

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Incident:	May 27, 2018
Time of Incident:	15:10
Location of Incident:	[REDACTED]
Date of COPA Notification:	May 29, 2018
Time of COPA Notification:	09:32

The Involved Individual, [REDACTED] alleged that Officer Lashon Morris pushed her in the face and shoulders during a verbal altercation. She also alleged that he did not properly secure his service weapon.

II. INVOLVED PARTIES

Involved Officer #1:	Lashon Morris, Star # 3974, Employee ID # [REDACTED], DOA September 25, 2006, Rank PO, Unit 018, DOB [REDACTED], 1968, Male, Blk
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED] DOB [REDACTED], 1980, Female, Blk

III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Lashon Morris	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The accused was involved in a verbal and physical altercation, where he pushed the complainant in the face and shoulders, in violation of Rule 8, 9.</li> <li>The accused failed to adequately secure his service weapon in violation of Rule 13.</li> </ol>	Sustained/10 days and complete an anger management class Sustained/5 day

#### IV. APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

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##### Rules

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1. Rule 8: Disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.
2. Rule 9: Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.
3. Rule 13: Failure to adequately secure and care for Department property.

#### V. INVESTIGATION

##### a. Interviews

In his statement to COPA<sup>1</sup> on August 6, 2018, Accused Officer Lashon Morris stated that [REDACTED] is his estranged [REDACTED] and they have been in a relationship for 8 years. He said that he and Ms. [REDACTED] had a verbal altercation regarding their 1-year old [REDACTED]. He said that within a matter of several minutes, he had to get out of the bed twice, because his [REDACTED] had been left alone in an area of the home. Officer Morris admitted to grabbing Ms. [REDACTED] shoulders during the verbal altercation. He stated that he grabbed her for approximately 1 second. Officer Morris denied pushing Ms. [REDACTED] and said that he did not push her in the face or hit her. He said that after he grabbed Ms. [REDACTED] she threw a shoe and hit him and hit him with a four-foot tall toy. Officer Morris denied a history of domestic violence with Ms. [REDACTED] and stated that Ms. [REDACTED] is not pursuing charges for domestic battery against him. He stated that prior to the incident he did not have any alcoholic beverages and when asked about his temperament at the time of the incident, he said he was tired from working overtime and was trying to rest. Officer Morris also admitted to not properly securing his weapon. He said that he secures it in a locked box under the bed but on the day in question, he put it on the shelf in his bedroom closet.

##### b. Digital Evidence

Body worn camera footage<sup>2</sup> shows Ms. [REDACTED] telling the responding officer that the accused pushed her and may have slapped her. She said she was not injured. She also stated that this is not the first time that the accused has engaged in this type of behavior. The footage also captures the accused admitting to pushing Ms. [REDACTED]

##### c. Documentary Evidence

The Chicago Police Department Arrest Report,<sup>3</sup> RD# JB281072, for Officer Morris lists the charges of domestic battery-physical contact and [REDACTED] as the victim. This report summarizes the verbal and physical altercation.

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<sup>1</sup> Att. 11

<sup>2</sup> Att. 12

<sup>3</sup> Att. 8

The Chicago Police Department Original Case Incident Report,<sup>4</sup> RD #281072, lists the incident as a domestic related incident and [REDACTED] as the victim.

**VI. ANALYSIS**

COPA recommends a finding of SUSTAINED for allegations #1 and #2 against Officer Lashon Morris. Officer Morris admitted to the misconduct and acknowledged that his actions were offensive to Ms. [REDACTED]. Ms. [REDACTED] alleged that he pushed her in the face and may have hit her in the face. She admitted that she did not have any injuries. Officer Morris denied pushing or hitting Ms. [REDACTED] in the face. His statement contradicts hers and without any evidence of injury to her face, this allegation cannot be proved. Officer Morris also acknowledged that he was negligent in not securing his service weapon.

**VII. RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE FOR SUSTAINED ALLEGATIONS**

**a. Officer Lashon Morris**

**i. Officer Morris' Complimentary History includes, among other awards, 2 Department Commendations, 9 Complimentary Letters, and 22 Honorable Mentions. His Disciplinary History includes an incident that occurred December 18, 2014, for Neglect of Duty/Conduct Unbecoming – On Duty, and the disciplinary actions taken was a 5-day suspension.**

**ii. Recommended Penalty, by Allegation**

**1. Allegation No. 1**

Aggravating factors include Officer Morris grabbed Ms. [REDACTED] by the shoulders, during a verbal altercation and that Ms. [REDACTED] their infant [REDACTED] and any other persons, in the home at the time of the altercation, could have been injured if the physical altercation had escalated. Mitigating factors include Officer Morris admitted to the misconduct.

**2. Allegation No. 2**

Aggravating factors include Officer Morris did not properly secure his service weapon in his home where other persons reside. Mitigating factors include Officer Morris admitted to not properly securing his service weapon.

**VIII. CONCLUSION**

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

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<sup>4</sup> Att. 7

Officer	Allegation	Finding / Recommendation
Lashon Morris	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="516 275 1096 426">1. The accused was involved in a verbal and physical altercation, where he pushed the complainant in the face and shoulders, in violation of Rule 8, 9.</li><li data-bbox="516 426 1096 504">2. The accused failed to adequately secure his service weapon in violation of Rule 13.</li></ol>	Sustained/10days and complete an anger management class Sustained/5 day

Approved:   


Angela Hearts-Glass  
Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

9-21-18  
Date

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

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<b>Squad#:</b>	12
<b>Investigator:</b>	J. Looper
<b>Supervising Investigator:</b>	A. Dalkin
<b>Deputy Chief Administrator:</b>	Angela Hearts-Glass

