became a ██████████⁴ to her and ██████████ but Sgt. Alvarez never lived with the three of them. However, Sgt. Alvarez sometimes helped ██████████ financially and also gave both her and ██████████ an allowance.

██████████ then told investigators that when she was eleven years old, ██████████ was asleep in her bedroom when Sgt. Alvarez came into her room. ██████████ pretended to be asleep while Sgt. Alvarez was in her bedroom, which is when Sgt. Alvarez pulled up her clothes and looked at her "chest."⁵ Sgt. Alvarez also pulled down her pants to "look at [her] there."⁶ However, she later stated she did not recall him doing anything other than lifting her shirt.⁷ Afterwards, ██████████ continued to pretend that she was asleep and Sgt. Alvarez left her allowance and exited the bedroom. ██████████ felt like Sgt. Alvarez was trying to hide her face with her shirt when he lifted it up.

A couple of weeks later, the same incident occurred again followed by Sgt. Alvarez beginning to come into her bedroom weekly late at night between 11:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. while ██████████ pretended to be asleep. During these times, ██████████ slept wearing a big t-shirt with nothing underneath and sweatpants with underwear. As ██████████ got older, between the ages of thirteen and fifteen years-old, she took "preventative measures"⁸ such as wearing tank tops under her t-shirt and tying her sweatpants very tightly so Sgt. Alvarez could not pull them down. ██████████ said that when Sgt. Alvarez lifted her clothes, he could see her stomach and her chest. ██████████ began sleeping on her stomach, so Sgt. Alvarez could not easily get to her shirt and lift it up to see her chest.

Another time, when ██████████ was thirteen years old, possibly in the spring, Sgt. Alvarez "wrestled" with her and she ran to her ██████████ bedroom where Sgt. Alvarez pinned her against the closet door. ██████████ told him that his breath smelled like wine and Sgt. Alvarez responded, "You'll be tasting it soon."⁹ Sgt. Alvarez then kissed her, shoving his tongue into her mouth and down her throat. Sgt. Alvarez kept her pinned for a while and gave her an extra \$5.00 allowance before leaving.

² COPA did not interview ██████████ due to ██████████ requests that he not be alerted to the investigation.

³ Att. 24 & 61. Due to Chicago CAC policy, COPA was not able to retrieve a copy of the recorded interview. COPA's observations of the Forensic Interview were documented in the Investigative Reports in Att. 24 & 61.

⁴ Att. 24 at 1.

⁵ ██████████ repeatedly used the word "chest" during the CAC interview.

⁶ Att. 61 at 1.

⁷ Id.

⁸ Id.

⁹ Att. 24 at 2.

██████ told investigators that Sgt. Alvarez frequently wrestled with her, which put her in compromising positions, and he would make comments that made her uncomfortable. Sgt. Alvarez would pin her to the floor or couch and get very close to her face. Sgt. Alvarez put ██████ in different positions such as grabbing both of her hands and pinning her, putting her hands over her head or behind her back, going between her legs with his body, and going behind her so she could feel his chest, hips and arms. Sometimes the wrestling would end when she would give up and say, "I'm done." However, there were times when ██████ asked him to stop, but he would not stop.

During April of 2019, Sgt. Alvarez came into ██████ room while she was asleep. ██████ woke after he entered the room. Sgt. Alvarez grabbed ██████ by the sides of her body. At the time, ██████ was lying on her stomach propped up on a pile pillows with her arms and another pillow over her head. Sgt. Alvarez placed his hands under her shirt and touched her chest for a few minutes. He then thanked her and left her \$20.00 (10.00 more than her usual allowance). ██████ froze during this incident, but she believes Sgt. Alvarez knew she was awake, because she was shaking.

During January 2019, ██████ told her friend from school, ██████ (██████) about Sgt. Alvarez. ██████ was uncomfortable speaking about it and wrote ██████ notes. ██████ stated that during April 2019 after Sgt. Alvarez touched her chest, she wrote notes to ██████ about incident. ██████ responded with, "That's a big no."

After April of 2019, there was a period when Sgt. Alvarez was not around ██████ her ██████, nor her brother ██████. This absence lasted until October or November of 2019. When Sgt. Alvarez returned, ██████ thought he realized what he had been doing to her because he asked her what he could do to repair their relationship. ██████ informed him there was nothing he could do and asked that he stay away from her and never speak with her again. Towards the end of November 2019, ██████ became fed up with Sgt. Alvarez. ██████ along with his adult sister, ██████ pleaded with ██████ to tell her teacher about Sgt. Alvarez.¹⁰ ██████ agreed to and sent an email to ██████ a teacher that she trusted. Finally, ██████ stated that she grew to hate Sgt. Alvarez and was happy that she would never have to see him again after she told what had happened.¹¹

In an interview with COPA on February 18, 2020, ██████¹² told investigators that ██████ primarily teaches ██████ teacher at ██████ but also teaches ██████. ██████ stated that currently teaches ██████ for ██████ and previously taught her both ██████.

On November 25, 2019, ██████ accompanied by ██████ came to see ██████. ██████ spoke for ██████ because she was "pretty emotionally distraught."¹³ But over the course of approximately fifteen minutes, ██████ went from being "teary-eyed" to relieved.¹⁴ ██████ shared with ██████ that Sgt. Alvarez had come back into her life and that Sgt. Alvarez touched her

¹⁰ ██████ was later properly identified as ██████, the sister and legal guardian of ██████

¹¹ COPA attempted to conduct a follow up interview with ██████. However, this was not done to protect ██████ mental health. *See Att. 67*

¹² Att. 12, 19.

¹³ Att. 12 at 9.

¹⁴ Id. at 7.

inappropriately and said inappropriate things to her. Specifically, Sgt. Alvarez touched her chest and forced his tongue down her throat. These incidents occurred over a period of approximately four years. ██████ never told anyone and was moving on from it in her own way; however, Sgt. Alvarez's return caused the memories to resurface and drove her to speak out. Once Sgt. Alvarez returned, ██████ explained how she would get on the phone with her friends and leave the line open so they could hear Sgt. Alvarez if he came into her room. ██████ stated that ██████ thought ██████ and another classmate of ██████ ██████, were the friends on the phone with ██████

██████ explained to ██████ and ██████ that ██████ was mandated to report Sgt. Alvarez's conduct. ██████ responded that she understood and acknowledged that her speaking out was going to bring more issues and concerns for her and her family. ██████ felt ██████ was conscious of the what was to come. After peaking with ██████ and ██████ ██████ contacted the school principal who instructed ██████ to call the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).¹⁵ ██████ encouraged ██████ to speak with counselors, but they had no further, in-depth conversation regarding Sgt. Alvarez's abuse of ██████ after Tuesday, November 26, 2019, or possibly Wednesday, November 27, 2019, when ██████ ██████ ██████ and ██████ ██████ all sat down to talk.

██████ stated ██████ is his ██████ and both teach ██████ at ██████. According to ██████ ██████ seemed supportive of ██████ and appeared to have had no idea about any of the inappropriate incidents initiated by Sgt. Alvarez. ██████ and ██████ were concerned because Alvarez still had a key to their residence.

██████ stated that ██████ was the smartest student that ██████ taught but felt socially and emotionally ██████ was "a mess."¹⁶ When asked for an example, ██████ recalled that ██████ once started crying during a Freshman year group activity and that after learning about Sgt. Alvarez, ██████'s earlier emotional struggles made sense to ██████. ██████ further recalled ██████ expressing that she became uncomfortable when one of the male teachers stood over her, because it reminded her of Sgt. Alvarez standing over her.¹⁷

In an interview with COPA on February 18, 2020, ██████ ██████ identified herself as the ██████ of ██████ and ██████ ██████ stated that she and her children lived at ██████ ██████ for approximately three and half years (2016 – 2019) and before that at ██████ ██████ for approximately two and half years (2014 – 2016). ██████ met Sgt. Alvarez through an online dating site and began dating in October of 2010. Their dating relationship ended approximately two and a half years later, but they continued to be good friends

██████ told investigators that Sgt. Alvarez often wrestled with both ██████ and ██████ as well as the family dogs. The wrestling with ██████ ceased in 2018. ██████ stated that as ██████ got older, she would "really fight him when they would wrestle and [it] got to a point where [██████

¹⁵ ██████ stated that ██████ called DCFS repeatedly and left ██████ number to await a call back. With the Thanksgiving Holiday on November 28, 2019, this complaint was not registered with DCFS until December 3, 2019.

¹⁶ Att. 12 at 16.

¹⁷ Id. at 17.

would say], ‘Don’t even touch me anymore.’”¹⁸ [REDACTED] did not participate in the wrestling. Alone, Sgt. Alvarez would also go up to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] bedrooms to kiss them goodnight or say goodbye. Sgt. Alvarez was alone a lot with [REDACTED] however, she did not think anything of it, because he was a [REDACTED] in their lives.

[REDACTED] never asked [REDACTED] stop seeing Sgt. Alvarez over not have him come over. As [REDACTED] got older, she began to snipe at Sgt. Alvarez.¹⁹ When [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] why, [REDACTED] would shrug her shoulders or roll her eyes. [REDACTED] assumed the change in [REDACTED] behavior was a result of her becoming a teenager. Sergeant Alvarez never commented to [REDACTED] about [REDACTED] hostility towards him.

By 2019, Sgt. Alvarez was dating other women, so he came over less frequently – he came over approximately once every three weeks rather than every week. At one point in 2019, Sgt. Alvarez was absent for approximately six to eight weeks.

[REDACTED] told investigators she recalled an incident during late October or early November 2019 when Sgt. Alvarez came downstairs from the children’s bedrooms with a shocked look on his face. [REDACTED] asked him what was wrong, and he responded, “Well, I just brushed up against [REDACTED] chest.”²⁰ [REDACTED] told Sgt. Alvarez that if it was an accident, [REDACTED] would know that it was accidental. [REDACTED] disclosed Sgt. Alvarez’s behavior within six weeks of this incident and related that this was when he “groped” her,²¹ related that she froze in fear for five minutes while Sgt. Alvarez touched her breasts.²²

On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving of 2019, [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] to meet with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. During the meeting [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that Sgt. Alvarez had been touching her inappropriately for the past five years. The encounters started with Sgt. Alvarez looking at her body by lifting her shirt. Sgt. Alvarez would pull up her clothes and either touch her or rub her back. [REDACTED] stated, “I don’t remember if she said ‘touched me’ or ‘rub her back,’ and that might be me hoping she said ‘touched my back.’”²³

[REDACTED] never doubted what [REDACTED] told her but initially thought it may be a misunderstanding. However, as [REDACTED] told her more, [REDACTED] knew that Sgt. Alvarez had been “preying” upon her [REDACTED].²⁴ [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that sometime between the summer and November of 2019, Sgt. Alvarez was upstairs with [REDACTED] and that [REDACTED] told him his breath smelled like wine. Sgt. Alvarez responded by sticking his tongue into [REDACTED] mouth. [REDACTED] knew this was not a misunderstanding, because that was “exactly something [Sgt. Alvarez] would do” and in line with his sense of humor.²⁵ [REDACTED] also told [REDACTED] that Sgt. Alvarez asked her questions which made her uncomfortable, but she did not provide details.

¹⁸ Att. 14 at 36-37

¹⁹ Id at. 17-18.

²⁰ Att. 14, Pg. 21, Lns.19-20.

²¹ Id. at 21-22.

²² Id. at 32-33.

²³ Id. at 31.

²⁴ Att. 14 at 26.

²⁵ Id. at 27-28.

Although [REDACTED] herself did not notice, [REDACTED] told her she started wearing sweatpants that she could tie very tightly. [REDACTED] did notice, however, that [REDACTED] started wearing one or two t-shirts with a hooded sweatshirt over them to sleep. During one of Sgt. Alvarez's last visits, Sgt. Alvarez came upstairs to her bedroom and asked her how he could mend the relationship between them. [REDACTED] told her [REDACTED] that she finally disclosed what was happening because Sgt. Alvarez was back around. [REDACTED] thought that it would not stop unless she finally spoke up. When [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] why she had not told her sooner, [REDACTED] said she was afraid to because Sgt. Alvarez was so important to [REDACTED] and the person that [REDACTED] relied on when anything went wrong.

[REDACTED] stated that she never spoke to Sgt. Alvarez about [REDACTED] allegations. [REDACTED] and the children immediately blocked Sgt. Alvarez on their phones. Sgt. Alvarez came to their home at midnight of Thursday, November 28, 2019, and banged at their back-porch door for twenty minutes before leaving. He could not get in with his key because the locks had been changed. [REDACTED] sent him a text the next day informing him that they wished to have no contact with him due to his behavior. Sgt. Alvarez made no further contact with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] related that [REDACTED] was a gifted student at [REDACTED] until seventh grade when she stopped doing any homework and failed all of her classes. [REDACTED] now realized this was around the time Sgt. Alvarez began abusing [REDACTED]. Finally, [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] seems much happier to her since speaking out about Sgt. Alvarez and her anxiety improved.

In an interview with COPA investigators on April 30, 2021, [REDACTED]²⁶ stated that he and [REDACTED] became friends when they met during the Freshman Connection in 2018. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are close friends, speak often, and have socialized outside of school. In April of 2019, [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] Sgt. Alvarez molested her while she was asleep. [REDACTED] also recalled [REDACTED] telling him that when she was 11 years old, Sgt. Alvarez came into her bedroom and began touching her while she lay in her bed. Sgt. Alvarez ran his hands under her clothes while she was supposed to be sleeping. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] never indicated that she was penetrated by Sgt. Alvarez, but he would lift up her clothes and touch her. After touching her, Sgt. Alvarez would leave her allowance money and exit the room. [REDACTED] believed this went on for years, beginning when [REDACTED] was 11 or 12 years old.

[REDACTED] also told [REDACTED] that Sgt. Alvarez would say creepy things to her, i.e., he commented about her having thunder thighs, gave her money while commenting that he usually does not give money to younger girls, and has also made a comments about sex workers. When Sgt. Alvarez was out of the picture in April 2019, [REDACTED] felt relieved. [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] did not want to tell anyone about Sgt. Alvarez until he reappeared in September or October of 2019. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] was upset Sgt. Alvarez returned, so [REDACTED] brought her to his house one day after school to talk with his sister/legal guardian, [REDACTED] ([REDACTED] [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] to tell a trusted teacher. Afterwards, [REDACTED] along with [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] and eventually [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] confirmed that [REDACTED] created a Snapchat group and kept him on the call when Sgt. Alvarez came over. The group included himself, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. The Snapchat group communicated for about a month around the time they told [REDACTED] of

²⁶ Att. 57 & 66.

Sgt. Alvarez. After the incident was reported, ██████ attempted to get screenshots from the Snapchat group, but his phone broke. ██████ also stated ██████ would text him and her girlfriend, ██████ when Sgt. Alvarez was around, but she did not call them.

Finally, ██████ stated ██████ is much happier now. However, she did have some long-lasting effects from what happened with Sgt. Alvarez. Specifically, ██████ still wears a hoodie and long jeans, has issues with her own body, and dislikes the ice cream shop they used to go to with Sgt. Alvarez.

In an interview with COPA on March 16, 2021, ██████ (██████²⁷ told investigators she was friends with ██████ and had many of the same classes with her at ██████. ██████ recalled that on day before Christmas break of 2019, ██████ was very nervous and sad, so ██████ asked her what was wrong. ██████ told her that her ██████, Sgt. Alvarez, had been sexually assaulting her, and that he gave her allowance for doing chores and extra allowance after sexually abusing her. ██████ told her that Sgt. Alvarez had been away from the family but has since returned.

Although ██████ did know specifically what the sexual abuse consisted of, she stated that ██████ told her Sgt. Alvarez was raping her at night while everyone else was asleep.²⁸ ██████ also did not know how long the abuse occurred. ██████ told ██████ she needed to tell someone. Approximately one week later, ██████ went with ██████ to tell the ██████. ██████ stated that they never discussed it again, mostly because she did not want to bring it up and make ██████ sad.

COPA interviewed **Sergeant Alvarez**²⁹ on April 14, 2021. Sgt. Alvarez stated that he and ██████ stopped ██████ around 2012, but both remained friends and occasionally had a sexual encounter. When asked about the role he played in the lives of ██████ and ██████ Sgt. Alvarez stated that he was a ██████ to some extent but did not have an extensive role in their lives.³⁰ Sgt. Alvarez went to the ██████ home sometimes once a week. During other periods, he would go six months without seeing ██████ Sgt. Alvarez usually went to the ██████ home later in the evening after working third watch.

Sgt. Alvarez stated that ██████ and ██████ would asked him for money, so “usually every time [he went over], [he] would give them money.”³¹ However, he did not recall if they specifically called it an allowance. Usually, he gave them both the same amount, which was about \$10.00.³² Sgt. Alvarez stated at some point he may have been in the children’s bedrooms, but it was not a regular occurrence.³³ He was at the home to spend time with ██████ not ██████. He did not recall if he went into their bedrooms to give them their allowance, but admitted it was a possibility.³⁴ He did not recall telling DCFS investigators that he was never in ██████ bedroom.

²⁷ Att. 25 & 27.

²⁸ Att. 27 at 6.

²⁹ Att. 41, 56.

³⁰ Att. 56 at 13-14.

³¹ Id. at 18.

³² Id.

³³ Id. at 21-22.

³⁴ Id. at 22.

Sgt. Alvarez said [REDACTED] did not talk often. The kids were sometimes awake and sometimes asleep when he went to the [REDACTED] home. [REDACTED] was typically dressed in hooded sweatshirt and sweatpants when he visited. Sgt. Alvarez did not recall attempted to repair his relationship with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was sarcastic toward him at times, like a typical teenager, but there was nothing to reconcile. When asked about wrestling, Sgt. Alvarez admitted to “horseplay” between himself and [REDACTED] and that sometimes [REDACTED] would join. When asked to describe horseplay, Sgt. Alvarez described incidents when the children would jump, and he would catch them. He did not recall pinning each other against walls or the floor.³⁵

Sgt. Alvarez stated he was not at the [REDACTED] home much during 2019. While he had a key to the home, he lost the key before November 19, 2019. In November 2019, he grew concerned when he could not reach [REDACTED] via phone, so he went to the [REDACTED] residence and left a note because no one answered the door. Afterwards, [REDACTED] texted him that she wanted no further contact with him, and he respected her wishes.

Sgt. Alvarez denied the allegations made against him, stating that he did not lift [REDACTED] shirt and/or pull down her pants, nor did he make lewd comments to her. He further denied making comments about her physical development during puberty, stating she talked about her weight gain, but he did not recall his response. Sgt. Alvarez denied touching [REDACTED] on her chest, nor did he recall accidentally brushing up against [REDACTED]. Finally, he further denied putting [REDACTED] body in compromising positions, pinning her against a closet door, stating words to the effect of, “You’ll be tasting it soon,” to her, and/or kissing [REDACTED] on the mouth.

b. Digital Evidence³⁶

Detective Stiglich of CPD obtained a **Search Warrant for Snapchat**³⁷ for communications between [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) and [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) from September 1, 2019 – December 1, 2019. The search warrant revealed the following group chat:³⁸

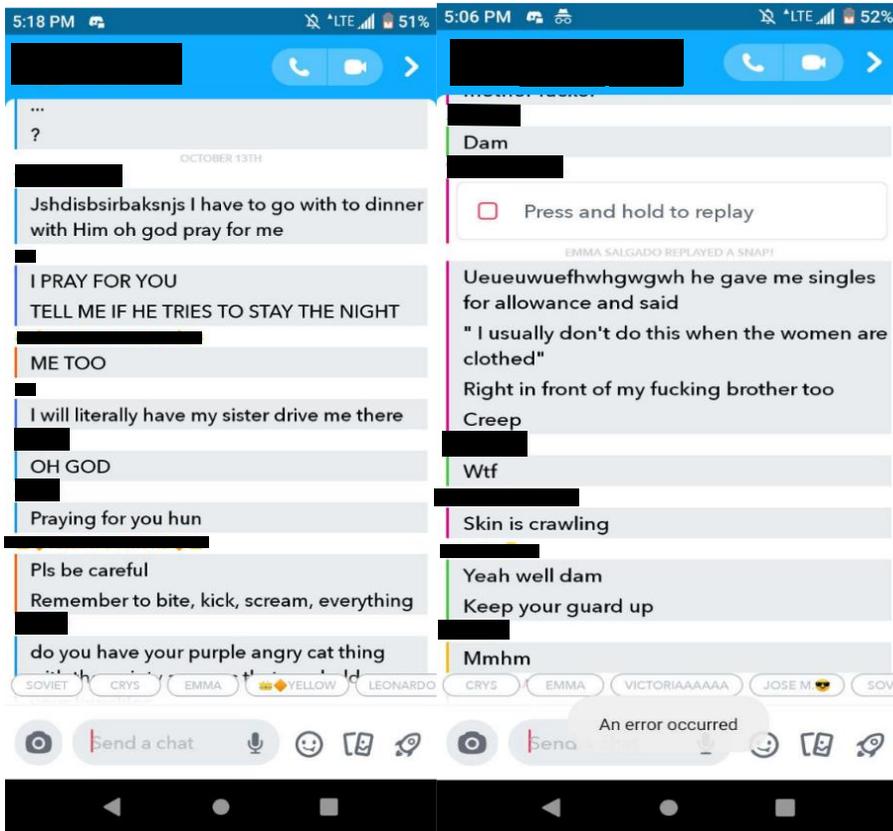
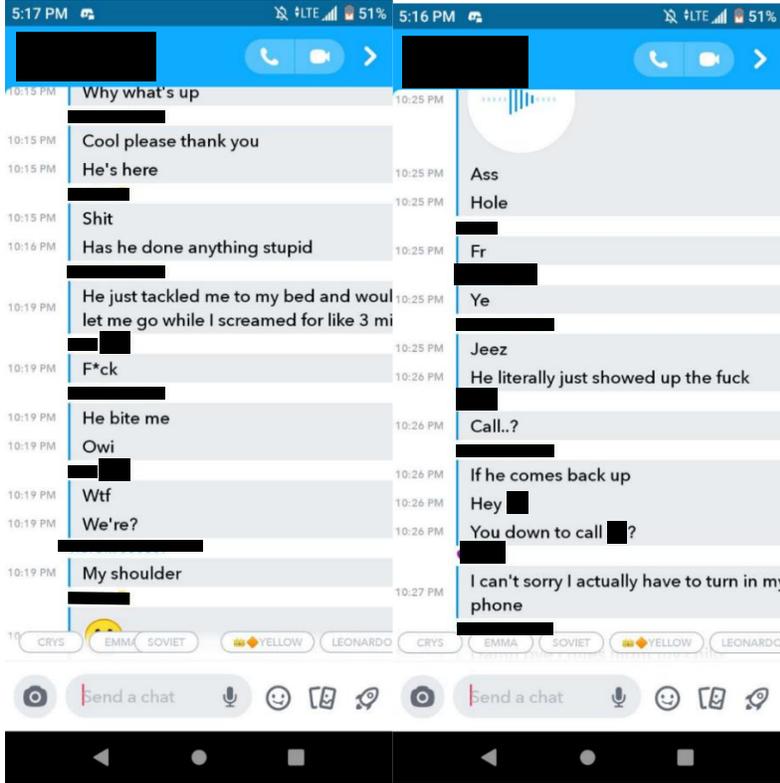
Intentionally Lefty Blank

³⁵ Id. at 26.

³⁶ COPA obtained a copy of the RCFL extraction of [REDACTED] cell phone conducted by Det. Stiglich. It did not contain any relevant information pertaining to these extractions. A copy is uploaded as Att. 59, but may not be able to be viewed in CMS and may require a Blue Ray player. The disc containing this information is contained in COPA’s physical file.

³⁷ Att. 35, 36, 42-55.

³⁸ Att. 42-45.



The search warrant also revealed a still photograph³⁹ and video⁴⁰ dated November 8, 2019. The photograph read, “asshat has arrived.” The video captures Sgt. Alvarez drinking a glass of wine as he followed █████ into her office.

Additionally, there were three photos⁴¹ and four videos⁴² obtained from November 19, 2019. Two of the photos depicted text only that said, “Mayday MAYDAY,”⁴³ and “Too close TOO CLOSE.”⁴⁴ The other photograph depicted an open door and the words, “He leave.”⁴⁵ In one video, Sgt. Alvarez is seen standing near █████⁴⁶ In the other three videos Sgt. Alvarez is seated and talking to █████ who is not on camera but can be heard. In one video,⁴⁷ he leans in toward the camera and █████ turning his head and pointing to his cheek for a kiss. █████ says, “No.” Sgt. Alvarez responded, “It’s a good start.” In another video⁴⁸ from November 19, 2019, █████ says, “I don’t think we are mending fences. I think it’s more trying to rebuild what wasn’t there in the first place.” The fourth video⁴⁹ captures Sgt. Alvarez stating, “We don’t want to start the fence,” while █████ is heard saying, “No.”

c. Documentary Evidence

In █████ email⁵⁰ to █████ dated November 26, 2019, █████ gave essentially the same account as she did in the forensic interview. █████ added that as time went on, she became scared and felt like she could not say anything, because Sgt. was a police officer, so no one would believe her. Therefore, she simply expressed her dislike of him and “curse[d] him out.”

The **Case Report**⁵¹ for Aggravated Criminal Sex Abuse, RD #█████, dated December 3, 2019, documents the DCFS Hotline Report. It states █████ disclosed to █████ that Sgt. Alvarez sexually abused her from the ages of seven to fifteen by touching her breasts and kissing her

The **Supplemental Case Reports** and **General Progress Reports**⁵² summarize Detective Stiglich’s investigation. Det. Stiglich observed █████ Forensic Interview at the Child Advocacy Center on December 11, 2019 and summarized her observations.⁵³ Generally, her observations were similar to those of COPA.^{54, 55}

³⁹ Att. 47.

⁴⁰ Att. 50.

⁴¹ Att. 46, 48, 49, & 52.

⁴² Att. 51, 53, 54, & 55.

⁴³ Att. 46.

⁴⁴ Att. 48 & 49.

⁴⁵ Att. 52.

⁴⁶ Att. 53.

⁴⁷ Att. 54.

⁴⁸ Att. 55.

⁴⁹ Att. 51.

⁵⁰ Att. 22.

⁵¹ Att. 2.

⁵² Att. 3, 8, 28, 33.

⁵³ Att. 28 & 33.

⁵⁴ Portions of her summary of the forensic interview were contradictory to COPA’s notes. Therefore, COPA observed the forensic interview a second time. COPA stands by its above summary as the more accurate account of the interview

⁵⁵ Att. 68.

Detective Stiglich also interviewed █████ and █████ who related essentially the same information as they related to COPA. Detective Stiglich attempted to interview █████ but was unsuccessful. She also contacted █████ on February 6, 2020 to obtain another interview of █████. However, █████ stated that she did not want to re-traumatize █████ at that time, because she was doing well in school and therapy. The criminal invest was classified as “Suspended” on February 6, 2020.⁵⁶

The **DCFS Investigative Report**⁵⁷ and **Child Abuse Hotline Notification**⁵⁸ document the DCFS investigation into these allegations. The Child Abuse Hotline Notification documents the notification made by █████ and states essentially the same information █████ related to COPA, but states the abuse occurred when █████ was 7 years old. According to the DCFS Investigative Report, █████ did not give a consistent disclosure of sexual abuse during her forensic interview.⁵⁹

DCFS interviewed █████ █████ on December 11, 2019. █████ related essentially the same information to DCFS as she did to COPA regarding the incident during which Sgt. Alvarez told her he accidentally brushed up against █████ chest. █████ also referenced the “horseplay” in a similar manner as she discussed the wrestling with COPA. She further related she did not initially think he would do these things but the things she heard from █████ “would not be out of character for him.”⁶⁰ █████ further noted she now realized █████ behavior changed and became very sarcastic to Sgt. Alvarez.

Sgt. Alvarez was interviewed on January 30, 2020 and denied the allegations. Sgt. Alvarez stated that he did not do anything to █████ Sgt. Alvarez confirmed that he gave █████ and █████ allowance. Sgt. Alvarez stated that █████ was always present when he was there and that he was never alone with children without the █████ being home. Sgt. Alvarez stated, “I have also never been in her room alone, there is no reason for me to be in her room. I am denying the allegations.”⁶¹

DCFS ultimately classified the investigation as Unfounded.⁶²

⁵⁶ Att. 28 at 8.

⁵⁷ Att. 16.

⁵⁸ Att. 4.

⁵⁹ Portions of the DCFS notes regarding the forensic interview are contradictory to COPA’s notes. Therefore, COPA observed the forensic interview again and stands by its above summary as the more accurate account of the interview.

⁶⁰ Att. 16 at 28.

⁶¹ Id. at 35.

⁶² Att. 39.

VI. LEGAL STANDARD

For each Allegation COPA must make one of the following findings:

1. Sustained - where it is determined the allegation is supported by a preponderance of the evidence;
2. Not Sustained - where it is determined there is insufficient evidence to prove the allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
3. Unfounded - where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that an allegation is false or not factual; or
4. Exonerated - where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that the conduct described in the allegation occurred, but it is lawful and proper.

A **preponderance of evidence** can be described as evidence indicating that it is **more likely than not** that the conduct reviewed complied with Department policy. *See Avery v. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co.*, 216 Ill. 2d 100, 191 (2005), (a proposition is proved by a preponderance of the evidence when it has found to be more probably true than not). If the evidence gathered in an investigation establishes that it is more likely that the conduct complied with Department policy than that it did not, even if by a narrow margin, then the preponderance of the evidence standard is met.

Clear and convincing evidence is a higher standard than a preponderance of the evidence but lower than the "beyond-a-reasonable doubt" standard required to convict a person of a criminal offense. *See e.g., People v. Coan*, 2016 IL App (2d) 151036 (2016). Clear and Convincing can be defined as a "degree of proof, which, considering all the evidence in the case, produces the firm and abiding belief that it is highly probable that the proposition . . . is true." *Id.* at ¶ 28.

VII. ANALYSIS

a. Credibility Assessment

The accounts of ██████ and Sgt. Alvarez regarding the material facts are entirely divergent. ██████ alleged Sgt. Alvarez lifted her shirt regularly while she was sleeping, touched her chest, kissed her by placing his tongue in her mouth, put her body in compromising positions, pinned her against a wall, and make lewd remarks towards her. Sgt. Alvarez described a more distant relationship with the children and denied all of the allegations made against him.

The credibility of an individual relies primarily on two factors: 1) the individual's truthfulness and 2) the reliability of the individual's account. The first factor addresses the honesty of the individual making the statement, while the second factor speaks to the individual's ability to accurately perceive the event at the time of the incident and then accurately recall the event from memory. In this case, Sgt. Alvarez's account is so divergent from ██████ account that both accounts simply cannot be accurate. COPA finds that a preponderance of the evidence demonstrates that ██████ account of events credible.

Account Remained Consistent and Was Corroborated

Account remained consistent and was corroborated, in part, by other witnesses. made statements to and a forensic interviewer. COPA found These statements overall consistent. Specifically, described repeated incidents, beginning when she was eleven years old, during which Sgt. Alvarez came into her room at night when she was supposed to be asleep and lifted her shirt to look at her body. reported this same conduct to the forensic interviewer, and Furthermore, consistently reported that she began taking preventative measures, such as wearing multiple layers of shirts and tying her sweatpants tightly to prevent Sgt. Alvarez from sexually abusing her. This defensive act by was corroborated in part by who noticed that began wearing one or two t-shirts with a hooded sweatshirt over them. Additionally, noted that one of the long-lasting effects of the abuse is that still wears a hoodie and long jeans. Also, consistently reported that Sgt. Alvarez would leave her money following the abuse. Contrary to Sgt. Alvarez's account, corroborated account of Sgt. Alvarez routinely going upstairs to and bedroom, in that she told investigators Sgt. Alvarez would go upstairs at night to "kiss the kids goodnight" and give the kids their allowance. was consistent in her reports of wrestling, in that she specifically recalled Sgt. Alvarez pinning her against a closet door, which was when told Sgt. Alvarez he smelled like wine. Sgt. Alvarez replied, "You'll be tasting it soon." He then kissed her, shoving his tongue in her mouth. When she heard this account from she believed was telling the truth, as this sounded like something Sgt. Alvarez would do and was in line with his sense of humor. In addition, reported Sgt. Alvarez would often wrestle her and put her in compromising positions such as grabbing both of her hands and pinning her, putting her hands over her head or behind her back, going between her legs with his body, and going behind her so she could feel his chest, hips, and arms. reported becoming increasingly uncomfortable with the wrestling and would ask Sgt. Alvarez to stop. corroborated that Sgt. Alvarez often wrestled with the children and recalled disliking the wrestling more as she got older and not wanting him to touch her. Snapchat also recorded her telling the group, "He just tackled me to my bed and would [not] let me go while I screamed for like 3 [minutes]."

reported another specific instance during which Sgt. Alvarez came into her bedroom while she was asleep, ran his hands up her sides and under her shirt, and touched her chest for a few minutes. reported this incident to the forensic interviewer and. also recalled an incident during which Sgt. Alvarez came downstairs from the children's bedrooms with a shocked look on his face and reported that he brushed against chest.

alleged to and the forensic interviewer that Sgt. Alvarez made lewd, uncomfortable comments towards her. confirmed that told him some of these comments were about her thighs touching or her having thunder thighs. He also stated one such comment was Sgt. Alvarez stating he does not usually give money to younger girls and made a comment about sex workers. Snapchat also recorded her telling the group that he gave her single dollar bills for her allowance and stated, "I usually don't do this when women are clothed."

Account Was Plausible, and Her Emotional Disposition and Outcry Attempts Support Her Reliability

account was plausible, and her emotional disposition and outcry attempts support her reliability. reported that these incidents often occurred at night when she was supposed to be sleeping. Sgt. Alvarez would enter her room to leave her allowance during these incidents. These accounts are plausible, as Sgt. Alvarez clearly had the opportunity to be in her room when no one else was present during his visits with and corroborated that he often went to and bedrooms alone and gave them allowance.

delayed outcry does not diminish her reliability. stated she was hesitant to report the incidents due to his large role in her life and fear that her might not believe her. Additionally, she delayed reporting due to his period of absence in her life. However, his return prompted her to report the behavior. She consistently explained reasons for not reporting immediately to numerous individuals. began communicating her fears and his behavior to her friends. This is corroborated by the Snapchat results and account.

Furthermore, emotional disposition support her reliability. described as emotionally distraught and teary-eyed when she initially came to his office to report Sgt. Alvarez's conduct. also recalled emotional struggles, stating they made sense to him once learned of the abuse. further reported that explained that the reason she became uncomfortable when one of the male teachers stood over her was because it reminded her of Sgt. Alvarez standing over her. Additionally, described as becoming more hostile towards Sgt. Alvarez as she got older. She also realized that academic performance declined around the time these incidents began but noticed is much happier and less anxious since reporting the behavior. recalled that was upset when Sgt. Alvarez returned but is much happier now. described as nervous and sad, which prompted to inquire about what was wrong. then reported the abuse to her. These accounts of emotional disposition support her reliability and are consistent with someone who subjected to childhood sexual abuse.

Sgt. Alvarez's Account of Events is Inconsistent with the Accounts of Other Witnesses and Evidence

Alvarez's account of events is inconsistent with the accounts of other witnesses and evidence. Sgt. Alvarez minimized his presence in the lives of and stating he did not have an extensive role and did not talk to often. He repeatedly emphasized that he was there to spend time with and not the children. However, and described him as more of a central figure in all their lives. While Sgt. Alvarez described a more sporadic routine where he sometimes went to the home weekly and sometimes went to the home only occasionally, described him as a constant and weekly presence in their lives until 2019, when he began dating other women.

Sgt. Alvarez stated he may have been in the children's bedrooms, but it was not a regular occurrence. However, recalled that he went up to and bedrooms alone to kiss them goodnight or say goodbye and, in fact, was often alone with her children. stated in

Alvarez regularly came upstairs to their bedrooms to say good night and give them their allowances. He further minimized the wrestling with the children. Sgt. Alvarez acknowledged that there was some horseplay with ██████ but ██████ would join in only occasionally by pushing Sgt. Alvarez. ██████ on the other hand, stated that Sgt. Alvarez often wrestled with both ██████ and ██████ as well as the family dogs.

Additionally, Sgt. Alvarez claimed he did not recall accidentally brushing ██████ chest or telling ██████ that this occurred. However, ██████ clearly and independently recalled this incident, describing Sgt. Alvarez as looking shocked and scared. Sgt. Alvarez also did not recall any situation where he attempted to repair his relationship with ██████. However, the Snapchat videos dated November 19, 2019, depict Alvarez inside ██████ bedroom, seated on her bed as he asks her to give him a kiss on the cheek as a step toward mending their relationship. Believing his account would require finding ██████ lied consistently on multiple occasions for no apparent purpose. It should also be noted Sgt. Alvarez's demeanor and tone throughout his statement appeared evasive and lacked candor.

Therefore, the totality of the evidence demonstrates the incidents occurred as ██████ alleged. Based upon the totality of the evidence as reflected above, COPA finds ██████ credible, and her account of the incident remained consistent.

b. Allegations⁶³

Allegation 1

COPA finds that Allegation #1 against Sgt. Alvarez, that on unknown dates and times, between October 1, 2014 and October 31, 2019, at or near the location of ██████, Chicago, IL and/or at the location of ██████, Chicago IL lifted the shirt, and/or pulled down the pants of ██████ ██████ a minor; and/or made lewd comments to ██████ ██████ are Sustained. As previously discussed, COPA finds ██████ account was consistent, reliable, and was corroborated in part by other witnesses. COPA finds by a preponderance of evidence that Sgt. Alvarez lifted ██████ shirt while ██████ was pretending to be asleep. Sgt. Alvarez was frequently at the ██████ home and had numerous opportunities to be alone in ██████ room, which was corroborated by ██████. COPA also finds that Sgt. Alvarez pulled down ██████ pants on one occasion. ██████ consistently reported that she began tying her sweatpants tightly to prevent this behavior. While ██████ did not recall how tight ██████ sweatpants were tied, she did recall the other changes in ██████ attire. Absent a physical attempt to see how tight ██████ sweatpants were, ██████ could not have observed the tight tying merely by looking at ██████. COPA also finds by a preponderance of the evidence that Sgt. Alvarez made lewd comments to ██████ ██████ recalled ██████ telling him Sgt. Alvarez made comments about her thighs and about not usually give money to younger girls, while referencing sex workers.

⁶³ COPA recognizes that CPD's investigation was suspended, and no criminal charges were filed in this case. However, the detective's review of the forensic interview was inconsistent with COPA's observations, and criminal charges require a higher burden of proof. COPA also recognizes that DCFS unfounded their investigation. Again, DCFS's review of the forensic interview was inconsistent with COPA's observations. DCFS also did not have the results of the Snapchat search warrant. Lastly, COPA was also able to interview ██████ ██████ and ██████ ██████ whereas CPD and DCFS did not.

██████████ Snapchat also recorded her telling the group that Sgt. Alvarez gave her single dollar bills for her allowance and stated, “I usually don’t do this when women are clothed.” COPA finds ██████████ credible. Based on the totality and preponderance of the evidence, Allegation #1 is Sustained as violations of CPD rules 2, 3, 8, and 9.

Allegation 2

COPA finds that Allegation #2 against Sergeant Alvarez, that on unknown dates and times, between October 1, 2016, and November 24, 2019, at or near the location of ██████████, Chicago, Illinois, the accused touched ██████████ ██████████ on her chest without justification, and/or put her body in compromising positions against her will, and/or pinned her against a closet door without justification, and/or stated words to the effect of, “You’ll be tasting it soon,” to her, and/or kissed her on the mouth is Sustained. Again, as previously discussed, COPA finds ██████████ account was consistent, reliable, and was corroborated in part by other witnesses. COPA finds by a preponderance of evidence that Sgt. Alvarez touched her chest without justification. This was consistently reported by ██████████ and ██████████ recalled Sgt. Alvarez looking shocked and scared, while telling her he accidentally brushed against her chest. ██████████ to explain that she was lying on a pile of pillows with her arms over her head, thereby allowing space for Alvarez to grab her by the sides and get to the front of her chest. Sgt. Alvarez’s behavior escalated from looking at her chest to touching her.

COPA finds by a preponderance of evidence that Sgt. Alvarez put her body in compromising positions against her will. ██████████ consistently reported that she became uncomfortable with the positions he put her in while wrestling and would tell him she was done and to stop. ██████████ recalled the frequent wrestling, ██████████ fighting him more as she got older and not wanting him to touch her. ██████████ Snapchat also recorded her telling the group, “He just tackled me to my bed and would [not] let me go while I screamed for like 3 [minutes].” COPA finds by a preponderance of evidence that Sgt. Alvarez pinned ██████████ against a closet door, stated, “You’ll be tasting it soon,” and kissed her on the mouth. This incident was consistently reported by ██████████ Additionally, as wrestling was a large part of Sgt. Alvarez’s interaction with ██████████ and ██████████ it is plausible that he would pin her. Based on the totality and preponderance of the evidence, Allegation #2 is Sustained as a violation of CPD rules 2, 3, 8, and 9.

VIII. RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE FOR SUSTAINED ALLEGATIONS

a. Sergeant Raul Alvarez, #2348

i. Complimentary and Disciplinary History

- 1. Complimentary:** 3 Crime Reduction Awards (2004, 2009, 2019), 3 Attendance Awards, 5 Complimentary Letters, 7 Department Commendations, 14 Physical Fitness Awards, 10 Honorable Mentions, 1 NATO Summit Service Award, 1 Presidential Election Deployment Award, 1 Special Commendation, 1 Unit Meritorious performance Award
- 2. Disciplinary:** None

ii. Recommended Penalty, by Allegation

1. Allegation No. 1: Separation

2. Allegation No. 2: Separation

Sgt. Alvarez’s conduct is extremely concerning. Sgt. Alvarez sexually abused a minor over the course of 4 years. His abuse unequivocally resulted in a long-lasting impact on ██████ Given Sgt. Alvarez’s position of authority in society as a police officer and his predatory acts of abuse against a minor, Sgt. Alvarez is unfit to hold the position of a Chicago Police Officer; therefore, COPA recommends that Sgt. Alvarez is separated from the Department.

IX. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis set forth above, COPA makes the following findings:

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Sergeant Raul Alvarez, Star #2348	1.It is alleged that on unknown dates and times, between October 1, 2014 and September 30, 2016, at or near the location of ██████, Chicago, IL and/or at the location of ██████ ██████ Chicago IL the accused lifted the shirt, and/or pulled down the pants of ██████ a minor; and/or made lewd comments to ██████ a minor.	Sustained / Separation
	2. It is alleged that on unknown dates and times, between October 1, 2016, and September 30, 2019, at or near the location of ██████, Chicago, Illinois, the accused touched ██████ on her chest without justification, and/or put her body in compromising positions against her will, and/or pinned her against a closet door without justification, and/or stated words to the effect of, “You’ll be tasting it soon,” to her, and/or kissed her on the mouth.	Sustained / Separation

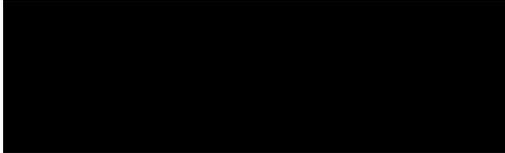
Approved:



5/19/2021

Matthew Haynam
Deputy Chief Administrator

Date



5/19/2021

Andrea Kersten
Interim Chief Administrator

Date

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:	9
Investigator:	Jeanne Alyse Goodwin
Supervising Investigator:	Sharday Jackson
Deputy Chief Administrator:	Matthew Haynam