

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Incident:	July 21, 2022
Time of Incident:	7:55 am
Location of Incident:	7808 S. Halsted ¹ , Chicago, Illinois.
Date of COPA Notification:	July 21, 2022
Time of COPA Notification:	10:22 am.

On July 21, 2022, at approximately 7:55 am, Officer Jarred Cochran was in the 006th District Police Station Locker Room, changing into his uniform. At the same time, Officer Cochran was unholstering his on-duty firearm when he unintentionally discharged his weapon, firing one round, which struck a locker.

II. INVOLVED PARTIES

Involved Officer #1: Jarredd Cochran	Officer Jarredd Cochran, Star #14246, Employee [REDACTED], Appointment Date February 19, 2013, Unit 006, Male, Black, Birth Date, [REDACTED], 1985
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III. ALLEGATION

Officer	Allegation	Finding/ Recommendations
Officer Jarredd Cochran	1. On July 21, 2022, at approximately 7:55 am, Officer Jarredd Cochran committed misconduct and was inattentive to duty in that his weapon discharged unintentionally, in violation of Rule 10.	Sustained

IV. APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

Rules

1. Rule 10: Inattention to duty.

¹ 006th District Police Station Locker Room

V. INVESTIGATION²

a. Interviews

In a **statement** to COPA on August 31, 2022, **Accused Officer Jarredd Cochran**³ stated that he was on-duty, at his locker facing south, and transferring his duty weapon from his Blackhawk Index off-duty holster to his duty holster when he unintentionally discharged his weapon. Officer Cochran stated that his weapon was a 9mm Glock 17. Officer Cochran said he fired one round, and that bullet struck a locker and concrete wall.

Officer Cochran described the locker room as rows with lockers on both sides and a bench. Officer Cochran stated he was about fifteen feet away from the locker room entrance and did not intentionally fire his weapon. Officer Cochran said he sat his weapon down on the bench and immediately notified Sergeant Seals. Officer Cochran was drug and alcohol tested with negative results. There were no witnesses to this incident, and he did not sustain any injuries other than his pride.

Officer Cochran said he never had any issues with his weapon. Officer Cochran stated that his weapon was a striker fire weapon; therefore, his finger had to be on the trigger, but he does not recall. Officer Cochran acknowledged that he committed this violation and stated it was an unintentional accident.

b. Documentary Evidence

The **Initiation Report**⁴ by Sergeant Harvey Keith Seals said that at 7:55 am; Officer Cochran was in the 006th District Men's Locker Room changing his uniform. While Officer Cochran was unholstering his on-duty firearm, he accidentally discharged his weapon, firing one round. The one round struck a locker, and no one was injured. No witnesses were in the locker room during the incident. Officer Cochran notified Sergeant Seals as soon as it happened.

The **Original Case Incident Report**⁵ indicates that Officer Cochran accidentally discharged his service weapon in the side male locker room, causing damage to a locker.

The **Tactical Response Report** for **Officer Jarredd Cochran (TRR)**⁶ indicates he was changing into his prescribed uniform in the 006th District Locker Room. While unholstering his duty weapon from his off-duty holster, the weapon accidentally fired one round. Officer Cochran immediately put the weapon down and notified his supervisor of the incident.

² COPA conducted a thorough and complete investigation. The following is a summary of the material evidence gathered and relied upon in our analysis.

³ Att. 9

⁴ Att. 4.

⁵ Att.7

⁶ Att. 10

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 occurred and violated Department policy.⁷ 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. 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."⁸

VII. ANALYSIS

Allegation 1 against Officer Cochran

COPA finds the allegation that on July 21, 2022, at approximately 7:55 am, Officer Cochran committed misconduct and was inattentive to duty in that his weapon discharged unintentionally is **SUSTAINED**.

In his interview, Officer Cochran admitted that while transferring his duty weapon from his off-duty holster to his duty holster, he unintentionally discharged his weapon striking a locker. Officer Cochran acknowledged he committed this violation and stated it was an unintentional accident.

⁷ 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).

⁸ *People v. Coan*, 2016 IL App (2d) 151036, ¶ 28 (2016).

VIII. RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE FOR SUSTAINED ALLEGATION⁹

a. Officer Jarredd Cochran

i. Complimentary and Disciplinary History¹⁰

The Complimentary History for Officer Cochran states that he has one-hundred thirty Honorable Mentions, one 2019 Crime Reduction Award, two Attendance Recognition Awards, three Department Commendation Awards, one Special Commendation, two Complimentary Letter, five Emblem of Reignition -Physical Fitness Awards, one Honorable Mention Ribbon Award, one Police Officer of the Month Award, one Superintendent's Award of Tactical Excellence, one Superintendent's Honorable Mention Award, and one Unit Meritorious Performance Award. According to the Bureau of Internal Affairs.

The SPAR history for Officer Cochran states that he has one sustained SPAR for a Preventable Accident. There was no disciplinary action taken against Officer Cochran for this incident.

As of September 14, 2022, there is no Sustained Complaint History against Officer Cochran.

ii. Recommended Penalty, by Allegation

- 1. Allegation #1 – 3-day suspension and retraining on firearm security and safety.**

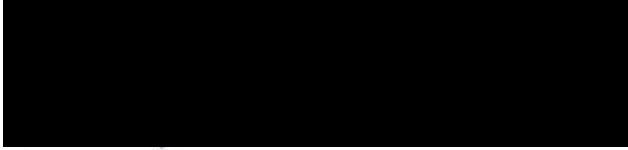
IX. CONCLUSION

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

Officer Jarredd Cochran	On July 21, 2022, at approximately 7:55 am, Officer Jarredd Cochran committed misconduct and was inattentive to duty in that his weapon discharged unintentionally, in violation of Rule 10.	Sustained
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⁹ Complimentary and Disciplinary History received and updated on March 23, 2022

¹⁰ Att. 11



3-13-2023

Angela Hearts-Glass
Deputy Chief Investigator

Date