

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	June 1, 2020 / 9:31 pm / 4616 N. Broadway, Chicago IL 60640
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	June 2, 2020 / 10:54 am
Involved Officer #1:	Unidentified Officer
Involved Individual #1:	Unidentified Civilian
Case Type:	05A – Excessive Force

I. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Unidentified Officer	1. Striking an unidentified member of the public, without justification, in violation of Rule 6.	Not Sustained.
	2. Failing to complete a Tactical Response Report detailing the force used on an unidentified member of the public, in violation of Rule 6.	Not Sustained.
	3. Failing to timely activate your Body Worn Camera, in violation of Rule 6.	Not Sustained.

II. BACKGROUND

In the wake of George Floyd’s death at the hands of police officers in Minneapolis, Minnesota on May 26, 2020, large scale protests and demonstrations erupted around our nation calling for police reform. Chicago experienced a period of significant civil unrest which resulted in thousands of police and civilian encounters, many of which were fraught with emotion and hostility. Many of these encounters were captured on videos that went viral on social media platforms and were circulated around the world. While these videos were vital pieces of evidence, they often failed to positively identify the involved officer or civilian. Significant investigative resources were expended in order to obtain such information and move these cases to conclusion.

This investigation into the misconduct of the involved Department members began as a third-party complaint that provided video. While the video itself provided powerful evidence as to the misconduct in question, it did not include enough details to identify the parties involved. Therefore, COPA utilized a combination of video enhancement, in depth interviews, requests for Departmental assistance, and careful review of Department records to identify both the officers and civilians involved. The following is a summary of the evidence COPA obtained and the ultimate outcome of this investigation.

III. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE¹

COPA conducted a comprehensive investigation that included reviewing; analyzing and enhancing twitter video; canvassing the area for 3rd party video and witnesses, reviewing Department reports including OEMC radio transmissions, body-worn camera, GPS data, deployment records; reviewing social media and traditional media platforms; and conducting witness interviews. The following is a summary of the facts as determined by COPA.

On June 1, 2020 at approximately 9:03 pm, the Department deployed numerous members to the 4600 block of N. Broadway. A gathering of demonstrators marched north to Broadway and Wilson from downtown. The department members set up a wall of officers south of the demonstrators. At approximately 9:03 pm an unidentified Department member determined that the gathering needed to be dispersed.² Members moved towards the crowd, and civilians slowly walked north. The video depicts the sound of broken glass followed by an unidentified uniformed male officer running towards the civilians and push an unidentified male citizen, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and dark jeans, causing the citizen to fall to the ground.³ Once on the ground the unidentified officer struck the citizen in the head several times with a closed fist.⁴ This interaction resulted in numerous citizens and members responding to assist.

During COPA's investigation, COPA interviewed two eyewitnesses who could not provide any identifiable information about the victim or the involved officer.⁵ Additionally, COPA learned of several incidents of the Department's use of force from that same protest, some that resulted in injury to citizens. However, to date, COPA lacks witness testimony, personal accounts, surveillance or third-party video leading to additional information about either civilian participants or detailed information about the Department members. COPA made significant efforts to identify deployed and involved officers.

IV. INVESTIGATIVE ACTIONS TO IDENTIFY PARTICIPANTS

COPA made significant efforts to identify deployed and involved officers. COPA took the following steps:

- Reviewed footage from Twitter that was identified when the complaint was registered and determined the footage lacked sufficient detail to identify the involved members.⁶

¹COPA conducted a full and complete investigation of this matter, including the interview of all pertinent civilian and officer witnesses, and the collection and review of digital, documentary, and forensic evidence. As part of COPA's ongoing efforts to increase case closure capacity, certain cases are summarized more succinctly in a Modified Summary Report of Investigation.

² COPA believes the decision to disburse the gathering was at least in-part based upon the 9:00 pm curfew that took effect on May 31, 2020. *See* Att. 48.

³ Att. 2.

⁴ Att. 2.

⁵ Att. 42

⁶ Att. 2.

- Requested and reviewed relevant radio transmission from the Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC). This review identified 21 members who reported they were in the area around the time of the incident.⁷
- Searched for and reviewed GPS Data for Department vehicles in the area. This review identified 18 vehicles in the area at the time of the incident.⁸
- Searched for Body Worn Camera (BWC) footage for the members identified via the OEMC transmissions, as well as 019th and 020th District members⁹ working around the time of the incident. This search resulted in 136 recordings, which COPA investigators reviewed and determined contained no information to assist in identifying the involved members.¹⁰
- Requested In-Car Camera (ICC) footage for the members identified via the GPS Data¹¹ and the OEMC transmissions; this request resulted in four recordings, which COPA investigators reviewed and determined contained no information to assist in identifying the involved members.¹²
- Requested and reviewed relevant deployment records from the Department; this review identified approximately 599 members, of which 70 were members of supervision, who were potentially in the area around the time of the incident.¹³
- Requested the identified members of supervision review a video recording¹⁴ and five screenshots,¹⁵ and report if they knew the identities of any members depicted. This request resulted in 69 negative responses.¹⁶
- Searched for relevant Event Queries. This searched resulted in 90 Event Queries which COPA investigators reviewed and determined did not document this incident.¹⁷
- Requested and reviewed Police Observation Device (POD) footage. This review determined the POD did not capture any relevant footage of this incident.¹⁸
- Canvassed the area of the incident. This canvass resulted in no information to assist in identifying the involved members.¹⁹
- Searched various social media platforms for relevant footage. This search resulted in one recording that did not assist in identifying the involved members.²⁰
- Interviewed civilian witnesses, who were unable to provide details that would assist in identifying the involved members.²¹

⁷ Atts. 39 and 43.

⁸ Att. 12. *See* Note CO-0053875.

⁹ Atts. 44 and 45.

¹⁰ Att. 46. *See* Notes CO-0053875 and CO-0070132.

¹¹ Att. 12.

¹² Atts. 24, 40, and 47.

¹³ Atts. 9 and 10.

¹⁴ Att. 2.

¹⁵ Att. 32.

¹⁶ Att. 50. One member separated from the Department prior to our identification and inquiry. *See* Att. 49 and Note CO-0070234. COPA notes this process was complete after consultation and input from the Department's Bureau of Internal Affairs and the Police Benevolent and Protective Association.

¹⁷ Atts. 20 and 22.

¹⁸ Atts. 4-7 and 34.

¹⁹ Att. 16. *See* Notes CO-0053415, CO-0053486, CO-0053499 and CO-0053571.

²⁰ *See* Note CO-0055489.

²¹ Att. 42. *See* Notes CO-0053415, CO-0053486, CO-0053499 and CO-0053571.

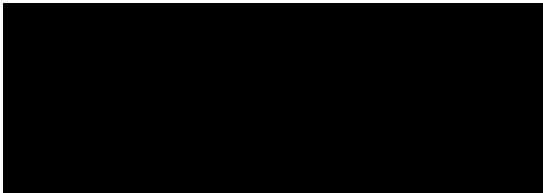
- Reviewed footage provided by the civilian witnesses and determined the footage did not contain sufficient information to assist in identifying the involved members.²²
- Reviewed third-party video footage from Log#2020-2542 and determined the incident captured was not related to this incident.²³

After completing these above steps, COPA was unable to identify any involved members or the involved civilian. Additionally, COPA referred the matter to both the Cook County State Attorney’s Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for criminal prosecution. To date, neither of those agencies have been able to identify any involved parties.

V. CONCLUSION

The conduct depicted in the video and described by witnesses is a clear example of excessive force. However, in order for COPA to sustain charges we must identify the department member who committed misconduct. COPA exhausted all reasonable investigative efforts in its attempt to identify this officer. While COPA finds the actions of the unknown officer egregious, COPA cannot sustain allegations against an unknown officer,²⁴ as such allegations must be **not sustained**. However, in the event additional information is discovered that reveals the identity of the member, COPA may reopen this matter for further investigation.

Approved:



5/28/2021

Matthew Haynam
Deputy Chief Administrator

Date

²² Atts. 19 and 33.

²³ See Note CO-0059813

²⁴ See G08-01-01 and S08-01-01 II(F)(17)(c).

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:	0
Investigator:	Garrett Schaaf
Supervising Investigator:	Steffany Hreno
Deputy Chief Administrator:	Matthew Haynam