

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. 2019-0003046

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 Anthony Bruno, Star No. 1123. Pursuant to the Municipal Code of Chicago, the Department provides the following comments.

The COPA investigation recommended a penalty of a 60-day suspension for Sergeant Anthony Bruno after concluding that he:

- 1. Gave an order for officers to terminate their body worn cameras;
- 2. Failed to ensure the veracity of the Complaint for Search Warrant before it was submitted to the court;
- 3. Failed to properly supervise search team members in their search warrant preparations.

The Department agrees that all three allegations should be sustained. But the Department believes that the penalty recommendations is excessive and recommends a 45-day suspension for Sergeant Bruno plus additional training as identified below.

Regarding Allegation #1, Sgt. Bruno admitted that he gave this order for the cameras to be terminated. Although he was incorrect in believing that this was permissible, this did not seem to be an intentional violation of the policy but more likely due to his inexperience. It should be noted that Sgt. Bruno had been a supervisor for less than a year at the time of this incident. And although Sgt. Bruno said he has since been "retrained," the Department will ensure he has a formal training session that can be recorded on his training history.

Regarding Allegation #2 and #3, the Department agrees that while the directive on search warrants

requires a Lieutenant's approval, a supervising Sergeant is not absolved of ensuring that his subordinates are complying with Department policies and procedures, especially when there are probationary and less-experienced officers involved. This member would benefit from additional training on Supervisory Duties and Responsibilities as well as specifically on Search Warrants.

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. Bruno has no disciplinary history and an impressive complimentary history.

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