



Brandon Johnson
Mayor

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

Larry B. Snelling
Superintendent

March 18, 2024

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 Recommendation
Complaint Log No. 2019-0003455

Dear Chief Administrator Kersten:

After a careful review of the above referenced complaint log number investigation, the Chicago Police Department (Department) concurs with the recommended sustained findings but does not concur with the recommended penalty as it pertains to Officer Jennifer Finnegan, Star No. 16637. Pursuant to the Municipal Code of Chicago, the Department provides the following comments.

The COPA investigation recommended a penalty of a Suspension of 10-days after concluding that she:

1. Engaged in unprofessional conduct by stating words to the effect of "Fuck her, I'm going to Tase her ass.";
2. Engaged in unprofessional conduct by stating words to the effect of "I don't give a fuck if she's pregnant, she ain't going to tell me she's going to beat my ass.";
3. Failed to timely activate her body worn camera;
4. Failed to use de-escalation techniques with respect to [REDACTED] to reduce the need for force;
5. Pointed Taser in the direction of [REDACTED]

The Department agrees that all five allegations are supported by the evidence and should be sustained. But the Department believes that the penalty recommendation is excessive and recommends a 5-day suspension with additional training on De-Escalation, Response to Resistance and Use of Force and additional training on Courtesy & Demeanor.

If the purpose of discipline is to correct errant behavior and modify future conduct, then this can be accomplished with this lesser suspension along with the additional training. A higher suspension would serve no purpose except to be punitive and therefore is not in this member's nor in the

Department's best interest. This is particularly applicable to this case as the conduct occurred more than four years ago. There is no reason given to justify the long delay in the completion. Further, this lesser penalty falls within the progressive discipline principal after reviewing this member's complimentary and disciplinary history. This member has a respectable complimentary history and her disciplinary history consists of a 1-day suspension in 2019 and a 2-day suspension in 2019.

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

Sincerely,



Larry B. Shelling
Superintendent
Chicago Police Department