

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	June 02, 2019/10:20 A.M./ [REDACTED]
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	June 04, 2019/10:01 A.M.
Involved Officer #1:	Gregory Rueda, Star No. 12403, Employee No. [REDACTED] Date of Appointment: October 16, 2017, Rank: Police Officer, Unit of Assignment: 001, DOB: [REDACTED] 1982, Male, White Hispanic
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED] 1984, Male, Black
Case Type:	Arrest without Justification

I. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer Gregory Rueda	It is alleged that on June 02, 2019 at approximately 10:20 A.M. at or near [REDACTED] Chicago Illinois Officer Gregory Rueda #12403 committed misconduct through the following acts or omissions: Arresting [REDACTED] without justification.	Exonerated

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE¹

Complainant [REDACTED] was arrested after a disturbance with his neighbors at [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Officer Rueda responded to a call and after speaking with the involved parties and apartment security, Officer Rueda arrested Mr. [REDACTED] on signed complaints from [REDACTED]. After reviewing BWC video² of the interaction, COPA confirmed that Officer Rueda acted in response to allegations by both Ms. [REDACTED] and security guard [REDACTED] that Mr. [REDACTED] was the aggressor. In addition, Mr. [REDACTED] can be heard on camera insulting Ms. [REDACTED] and attempting to incite further fighting. Officer Rueda can be heard attempting to calm Mr. [REDACTED] and attempting to deescalate the situation and avoid arrest.

¹ After reviewing the BWC and department reports COPA was able to determine the allegations against Officer Rueda were without merit, therefore Officer Rueda was never served allegations and COPA did not interview Officer Rueda.

² Attachment 1

Additionally, COPA reviewed department reports (Arrest Report³ and Original Case Incident Report⁴). The reports document Officer Rueda arriving on scene after being flagged down by Mr. [REDACTED] who stated he believed a fight was about to take place in the building lobby. The reports go on to document Ms. [REDACTED] complaint to officers that Mr. [REDACTED] had “lunged at her,” causing her “to believe she would receive a battery.” The reports additionally document the witness statements of Mr. [REDACTED] corroborating Ms. [REDACTED] complaint. The Original Case Incident Report describes Mr. [REDACTED] “being aggressive” during the encounter.

III. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

COPA finds that Officer Rueda’s arrest of Mr. [REDACTED] was lawful and justified. Ms. [REDACTED] verbal and signed complaints that Mr. [REDACTED] lunged at her were corroborated by the building security guard, Mr. [REDACTED] and witness, Mr. [REDACTED]. Mr. [REDACTED] claims that the arresting officer did not listen to his side of the story and did not give adequate weight to his verbal complaints about Ms. [REDACTED] conduct. Police officers, however, routinely receive differing versions of events from involved parties about personal confrontations and alleged criminal conduct. Mr. [REDACTED] differing version of the events in question here did not diminish the officers’ duty to respond to credible complaints of criminal conduct and, in light of all available evidence, to restore order at the scene of a disturbance involving verbal confrontation and alleged physical assault. Therefore, COPA finds the allegations that Officer Rueda arrested Mr. [REDACTED] without justification exonerated.

Approved:

[REDACTED]

February 28, 2020

Andrea Kersten
Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

Date

³ Attachment 2.

⁴ Attachment 3.

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:	Four
Investigator:	Daniel Thetford
Supervising Investigator:	James Murphy-Aguilu
Deputy Chief Administrator:	Andrea Kersten