



**Brandon Johnson**  
Mayor

**Department of Police · City of Chicago**  
3510 S. Michigan Avenue · Chicago, Illinois 60653

**Larry B. Snelling**  
Superintendent

December 14, 2023

Andrea Kersten  
Chief Administrator  
Civilian Office of Police Accountability  
1615 West Chicago Avenue, 4th Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60622

Re: Superintendent's Non-Concurrence with Penalty Recommendations  
Complaint Log No. 2022-0003663

Dear Chief Administrator Kersten:

After a careful review of the above referenced complaint log number, the Chicago Police Department (Department) concurs with the recommended sustained findings but does not concur with the recommended penalty as they pertain to Sergeant Martin Chatys, Star No. 1478. Pursuant to the Municipal Code of Chicago, the Department provides the following comments.

The COPA investigation recommended a penalty of a 10-day suspension for Sergeant Martin Chatys after concluding that he:

1. Stated words to the effect of "I don't give a shit" to a citizen after the citizen related that she was going to call COPA;
2. Stated words to the effect of "which school? Tell me which one, so I make sure I don't send my kids there" to the citizen after the citizen stated that she had just graduated from law school;
3. Failed to timely activate body worn camera.

The Department agrees that all three allegations should be sustained. But the Department believes that the penalty recommendations is excessive and recommends a 5-day suspension for Sergeant Chatys plus additional training on Courtesy and Demeanor as well as the Body Worn Camera policy.

Regarding Allegation #1 and #2, Sgt. Chatys stated that he had no recollection of this incident when he gave his statement a little over a year after the incident. The Department believes this is credible because Sgt. Chatys had just returned from an 11-month military deployment leave that began right after the incident. But the video footage is clear that this conduct occurred and that Sgt. Chatys should have been more professional and less argumentative with the citizen. This is especially true because he is a supervisor and he must set an example for his subordinates.

Regarding Allegation #3, Sgt. Chatys was required to have his body worn camera activated and there

is nothing to indicate any justifiable reason not have his camera activated.

If the purpose of discipline is to correct errant behavior and modify future conduct, then the Department believes that this can be accomplished with the imposition of a lesser suspension with the additional training, particularly in light of the fact that Sgt. Chatys has an impressive complimentary history. And although he has a significant disciplinary suspension within the last few years, that suspension was for off-duty conduct completely unrelated to his duties as a law enforcement officer.

The Department looks forward to discussing this matter with you pursuant to MCC 2-78-130(a)(iii).

Sincerely,



Larry B. Snelling  
Superintendent  
Chicago Police Department