

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Incident:	April 23, 2019
Time of Incident:	5:50 pm
Location of Incident:	198 W. 51 st Street.
Date of COPA Notification:	April 23, 2019
Time of COPA Notification:	6:03 pm

The incident was captured entirely on the Body Worn Camera (BWC)¹ of Officer Lonnie Felters. [REDACTED] was driving westbound on 51st Street when he observed a marked squad car turn onto 51st Street and get directly behind his vehicle. Mr. [REDACTED] stopped his vehicle on the 51st Street bridge above the Dan Ryan Expressway. Officer Felters approached Mr. [REDACTED] on the driver’s side while Officer Michael Bennett approached the passenger side. Mr. [REDACTED] described his religion as being a Muslim and was wearing a wrapped scarf around his head that he uses as a prayer rug. Mr. [REDACTED] asked Officer Felters why he pulled him over and Officer Felters replied “*You look like a terrorist.*”² Mr. [REDACTED] was surprised and upset, but continued to cooperate with Officer Felters by providing his driver’s license to him. Officer Felters conducted a driver’s license search on Mr. [REDACTED] that revealed he had a valid driver’s license and a revoked Concealed Carry License. Officer Felters asked Mr. [REDACTED] if he had a FOID card and Mr. [REDACTED] stated, “*What’s that got to do with why you pulled me over?*”³ Officer Felters handed back Mr. [REDACTED] driver's license and told him to have a good day. Mr. [REDACTED] was not issued any citations.

II. INVOLVED PARTIES

Involved Officer #1:	Lonnie Felters, Star 14938, Employee ID# [REDACTED] DOA:10/27/14, Officer, Unit of Assignment 002, DOB: [REDACTED]/76, Male, Black.
Involved Officer #2:	Michael Bennett, Star 14860, Employee ID# [REDACTED] DOA:09/29/14, Officer, Unit of Assignment 002, DOB: [REDACTED] 77, Male, Black.
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED] 84, Male, Black.

¹ Attachments 4-5, Body Worn Camera (BWC) of Officer Lonnie Felters.
² Attachment 20, Interview transcription of [REDACTED] page 7, lines 2.
³ *Id.*, page 8, lines 12-13.

III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
PO Lonnie Felters	1. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters engaged in bias-based policing in violation of "General Order 02-04, Prohibition Regarding Racial Profiling and other Bias Based" in violation of Rules 1 and 6.	Sustained
	2. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters told ██████████ that he looked like a "terrorist", in violation of Rule 2.	Sustained
	3. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters improperly seized ██████████ by conducting a traffic stop without justification, in violation of Rules 1 and 6.	Sustained
	4. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters failed to properly document a traffic stop in violation of "Special Order 04-14-09, Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study," in violation of Rule 6.	Sustained
	5. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters failed to properly document a traffic stop in violation of "Special Order 04-13-19, Investigatory Stop System, in violation of Rule 6.	Sustained
PO Michael Bennett	1. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Michael Bennett improperly seized ██████████ by conducting a traffic stop without justification, in violation of Rules 1 and 6.	Sustained
	2. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Michael Bennett failed to properly document a traffic stop in violation of "Special Order 04-14-09, Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study," in violation of Rule 6.	Sustained
	3. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Michael Bennett failed to properly document a traffic stop in violation of "Special Order 04-13-19, Investigatory Stop System, in violation of Rule 1.	Sustained

IV. APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

Rules

1. Rule 1: Violation of any law or ordinance.
 2. Rule 2: Any action or conduct which impedes the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department.
 3. Rule 3: Any failure to promote the Department's efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals.
 4. Rule 6: Disobedience of an order or directive, whether written or oral.
 5. Rule 9: Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.
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General Orders

1. G02-04, Prohibition Regarding Racial Profiling and other Bias Based Policing⁴
 2. G01-01, Mission Statement and Core Values⁵
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Special Orders

1. S04-13-09, Investigatory Stop System⁶
 2. S04-14-09, Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study⁷
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V. INVESTIGATION

a. Interviews

In an **interview with COPA**⁸, on March 24, 2019, ██████████ related that he was driving westbound on 51st Street near the police station when he observed a marked squad car turn on to 51st Street. The squad car drove up behind Mr. ██████████ and activated its emergency lights. Mr. ██████████ stopped his vehicle and was approached by two uniformed, male, black officers, now known as Officer Lonnie Felters and Officer Michael Bennett. Mr. ██████████ related that he is a Muslim and was wearing a wrapped scarf around his head, which he uses as a prayer rug. Mr. ██████████ was approached by Officer Felters from the driver's side while Officer Bennett approached from the passenger side. Mr. ██████████ asked Officer Felters why he was being stopped and Officer Felters replied, "*You look like a terrorist.*"⁹ Mr. ██████████ was upset and surprised by Officer Felters comment. Mr. ██████████ was asked by Officer Felters to see his driver's license and Mr. ██████████ provided his driver's license to him. After running his information, Officer Felters asked him about his FOID card and Mr. ██████████ essentially stated what did that have to do with being pulled over. Mr. ██████████ related that he had a Conceal Carry license that was revoked. Mr. ██████████ related that Officer Felters returned his driver's license and did not issue him any citations or any other information for being stopped. When he asked Officer Felters for his star number, Officer Felters pointed to his Body Worn Camera (BWC)¹⁰ and told him to have a nice day.

⁴ Attachment #23, General Order 02-04, Prohibition Regarding Racial Profiling and other Bias Based Policing.

⁵ Attachment #46, General Order 01-01, Mission Statement and Core Values.

⁶ Attachment #21, Special Order 04-13-09, Investigatory Stop System.

⁷ Attachment #22, Special Order 04-14-09, Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study (TPSSS).

⁸ Attachment #20, Interview transcription of ██████████

⁹ *Id.*, page 6, lines 1-3.

¹⁰ Attachments #4-5, Body Worn Camera (BWC) of Officer Lonnie Felters.

In an interview with COPA¹¹ on June 26, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters, related that he and his partner Officer Michael Bennett conducted a traffic stop on [REDACTED] Officer Felters related while at his district, he viewed his Body Worn Camera (BWC) prior to giving his statement at COPA. Officer Felters was given another opportunity to view his BWC¹² with his attorney and at first Officer Felters agreed to proceed, but then changed his mind and requested to view his BWC¹³ with his attorney. He drove out of the police station and proceeded to stop and wait for the traffic light to change. At this same time, Officer Felters observed Mr. [REDACTED] driving pass the intersection at a high rate of speed and playing loud music. Officer Felters and Mr. [REDACTED] made eye contact with each other. Officer Felters noticed that Mr. [REDACTED] had his face completely covered up and could only see his eyes. Officer Felters explained when someone makes eye contact with the police, that's an indication to him they're suspicious or guilty of having done something. Officer Felters described the area he patrols as known for shooting and robberies. Officer Felters believed that he had probable cause to stop Mr. [REDACTED] because he was speeding and the loud music coming from his car. Before making the traffic stop on Mr. [REDACTED] Officer Felters' BWC¹⁴ captured him stating, *"Let's stop this mother-fucker over, crazy mother-fuck."*¹⁵ Officer Felters admitted making that comment about Mr. [REDACTED] because of the manner in which Mr. [REDACTED] was driving. Officer Felters activated his emergency lights and proceeded to conduct a traffic stop on Mr. [REDACTED] After making the stop, He approached Mr. [REDACTED] whose face was now visible. Mr. [REDACTED] began to yell and Officer Felters stated to Mr. [REDACTED] *"You look like a terrorist."*¹⁶ Officer Felters admitted that it was a poor choice of words and explained that his intent for stopping Mr. [REDACTED] was based on his speeding, loud music and the suspicious concealment of his face. Officer Felters admitted that he should have provided Mr. [REDACTED] with an explanation for the stop. After running Mr. [REDACTED] name, Officer Felters noticed that Mr. [REDACTED] had a revoked Concealed Carry License (CCL) and asked Mr. [REDACTED] if he had a CCL license. Officer Felters related that by asking that question, he could further determine if Mr. [REDACTED] was truthful in his answer.

As an African American, he understands racial bias and was unaware of Mr. [REDACTED] religion at the time of the stop. It was not his intent to discriminate or racially profile Mr. [REDACTED] or his religion. He stopped Mr. [REDACTED] because he was speeding, playing loud music and his suspicious concealment of his face. Officer Felters agreed that the language he used was not appropriate and was not within the mission of the Chicago Police Department. Officer Felters related that he observed himself on his BWC¹⁷ filling out a "blue card" which is known as a Traffic Stop Statistical Study-Driver Information Card and that after completing the cards, he is required to enter the information into the Clear System. However, He completes many blue cards but does not always enter the data into the Clear System during his tour, as required. Officer Felters was shown a report¹⁸ that indicated how many Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Study he fully entered into the Clear System from February 2019 to April 2019. The report¹⁹ indicated that Officer Felters

¹¹ Attachment #33, Audio interview transcription of Officer Lonnie Felters.

¹² Attachments #4-5, Body Worn Camera (BWC) of Officer Lonnie Felters.

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ Attachment #4, Body Worn Camera (BWC) of Officer Lonnie Felters.

¹⁵ *Id.*, .20 seconds.

¹⁶ Attachment #33, Audio interview transcription of Officer Lonnie Felters, page 12, lines 20-21.

¹⁷ Attachment #4, Body Worn Camera (BWC) of Officer Lonnie Felters, 2.08 minutes.

¹⁸ Attachment #25, Traffic Stop Statistical Study (TSSS) search results on Officer Felters.

¹⁹ *Id.*

completed only one Traffic Stop Statistical Study (TSSS) Driver Information Card during that period. Officer Felters believes that he has never entered a (TSSS) Driver Information Card data into the computer system, and therefore admitted that he failed to enter Mr. [REDACTED] information into the computer system. Officer Felters was captured on his BWC²⁰ filling out a (TSSS) Driver Information Card, but he could not recall if he submitted the card to the district for supervisor review. Officer Felters denied the allegation that he failed properly document the traffic stop in accordance with Special Order 04-13-09 regarding Investigatory Stop System (ISR)²¹. Officer Felters related that he was under assumption that if a (TSSS) card was completed an Investigative Stop Report (ISR) was not required. Officer Felters related that he did not issue Mr. [REDACTED] any citations.

In an **interview with COPA**²² on December 4, 2019, **Officer Michael Bennett**, related that he and his partner Officer Lonnie Felters conducted a traffic stop on [REDACTED] Prior to being interviewed, Officer Bennett viewed his Body Worn Camera (BWC)²³ and the BWC²⁴ of Officer Felters. Officer Bennett related while on patrol, he observed an individual, now known as [REDACTED] driving erratically by swerving around traffic and noticed that he was concealing his face. Officer Bennett described the area they were patrolling as known for gang-involved shootings. Officer Bennett related that the concealment by Mr. [REDACTED] of his face, heightened their alert and suspicion and therefore proceeded to conduct a traffic stop. Officer Bennett exited and approached Mr. [REDACTED] from the passenger side while Officer Felters approached Mr. [REDACTED] from the driver's side. Officer Bennett stood at the passenger side while Officer Felters and Mr. [REDACTED] spoke to each other. Afterward, Officer Bennett and Officer Felters returned to the squad car and Officer Felters ran Mr. [REDACTED] name. Officer Felters was responsible for completing the "blue card," which is known as a Traffic Stop Statistical Study-Driver Information Card. The information on the card is then entered into the Clear System and later the card is submitted for supervisor approval. Officer Bennett related that he and Officer Felters had probable cause to stop Mr. [REDACTED] because of the erratic manner he was driving. While viewing Officer Felters' BWC²⁵, he heard Officer Felters refer to Mr. [REDACTED] as a terrorist. Officer Bennett related that was a bad comment made by Officer Felters and should have just asked him why he was driving erratically and concealing his face. During the traffic stop, it was noisy and did not actually hear the conversation between Officer Felters and Mr. [REDACTED] and did not hear Officer Felters call Mr. [REDACTED] a terrorist. At the time, Officer Bennett was on the passenger side of Mr. [REDACTED] vehicle and was more concerned with the safety of Officer Felters. Officer Bennett related that he has known Officer Felters since 2014, while they were both at the police academy, and have been partner for almost three years. Officer Bennett related that Officer Felters is not a prejudiced person. Officer Bennett feels that he was pulled into this situation and wished that Officer Felters had not made that comment to Mr. [REDACTED]

²⁰ Attachment #4, Body Worn Camera (BWC) of Officer Lonnie Felters.

²¹ Attachment #21, Special Order 04-13-09, Investigatory Stop System.

²² Attachment #44, Audio interview transcription of Officer Michael Bennett.

²³ Attachments 6-7, Body Worn Camera (BWC) video of Officer Michael Bennett.

²⁴ Attachments #4-5, Body Worn Camera (BWC) video of Officer Lonnie Felters.

²⁵ *Id.*

b. Digital Evidence

Body Worn Camera (BWC)²⁶ video showed that on April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters conducting a traffic stop on the 51st Street bridge above the Eisenhower expressway. A transcription²⁷ of Officer Felters audio portion of his BWC was transcribed for this investigation. Officer Felters is heard stating *"I'm gonna mother-fucking pull your ass over"*²⁸ and proceeded to curb [REDACTED]. Officer Felters approached Mr. [REDACTED] and requested to see his driver's license. Mr. [REDACTED] asked Officer Felters why he stopped him and Officer Felters responded, *"Because you, I thought you was a terrorist."*²⁹ Mr. [REDACTED] became upset and repeatedly is heard saying the word "terrorist."

Body Worn Camera (BWC)³⁰ video showed that on April 23, 2019, Officer Michael Bennett conducting a traffic stop on the 51st Street bridge above I 94, Dan Ryan expressway. Officer Bennett approached the passenger side while Officer Lonnie Felters approached [REDACTED] on the driver's side. The conversation between Officer Felters and Mr. [REDACTED] could not be clearly heard because of the noise of vehicles driving underneath the bridge. However, while returning to the squad car, Mr. [REDACTED] is heard yelling the word *"terrorist."*³¹

c. Documentary Evidence

OEMC Event Query Report # [REDACTED] indicated that on April 23, 2019, from approximately 5:48 pm to 5:57 pm, Officer Lonnie Felters Jr. and Officer Michael Bennett (Beat #202S3) conducted a street stop in the vicinity of 198 W. 51st Street.

OEMC PDT Message Report³³ indicated that Officer Lonnie Felters Jr. conducted a search of Mr. [REDACTED] driver's license. The search revealed that Mr. [REDACTED] had a valid driver's license and a revoked Concealed Carry License.

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;

²⁶ Attachments #4-5, Body Worn Camera (BWC) video of Officer Lonnie Felters.

²⁷ Attachment #24, Transcription of Body Worn Camera audio of Officer Lonnie Felters.

²⁸ *Id.*, page 2, lines 2-3.

²⁹ *Id.*, page 2, lines 15-16.

³⁰ Attachments #4-5, Body Worn Camera (BWC) video of Officer Michael Bennett.

³¹ *Id.*, 1.00 minute

³² Attachment #2, OEMC Event Query # [REDACTED]

³³ Attachment #3, OEMC PDT Message Report.

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 occurred and violated 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 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. *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

On April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters was captured on his BWC³⁴ stating, "*I'm gonna mother-fucking pull your ass over*"³⁵ before he conducted a traffic stop on [REDACTED]. Officer Felters related that he believed he had probable cause to stop Mr. [REDACTED] because Mr. [REDACTED] was speeding and playing loud music, in addition to his face being partially concealed (he could only see his eyes), which heightened his suspicion. Officer Felters approached Mr. [REDACTED] who asked why he was being stopped, and Officer Felters responded, "*I thought you was a terrorist.*"³⁶ Officer Felters admitted that he used a poor choice of words, but related that at the time of the traffic stop, he was unaware of Mr. [REDACTED] religion. Officer Felters related that it was not his intent to discriminate or racially profile Mr. [REDACTED]. Mr. [REDACTED] described his religion as being Muslim and that he was wearing a scarf wrapped around his head that he uses as a prayer rug. Although Officer Felters did not comment or discuss race or religion with Mr. [REDACTED] he was alleged to have been engaging in bias-based policing by stating to Mr. [REDACTED] "*I thought you was a terrorist,*"³⁷ in violation of "General Order 02-04, Prohibition Regarding Racial Profiling and other Bias Based." Officer Felter's actions were a clear violation of Section III (Individual Responsibilities) Item B, which specifically states:

"Members making routine or spontaneous law enforcement decisions, such as investigatory stops, traffic stops and arrests, may not use race, ethnicity, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, disability, gender, gender identity, sexual

³⁴ Attachments #4-5, Body Worn Camera (BWC) video of Officer Lonnie Felters.

³⁵ Attachment #33, Audio interview transcription of Officer Lonnie Felters, page 2, lines 2-3.

³⁶ *Id.*, page 12, lines 20-21.

³⁷ Attachment #33, Audio interview transcription of Officer Lonnie Felters, page 12, lines 20-21.

orientation, marital status, parental status, military discharge status, financial status, or lawful source of income, except that officers may rely on the listed characteristics in a specific suspect description.”³⁸

Officer Felters further violated Section III (Policy), Item C, which specifically states:

“In addition to respect for those human rights prescribed by law, Department members will treat all persons with the courtesy and dignity which is inherently due every person as a human being. Department members will act, speak, and conduct themselves in a professional manner and maintain a courteous attitude in all contacts with the public.”³⁹

Therefore, **Allegations #1 and #2, against Officer Felters, must be Sustained.**

Officer Felters related that he observed Mr. [REDACTED] speeding, playing loud music from his vehicle and that Mr. [REDACTED] face was concealed, which heightened his suspicion. The entire incident was captured on Officer Felters’ BWC.⁴⁰ At no time during the duration of the BWC did he mention to Mr. [REDACTED] about speeding or loud music coming from his vehicle. Instead, Officer Felters informed Mr. [REDACTED] that he was being stopped because he looked like a “terrorist.”⁴¹ It was Officer Felters who was driving the squad car and initiated the traffic stop on Mr. [REDACTED] without justification. Therefore, **Allegation #3 against Officer Felters, must be Sustained.**

Officer Felters’ BWC⁴² captured him inside the squad car running Mr. [REDACTED] driver’s license in the Portable Data Terminal (PDT). Officer Felters is also captured filling out a “Blue Card,” which is known as a Traffic Stop Statistical Study-Driver Information Card (TSSS). He stated that he is aware of “Special Order 04-14-09, Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study,”⁴³ which govern traffic stops, and admitted that he does not always comply with the order. Officer Felters related that he completes many blue cards, but does not always enter the data into the Clear System during his tour, as required. Officer Felters was shown a report⁴⁴ that indicated how many Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Studies he fully entered into the Clear System from February 2019 to April 2019. The report⁴⁵ indicated that Officer Felters completed only one Traffic Stop Statistical Study Driver Information Card during that period. Officer Felters failed to fully process the information collected during the traffic stop, in violation of Special Order 04-14-

³⁸ Attachment #23, General Order 02-04, Prohibition Regarding Racial Profiling and other Bias Based Policing, page 2.

³⁹ *Id.*

⁴⁰ Attachments #4-5, Body Worn Camera (BWC) video of Officer Lonnie Felters.

⁴¹ Attachment #33, Audio interview transcription of Officer Lonnie Felters, page 12, lines 20-21.

⁴² Attachment #4, Body Worn Camera (BWC) of Officer Lonnie Felters, 2.08 minutes.

⁴³ Special Order 04-14-09, Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study (TPSSS).

⁴⁴ Attachment #25, Traffic Stop Statistical Study (TSSS) search results on Officer Felters.

⁴⁵ *Id.*

09, Section V, Item D-2. Officer Felters admitted that he did not always process all his traffic stop before the end of his tour. Therefore, **Allegation #4 against Officer Felters must be Sustained.**

Officer Felters related that Mr. ██████ was speeding, playing loud music and his face was completely covered up and only his eyes could be seen. Therefore, Officer Felters believed that he had reasonable suspicion that Mr. ██████ was guilty of having done something wrong. However, Officer Felters failed to articulate any of these factors in an Investigator Stop Report. Therefore, Officer Felters violated Special Order 04-13-09, (Policy) Section III, Item 1-a, which states *“The reason for completing the Investigatory Stop Report is to ensure an Investigatory Stop, including a statement of the facts establishing Reasonable Articulable Suspicion to stop an individual.”*⁴⁶ Therefore, **Allegation #5 against Officer Felters must be Sustained.**

Officer Bennett related that he observed Mr. ██████ driving erratically by swerving around traffic and noticed that Mr. ██████ face was concealed, which heightened his suspicion. The entire incident was captured on Officer Felters’ BWC⁴⁷ and there was no mention to Mr. ██████ about speeding, loud music or driving erratic. Instead, Officer Felters is heard stating to Mr. ██████ that he was being stopped because he looked like a “terrorist.”⁴⁸ Although, it was Officer Felters who initiated the traffic stop, Officer Bennett was present and was equally responsible for articulating and properly documenting the traffic stop. Therefore, **Allegation #1 against Officer Bennett must be Sustained.**

Officer Bennett related that the concealment, by Mr. ██████ of his face, heightened their suspicion and therefore proceeded to conduct a traffic stop. Officer Felters’ BWC⁴⁹ captured him inside the squad car running Mr. ██████ driver’s license in the Portable Data Terminal. Officer Felters is also captured filling out a Blue Card. Officer Bennett stated that he is aware of “Special Order 04-14-09, Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study”⁵⁰ which govern traffic stops. Officer Bennett was shown a report⁵¹ that indicated how many Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Studies he fully entered into the Clear System, from February 2019 to April 2019. The report⁵² indicated that Officer Bennett completed only one Traffic Stop Statistical Study (TSSS) Driver Information Card during that period. Officer Bennett failed to fully process the information collected on this traffic stop, in violation of Special Order 04-14-09, Section V, Item 2. Officer Bennett admitted that he did not report the traffic stop of Mr. ██████ and therefore, **Allegation #2 against Officer Bennett, must be Sustained.**

Officer Bennett believed that there was probable cause to stop Mr. ██████ who was observed driving erratically and swerving around traffic, in addition to Mr. ██████ face being concealed. However, Officer Bennett failed to articulate any of these factors in an Investigator Stop Report. Therefore, Officer Bennett violated Special Order 04-13-09, (Policy) Section III,

⁴⁶ Attachment #21, Special Order 04-13-09, Investigatory Stop System, page 3.

⁴⁷ Attachments #4-5, Body Worn Camera (BWC) video of Officer Lonnie Felters.

⁴⁸ Attachment #33, Audio interview transcription of Officer Lonnie Felters, page 12, lines 20-21.

⁴⁹ Attachment #4, Body Worn Camera (BWC) of Officer Lonnie Felters, 2.08 minutes.

⁵⁰ Special Order 04-14-09, Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study (TPSSS).

⁵¹ Attachment #25, Traffic Stop Statistical Study (TSSS) search results on Officer Bennett.

⁵² *Id.*

Item D, 1-a, which states “*The reason for completing the Investigatory Stop Report is to ensure an Investigatory Stop, including a statement of the facts establishing Reasonable Articulable Suspicion to stop an individual.*”⁵³ Therefore, **Allegation #3 against Officer Bennett must be Sustained.**

VIII. RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE FOR SUSTAINED ALLEGATIONS

c. Officer Lonnie Felters Jr.

i. Complimentary and Disciplinary History

2019 Crime Reduction Award
Attendance Recognition Award
Emblem of Recognition – Physical Fitness
Twenty-two Honorable Mention

ii. Recommended Penalty, by Allegation

1. **Allegation No. 1**, Officer Felters violated General Order 02-04, Prohibition Regarding Racial Profiling and other Bias Based.
2. **Allegation No. 2**, Officer Felters **admitted** telling [REDACTED] that he looked like a “terrorist.”
3. **Allegation No. 3**, Officer Felters improperly seized [REDACTED] by conducting a traffic stop without justification.
4. **Allegation No. 4**, Officer Felters **admitted** that he did not properly document traffic stop.
5. **Allegation No. 5**, Officer Felters **admitted** that he did not complete an Investigatory Stop Report.

d. Officer Michael Bennett

i. Complimentary History

2019 Crime Reduction Award
Attendance Recognition Award
Two Complimentary Letters
Seventeen Honorable Mentions
Unit Meritorious Performance Award

ii. Disciplinary History

⁵³ Attachment #21, Special Order 04-13-09, Investigatory Stop System, page 3.

No Complaint History

- iii. **Allegation No 1**, Officer Bennett improperly seized [REDACTED] by conducting a traffic stop without justification.
 - 1. **Allegation No. 2**, Officer Bennett **admitted** that he did not properly document traffic stop.
 - 2. **Allegation No. 3**, Officer Bennett **admitted** that he did not complete an Investigatory Stop Report.

II. CONCLUSION

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

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Officer Lonnie Felters Jr.	1. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters engaged in bias-based policing in violation of “General Order 02-04, Prohibition Regarding Racial Profiling and other Bias Based” in violation of Rules 1 and 6.	Sustained/ 5 days Suspension
	2. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters told [REDACTED] that he looked like a “terrorist”, in violation of Rule 2.	Sustained/ 5 days Suspension
	3. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters improperly seized [REDACTED] by conducting a traffic stop without justification, in violation of Rules 1 and 6.	Sustained/ 5 days Suspension
	4. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters failed to properly document a traffic stop in violation of “Special Order 04-14-09, Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study,” in violation of Rule 6.	Sustained/ 1 day Suspension
	5. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Lonnie Felters failed to properly document a traffic stop in violation of “Special Order 04-13-19, Investigatory Stop System, in violation of Rule 6.	Sustained/ 1 day Suspension
Officer Michael Bennett	1. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Michael Bennett improperly seized [REDACTED] by conducting a traffic stop without justification, in violation of Rules 1 and 6.	Sustained/ 5 days Suspension

	<p>2. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Michael Bennett failed to properly document a traffic stop in violation of "Special Order 04-14-09, Illinois Traffic and Pedestrian Stop Statistical Study," in violation of Rule 6.</p> <p>3. It is alleged that on April 23, 2019, Officer Michael Bennett failed to properly document a traffic stop in violation of "Special Order 04-13-19, Investigatory Stop System, in violation of Rule 6.</p>	<p>Sustained/ 1 day Suspension</p> <p>Sustained/ 1 day Suspension</p>
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Approved:



12-20-2020

Angela Hearts-Glass
Deputy Chief Investigator

Date

Appendix A
Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:	12
Investigator	Roberto Soto
Supervising Investigator	Andrew Dalkin
Deputy Chief	Angela Hearts-Glass