

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	March 4, 2018/ unknown/ [REDACTED] Chicago, IL
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	June 21, 2018/ 1:51 p.m.
Involved Officer #1:	Solodine Jackson, star #14851, employee ID# [REDACTED], Date of Appointment: 01-Apr-2013, Police Officer, Unit of Assignment: 004, DOB: [REDACTED] 1979, male, black
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED]-2002, female, black
Involved Individual #2:	[REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED] 1981, female, black
Case Type:	Domestic Battery

I. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer Solodine Jackson	1. It is alleged that on or about March 4, 2018 at an unknown time, at [REDACTED] Chicago, IL, the accused struck [REDACTED] on the leg with a belt without justification.	Not Sustained
	2. It is alleged that on or about March 4, 2018 at an unknown time, at [REDACTED] Chicago, IL, the accused struck [REDACTED] on the stomach/ribs with a belt without justification.	Not Sustained
	3. It is alleged that on or about March 4, 2018 at an unknown time, at [REDACTED], Chicago, IL, the accused directed profanities at [REDACTED], stating words to the effect of “what the fuck you say,” without justification.	Not Sustained
	4. It is alleged that on or about March 4, 2018 at an unknown time, at [REDACTED] Chicago, IL, the accused endangered the life of [REDACTED] in that he failed to intervene when [REDACTED] pinned [REDACTED] to a wall without justification.	Not Sustained

## II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

On March 5, 2018, ██████████ (hereafter ██████████) reported to her ██████████, ██████████ (hereafter Ms. ██████████) that on March 4, 2018, her ██████████ Officer Solodine Jackson (hereafter Officer Jackson) hit her with a belt and picked her up by her hair for failure to complete chores. A **Case Report for Child Abuse**<sup>1</sup> documented that on March 5, 2018, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) received a child abuse hotline call documented under ██████████. The Chicago Police Department (CPD) was notified of the abuse on June 19, 2018 and the incident was investigated by Detective Matthew Micetich.<sup>2</sup> DCFS determined that ██████████ (hereafter Ms. ██████████) was indicated for the physical abuse against ██████████ in which she grabbed ██████████ by the shirt and pinned her against the wall. ██████████ was immediately placed in the custody of her godmother, ██████████ (hereafter Ms. ██████████) and eventually ██████████ was granted temporary custody of ██████████.

COPA obtained the **DCFS Reports** which explained the facts of the DCFS investigation. Officer Jackson hit ██████████ on the leg with a belt for failure to complete chores. Ms. ██████████ grabbed ██████████ by the neck and threw her against the wall. After the altercation ██████████ attempted to leave the residence; however, ██████████ Officer Jackson prevented her from leaving. ██████████ then got a knife and went to her room and thought about hurting herself. DCFS was previously involved when ██████████ was hospitalized in September. The report further states that Officer Jackson grabbed ██████████ by her hair and dragged her to the kitchen to do her chores.<sup>3</sup> There was no evidence to suggest the physical altercation between Officer Jackson and ██████████ occurred as reported. Officer Jackson's allegations of physical abuse were UNFOUNDED. However, the allegations against Ms. Winston were INDICATED.

██████████ therapist, ██████████ (hereafter Mr. ██████████) believed that ██████████'s mental health would decompose if she returned home as her ██████████ was in denial about her diagnosis. Prior to the incident, ██████████ had been diagnosed with ██████████ with recurrent ██████████. Therefore, Officer Jackson was INDICATED regarding not providing the proper or necessary support for ██████████ well-being. Additionally, Officer Jackson missed Anastasia's final two therapy sessions. A safety plan was implemented immediately upon receiving the allegation, as ██████████ reported she was afraid to go home, and ██████████ was placed in the care of Ms. ██████████ also transferred schools and enrolled in Homewood Flossmoor High School near Ms. ██████████ residence. ██████████ was taken on June 19, 2018 and ██████████ was granted to Ms. ██████████ on June 21, 2018.

DCFS also interviewed ██████████ (██████████), ██████████ 5-year-old ██████████, who stated that his ██████████ told his ██████████ to hit ██████████ with a belt.<sup>4</sup> ██████████ reported that she missed her ██████████, dog, and turtle, but did not want to return home as her ██████████ did not understand her mental illness and she no longer wanted to live with ██████████.

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<sup>1</sup> See Att. 3

<sup>2</sup> See Att. 12 p45

<sup>3</sup> See Att. 12 p10

<sup>4</sup> See Att. 12 p13

COPA obtained a statement from [REDACTED] on August 15, 2018, at approximately 2:48 p.m., on the fourth floor of COPA offices located at 1615 W Chicago Ave, Chicago, Illinois. Ms. [REDACTED] stated on March 5, 2018, [REDACTED] was in the waiting room of the counselor's office. Ms. [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] if she wanted to talk. [REDACTED] stated "yes," and the two of them went into [REDACTED] office. [REDACTED] advised Ms. [REDACTED] there was a physical altercation at her home the night before because she did not complete her chores. [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] (Officer Jackson) approached her around 7 p.m. on March 4, 2018 and told her to "get up,"<sup>6</sup> at which time [REDACTED] crossed her arms and refused to do her chores. Officer Jackson then picked up a belt and hit her on the right leg. Officer Jackson then "grabbed her hair and pulled her into the kitchen."<sup>7</sup> [REDACTED] reported that she told Officer Jackson she hated him and then her stepmom, [REDACTED], began to yell. [REDACTED] turned around to go retrieve her cell phone and [REDACTED] grabbed her by the shirt and pinned her against the wall. Officer Jackson stood by and watched the incident.

COPA spoke with [REDACTED] (hereafter [REDACTED], [REDACTED] via telephone on January 28, 2020. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] no longer lived with her [REDACTED], but was in [REDACTED] custody as the State of Illinois was [REDACTED] guardian.<sup>8</sup>

COPA obtained a statement from [REDACTED] on July 30, 2020 at approximately 10:15 a.m., on the fourth floor of COPA offices located at 1615 W Chicago Ave, Chicago, Illinois.<sup>9</sup> [REDACTED] stated prior to the incident she lived with her [REDACTED] Officer Jackson, [REDACTED] and her [REDACTED] Ms. [REDACTED] and Officer Jackson had been dating since she was 10 years old. On the date of the incident, [REDACTED] stated it was a very scary moment in that Officer Jackson had never been that aggressive with her, and that day was her last straw. [REDACTED] stated she, Officer Jackson, and [REDACTED] were in the kitchen when she told Officer Jackson to drop dead. Officer Jackson then hit her with a belt and [REDACTED] pushed her against the wall. [REDACTED] stated that at that point she [REDACTED] "lost it."<sup>10</sup> [REDACTED] was not present during the incident as he was in his room. [REDACTED] stated Officer Jackson had come into the room with the belt in his hand and stuck her in the leg and on the side of her stomach with it.<sup>11</sup> Mr. Jackson stated, "What the fuck did you say," while striking [REDACTED] with the belt.<sup>12</sup> [REDACTED] stated she felt worthless after the incident. She also felt as though Officer Jackson did not care about her. Officer Jackson stood by while [REDACTED] pinned [REDACTED] against the wall and at no time did he advise [REDACTED] to stop. [REDACTED] remained pinned against the wall for a few minutes and stated that she felt lightheaded and her throat was itchy as she was gasping for air.

After the incident [REDACTED] went to her room and did not see Officer Jackson or [REDACTED] the rest of the night. [REDACTED] went to school the next day and her friend [REDACTED] noticed that she was crying. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] hit her again. [REDACTED] then went to the counselor's office and stated that she did not want to return home as

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<sup>5</sup> See Att. 10

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at 4:53

<sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 5:01

<sup>8</sup> See Att. 13

<sup>9</sup> See Att. 14

<sup>10</sup> *Id.* at 18:56

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* at 23:16

<sup>12</sup> *Id.* at 25:56

she did not feel safe. DCFS was notified and [REDACTED] went to live with [REDACTED] related that she had not seen Officer Jackson in a year but knew that he loved her.

COPA obtained a statement from **Officer Jackson** on June 17, 2021, at approximately 1:27 p.m. on the fourth floor of COPA offices located at 1615 W Chicago Ave, Chicago, Illinois.<sup>13</sup> Officer Jackson stated he had [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] until DCFS removed her from the home because of the incident that occurred on March 4, 2018. [REDACTED] and her [REDACTED] (hereafter [REDACTED]) communicated via email; however, there was no visitation schedule in place as [REDACTED] suffered from mental illness. [REDACTED] behavior changed toward both Officer Jackson and [REDACTED] whenever [she] was communicating with [REDACTED] received poor grades in school for a few years leading up to the incident. However, [REDACTED] did participate in some school clubs and had friends that she talked to on the phone and who would come to visit her at their home on occasion.

On the date of the incident, [REDACTED] received her progress report which revealed she was failing her classes. Officer Jackson advised [REDACTED] to clean her room, and she refused. Eventually, [REDACTED] got up and grabbed a broom. While walking toward the living room Anastasia “shoulder checked,” [REDACTED] who was walking in the opposite direction.<sup>14</sup> [REDACTED] stopped and turned around and [REDACTED] raised her right hand and attempted to punch [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] conducted a defensive move to hold [REDACTED] hands to prevent [REDACTED] from hitting her. During this interaction the two of them were standing between the dining room and living room. [REDACTED] attempted to restrain [REDACTED] by holding her wrist; however, [REDACTED] continued to charge at her. [REDACTED] held [REDACTED] back against the wall as [REDACTED] continued to try and strike [REDACTED]. Officer Jackson observed the entire incident from beginning to end and did not witness [REDACTED] place her hands around [REDACTED] neck at any time.

Officer Jackson was standing near his bedroom when the physical altercation initially began. It took him about 30 seconds to get to the living room/dining room area and as he approached, he told [REDACTED] to let go of [REDACTED]. As he was speaking [REDACTED] released hold of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] went into her bedroom. Officer Jackson and [REDACTED] stood in the kitchen talking and overheard [REDACTED] yelling “I’m gonna make you guys pay. You’ll see tomorrow.”<sup>15</sup>

### III. 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;

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<sup>13</sup> Officer Jackson appeared with his attorney, [REDACTED] who was present during the interview. Officer Jackson’s interview is incorporated at Att. 15 & 16.

<sup>14</sup> See Att. 15 at 4:37

<sup>15</sup> *Id.* at 5:58

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** is evidence indicating that it is **more likely than not** that the conduct occurred and violated Department policy.<sup>16</sup> If the evidence gathered in an investigation establishes that it is more likely that the misconduct occurred, 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.<sup>17</sup> Clear and convincing is 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.”<sup>18</sup>

#### IV. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

COPA finds **Allegations 1, 2, 3 and 4** alleging that Officer Jackson struck [REDACTED] on the leg with a belt, struck [REDACTED] on the stomach/ribs with a belt, directed profanities at [REDACTED] stating words to the effect of “what the fuck you say,” and failed to intervene when [REDACTED] pinned [REDACTED] to a wall without justification are **NOT SUSTAINED**. To sustain these allegations, COPA must find that it is more likely than not that the alleged misconduct occurred and violated Department policy, by a preponderance of the evidence. However, in this case, COPA was unable to fulfill that requirement, as there were discrepancies in the statement(s) the complainant provided to COPA when compared with that which was listed in DCFS reports. Additionally, Officer Jackson denied the allegations.

In reviewing the various statements provided by [REDACTED] regarding the incident in question, the location in which the alleged misconduct occurred is unclear. The DCFS reports and the statements provided by the complainant are contradictory, and it is not clear if [REDACTED] was struck with the belt while in her bedroom or if she was struck in the kitchen prior to being pinned against the wall by [REDACTED]. There are also contradictory accounts as to the number of times [REDACTED] was allegedly struck with the belt. The day after the incident, [REDACTED] reported to Ms. [REDACTED] that she was struck on her right leg.<sup>19</sup> However, in a subsequent interview with COPA on July 30,

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<sup>16</sup> 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 been found to be more probably true than not).

<sup>17</sup> See e.g., *People v. Coan*, 2016 IL App (2d) 151036 (2016).

<sup>18</sup> *Id.* at ¶ 28.

<sup>19</sup> See Att. 10 at 4:55; 19:32.



Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

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<b>Squad#:</b>	9
<b>Investigator:</b>	Shakira Nubern
<b>Supervising Investigator:</b>	Dortricia Penn
<b>Deputy Chief Administrator:</b>	Matthew Haynam