

**SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION<sup>1</sup>**

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	December 8, 2021 / 10:20 PM / 2616 W Potomac Ave
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	December 10, 2021 / 11:10 AM
Accused Officer #1:	Michael Pelrine, Star#13337, Employee# [REDACTED], Date of Appointment: February 29, 2016, PO, Unit of Assignment: 014, DOB: [REDACTED], 1991, Male, White
Accused Officer #2:	Michael Katradis, Star#12341, Employee# [REDACTED], Date of Appointment: April 6, 2015, PO, Unit of Assignment: 014, DOB: [REDACTED], 1979, Male, White
Accused Officer #3:	Jonathan Kukielka, Star#11024, Employee# [REDACTED], Date of Appointment: December 16, 2009, PO, Unit of Assignment: 014, DOB: [REDACTED], 1981, Male, White
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED], 2000, Male, Hispanic
Involved Individual #2:	[REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED], 1998, Male, Hispanic
Involved Individual #3:	[REDACTED], 2002, Female, Hispanic
Case Type:	Improper Arrest / Excessive Force

**I. ALLEGATIONS**

<b>Officer</b>	<b>Allegation</b>	<b>Finding</b>
Officer Michael Pelrine	It is alleged that on or about December 8, 2021, at or after approximately 10:20 PM, at or near 2616 W Potomac Ave., Officer Pelrine, Star# 13337, committed misconduct through the following acts or omissions:  1. Arresting [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] without justification.	<b>Exonerated</b>

<sup>1</sup> On September 15, 2017, the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) replaced the Independent Police Review Authority (IPRA) as the civilian oversight agency of the Chicago Police Department. Therefore, this investigation, which began under IPRA, was transferred to COPA on September 15, 2017, and the recommendation(s) set forth herein are the recommendation(s) of COPA.

	2. Pulling the hair of [REDACTED] without justification.	<b>Not Sustained</b>
Officer Michael Katradis	<p>It is alleged that on or about December 8, 2021, at or after approximately 10:20 PM, at or near 2616 W Potomac Ave., Officer Katradis, Star# 12341, committed misconduct through the following acts or omissions:</p> <p>1. Arresting [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] without justification.</p> <p>2. Pulling the hair of [REDACTED] without justification.</p>	<p><b>Exonerated</b></p> <p><b>Not Sustained</b></p>
Officer Jonathan Kukielka	<p>It is alleged that on or about December 8, 2021, at or after approximately 10:20 PM, at or near 2616 W Potomac Ave., Officer Kukielka, Star# 11024, committed misconduct through the following acts or omissions:</p> <p>1. Pulling the hair of [REDACTED] without justification.</p>	<b>Not Sustained</b>

**II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE<sup>2</sup>**

COPA was able to obtain several pieces of documentary and digital evidence for this event. This evidence includes 18 BWC entries from officers on scene including accused Officers Michael Pelrine<sup>3</sup>, Michael Katradis<sup>4</sup>, and Jonathan Kukielka<sup>5</sup>, the investigative stop reports (ISR)<sup>6</sup>, the tactical response reports (TRR’s)<sup>7</sup>, and arrest reports<sup>8</sup>. The following is a summary of the above evidence as it proved most beneficial for this investigation.

<sup>2</sup>COPA conducted a full and complete investigation of this matter, including the interview of all pertinent civilian and officer witnesses, and the collection and review of digital, documentary, and forensic evidence. As part of COPA’s ongoing efforts to increase case closure capacity, certain cases opened under IPRA are summarized more succinctly in a Modified Summary Report of Investigation, pursuant to COPA Guideline Modified Summary Report of Investigation Template and Approvals, effective February 13, 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Att. 24

<sup>4</sup> Att. 25

<sup>5</sup> Att. 20

<sup>6</sup> Att. 1, 2, 3, and 4

<sup>7</sup> Att. 11 and 12

<sup>8</sup> Att. 5-10

According to the obtained reports, the accused officers were patrolling the area in response to a nearby Shot Spotter alert, captured in event queries<sup>9</sup>. As the officers are patrolling, they observe a gray Honda SUV moving in the rear alley near 2610 W Potomac. Once the officers begin investigating the Honda, they recognize the driver as [REDACTED] from a previous interaction and know him to not have a valid driver's license. [REDACTED] and the other occupants are ordered to step out to which [REDACTED] and the front passenger refuse to comply. The rear passenger, [REDACTED] [REDACTED], complied and was briefly detained but released on scene.<sup>10</sup> The front passenger is escorted out without incident and [REDACTED] makes a sudden lunging motion toward Officer Katradis as he attempts to escort him out of the vehicle. Officer Pelrine, who is also on the driver's side, conducts an emergency take down of [REDACTED] and places him in handcuffs. [REDACTED] brother, [REDACTED] was on scene and attempted to interfere with [REDACTED] arrest, by reaching in as officers are attempting to detain [REDACTED] was subsequently arrested without incident. An ISR was completed for the front passenger who was never identified due to running off during [REDACTED] arrest<sup>12</sup>.

The BWC corroborates much of what was documented in the arrest reports and tactical response reports. Officer Katradis speaks in a calm manner with [REDACTED] and explains the reason for the investigation and asking him to exit the vehicle.<sup>13</sup> [REDACTED] tells Officer Katradis that he was not driving the vehicle, yet is observed on a phone call making a comment to the effect of he was fixing the car because it was parked wrong, further indicating that he was operating the vehicle prior to being stopped. [REDACTED] refuses multiple orders to exit the vehicle and becomes irate when the front passenger is escorted out of her seat. As [REDACTED] is being escorted out of his vehicle, it appears as though he lunges toward Officer Katradis and Officer Pelrine. He actively resists prior to and during the emergency takedown then becomes an aggressor by striking Officer Pelrine with multiple kicks to his midsection once brought to his feet. [REDACTED] then begins screaming "I'll kill you" multiple times to Officer Pelrine. [REDACTED] interferes with the investigation by attempting to wedge his way between officers as they attempt to remove [REDACTED] from the front passenger seat. [REDACTED] is handcuffed while refusing to initially comply with officer commands to stay away and is ultimately arrested for interfering with the investigation. It should be noted that several family members arrive on scene furthering the intensity of an already chaotic environment, by threatening and interfering with officers.

There is an additional allegation against Officer Kukielka, for pulling the hair of [REDACTED] sister of [REDACTED] without justification. In the BWC entry of Officer Pelrine and Kukielka as [REDACTED] is being taken down, his sister, [REDACTED] attempts to interfere with his arrest, by attempting to reach in to prevent officers from detaining [REDACTED]. After [REDACTED] is detained, [REDACTED] walks hastily past officers again attempting to interfere with the arrest of [REDACTED]. Officers give several orders for [REDACTED] and the additional people on scene to get back to no avail. It appears that [REDACTED] is pulled away by the back of her hoodie by Officer Kukielka and she screams before walking away. This is also right before [REDACTED] begins kicking at and threatening to kill Officer Pelrine. Officer Kukielka did not document this with a TRR.

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<sup>9</sup> Att. 39 and 40

<sup>10</sup> Att. 3 - ISR

<sup>11</sup> Att. 11 and 12 – TRR reports

<sup>12</sup> Att. 4 - ISR

<sup>13</sup> Att. 27

III. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

Upon review of the available evidence above, COPA finds that there are no sustainable allegations for this incident. The accused officers had valid reason to investigate [REDACTED] and enough probable cause to ask him to exit his vehicle. The officers were in the vicinity investigating a ShotSpotter event and approached the vehicle to inquire the occupants regarding such. More importantly, Officer Katradis recognized and had knowledge that [REDACTED] did not possess a valid driver’s license from a different unrelated event. When [REDACTED] was asked for his identification and he refused to provide, as he did not have a driver’s license and was in control of the vehicle; [REDACTED] violated 625 ILCS 5/6-101 (Ch. 95 1/2, par. 6-101) Sec. 6-101., states that “drivers must have licenses or permits” when operating a motor vehicle, which is an arrestable offense.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] refused to comply with the multiple orders given by every officer on scene. [REDACTED] was not the focus of the investigation and was not on scene when the investigation began. However, upon [REDACTED] arrival on scene he began interfering and attempting to pull [REDACTED] away from Officers. [REDACTED] also reached into the vehicle when officers ordered him not to do so. [REDACTED] was an active resistor and became an aggressor towards Officer Pelrine when he threw multiple kicks at Officer Pelrine’s midsection and scream, “I’ll kill you”. [REDACTED] was arrested for obstructing officers during an investigation, in which the officers complied and corroborated by BWC evidence. The level of force used did not exceed the level of resistance and aggression being met, which is corroborated by the BWC of various officers and documented in CPD reports. COPA finds **Officer Pelrine and Officer Katradis Exonerated for Allegation 1.**

The BWC of Officer Pelrine<sup>14</sup> and Officer Kukielka<sup>15</sup> captures [REDACTED] being pulled away from interfering with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] arrest, yelling and holding the back of her head. In viewing the BWC of Officer Kukielka and Pelrine, it is not substantially clear whether [REDACTED] was pulled by her hair or hood of her jacket, since both are relatively in the same area. [REDACTED] was given several orders to get back or move but interfered during the arrest of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] by encroaching upon officers. [REDACTED] non-compliance made her an active resistor and Officer Kukielka would be within his rights to use reasonable force to remove her so control of the scene could be restored.<sup>16</sup> For **all accused officers**, COPA finds that this allegation is **Not Sustained.**

Approved:

[REDACTED]

January 24, 2024

Matthew Haynam  
Deputy Chief Administrator – Chief Investigator

Date

<sup>14</sup> Att. 24 at 7:17

<sup>15</sup> Att. 20 at 4:05

<sup>16</sup> Att. 36-38, Hair pulling is not specifically prohibited against resisters in CPD use of force policy.