

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	March 11, 2021 / 1:30 p.m. / [REDACTED] Chicago, IL
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	March 17, 2021 / 1:29 p.m.
Involved Officer #1:	Pierre Tyler, Star #10228, Employee ID# [REDACTED], Date of Appointment: April 25, 2016, Police Officer, Unit of Assignment: 015, DOB: [REDACTED], 1992, Male, Black
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED], 1992, Female, Black
Involved Individual #2:	[REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED], 1992, Female, Black
Involved Individual #3:	[REDACTED] Age: 30, Female, Black
Case Type:	Domestic Violence

On March 11, 2021, at approximately 5:00 a.m., [REDACTED] (hereafter [REDACTED]) suspected that [REDACTED], Officer Pierre Tyler (hereafter Officer Tyler) was cheating and searched through his cellular phone. A verbal altercation ensued which caused Officer Tyler to leave their shared residence and relocate to his grandmother’s house located at [REDACTED]. Shortly after 1:00 p.m. [REDACTED] arrived at [REDACTED] and a physical altercation ensued between she and Officer Tyler in front of the residence. [REDACTED] became upset and advanced towards Officer Tyler, attempting to swing at him and did not make contact. Officer Tyler grabbed her by her arms, spun her around and threw her to the ground, pushing her head into the ground. [REDACTED] held onto Officer Tyler’s hoodie, and he did not let go of her. At that point, [REDACTED] friend that was at the scene, Ashley [REDACTED] (hereafter [REDACTED]) intervened and Officer Tyler released [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] sustained injuries from the incident including bruises and an injured wrist.¹ Furthermore, COPA learned that Officer Tyler utilized Department resources to access POD video related to this incident. COPA finds the allegations are Sustained.

I. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer Pierre Tyler	1. It is alleged that on or about March 11, 2021, at approximately 5:00 a.m., at or near [REDACTED]	Sustained

¹ On December 9, 2021, while this investigation was on-going, COPA was notified that Officer Pierre Tyler was being investigated for causing the death of [REDACTED]. Officer Tyler was subsequently charged with First Degree Murder for her death. That incident was investigated under Log 2021-4893. Those allegations and COPA’s findings are not a part of this log number, COPA’s findings or disciplinary recommendation.

<p>██████████ the accused took ██████████ cell phone out of her hand without justification.</p>	
<p>2. It is alleged that on or about March 11, 2021, at approximately 1:30 p.m., at or near ██████████ ██████████, the accused threw ██████████ ██████████ to the ground without justification.</p>	<p>Sustained</p>
<p>3. It is alleged that on or about March 11, 2021, at approximately 1:30 p.m., at or near ██████████ ██████████ Chicago, IL, the accused pushed ██████████ ██████████ head to the ground without justification.</p>	<p>Sustained</p>
<p>4. It is alleged that on or about March 11, 2021, at approximately 1:30 p.m., at or near ██████████ ██████████ Chicago, IL, the accused placed his body on top of ██████████ without justification.</p>	<p>Sustained</p>
<p>5. It is alleged that on or about March 11, 2021, at approximately 1:30 p.m., at or near ██████████ ██████████ Chicago, IL, the accused directed profanities at ██████████ stating words to the effect of “bitch,” without justification.</p>	<p>Sustained</p>
<p>6. On or about an unknown date, time, and location between March 11, 2021, and July 21, 2021, Officer Pierre Tyler utilized Department computerized information systems in an unauthorized manner and not for the purpose of official police business, to wit: viewed POD video footage of an incident that occurred on March 11, 2021.</p>	<p>Sustained</p>

II. APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS

Rules

1. Rule 2: Any action or conduct which impedes the Department’s efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department.
2. Rule 6: Disobedience of an order or directive, whether written or oral.
2. Rule 8: Disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.

3. Rule 9: Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.

General Orders

1. G03-05 Video Surveillance Technology (effective February 22, 2012)

III. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE²

A **Case Report for Simple Battery (RD# JE171787)**³ documented that on March 17, 2021, at approximately 6:00 p.m., [REDACTED] arrived at the 25th District to report an ongoing domestic problem with [REDACTED], Officer Tyler. She reported that she [REDACTED]. On March 11, 2021, at approximately 5:00 a.m., [REDACTED] and Officer Tyler engaged in a verbal argument over the content of messages on his cellphone. Officer Tyler then relocated to his grandmother's home at [REDACTED]. Later on, [REDACTED] arrived at Officer Tyler's grandmother's residence to attempt to resolve their issues, and Officer Tyler came outside. Shortly after, a verbal argument ensued in the front yard of the residence which led to a physical altercation. [REDACTED] became upset and advanced towards Officer Tyler. Officer Tyler grabbed her upper body, spun her around and knocked her to the ground. Additionally, he held her down and pushed her face into the ground. [REDACTED] (hereafter [REDACTED]) approached Officer Tyler and stated to him, "Let her go, and I will get her out of here."⁴ Officer Tyler released [REDACTED] and the physical altercation concluded. The parties left the location. [REDACTED] sought medical care at [REDACTED] Hospital, where she disclosed Officer Tyler's status as an off-duty police officer and declined to pursue a complaint at that time. [REDACTED] was discharged from the hospital without speaking to any on duty officers. An evidence technician was called to document her injuries.

An **Initiation Report**⁵ was created on March 17, 2021, relating to the Case Report for Simple Battery, listing [REDACTED] as the complainant and Officer Tyler as the accused. The report related the same information provided in the case report. Additionally, the report documents that [REDACTED] claimed injuries including bruising on her right clavicle, elbow, and wrist, and her left upper arm. She also claimed [REDACTED] after giving birth on [REDACTED].

An additional **Initiation Report**⁶ was created on March 17, 2021, which lists Officer Tyler as the complainant and [REDACTED] as the accused. The report documents that on March 11, 2021, the two parties engaged in a verbal dispute that became physical when [REDACTED] began to strike Officer Tyler in the head and chest area. Officer Tyler restrained [REDACTED] by holding her arms and telling her to stop. [REDACTED] broke one arm free and began to swing at Officer Tyler again, who then grabbed one arm and her chest and placed her on the ground. He again told her to stop, which she

²COPA 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.

³ Att. 3

⁴ Att. 3, page 2.

⁵ Att. 1

⁶ Att. 2

██. ⁹ After the phone call, ██████████ went to Officer Tyler's grandmother's residence to speak with him about the doubts he discussed on the phone.

██████████ stated that while in the front yard of Officer Tyler's grandmother's residence, he continued to be disrespectful towards her and ██████████. ██████████ further stated, "At some point, I did advance towards Pierre (Officer Tyler), From there, I didn't connect."¹⁰ Moreover, she stated that he grabbed onto her arms and swung her around, during which she was holding his hoodie because it was all she could hold onto. She related that he threw her down to the ground, was on top of her, and shoved her head into the grass for a few seconds. She believed she attempted to swing at him again at some point during the altercation. Her friend, ██████████ yelled to Officer Tyler to let her go, but he said "no."¹¹ Eventually, they released each other and continued to have a conversation in the front yard. ██████████ related that this was the first time there was a physical altercation between them.

Next, ██████████ and Officer Tyler went to a Starbucks parking lot to converse with ██████████. Again, Officer Tyler was disrespectful towards ██████████ and denied his relationship with her in front of ██████████ related that he called her a "bitch" at some point when he was being disrespectful.¹² ██████████ noticed bruises on her body later that night when she was on the phone with Officer Tyler's mother, ██████████. She took a photo of her bruises and sent it to ██████████. The following morning, ██████████ was in pain and had bruises on both arms, bruises on her clavicle bone, and she could not turn her right wrist.¹³ She sought medical treatment at the hospital, where she had x-rays taken.¹⁴ Her wrist was not broken, but they gave her a brace to wear.

██████████ eventually decided to report the incident to the police because Officer Tyler did not show remorse for putting his hands on her, and that caused her to fear he would get physical with her again.¹⁵ In a conversation days after the incident, ██████████ asked him if he was going to apologize to her for putting his hands on her. He replied by saying he thinks she should apologize to him. He made a comment to her that he had spoken to his superiors. She took the comment to mean that he was confident he was going to get away with the physical incident that occurred.¹⁶ ██████████ informed him that he could still get arrested for putting his hands on her.¹⁷ Several days after that conversation, he apologized to her for putting his hands on her and how he was acting.

COPA obtained a statement from ██████████ (hereafter Ms. ██████████)¹⁸ on April 20, 2021, at 12:18 p.m., at ██████████. Ms. ██████████ is the grandmother of Officer Tyler. Ms. ██████████ stated on the date of the incident, Officer Tyler

⁹ Att. 54, page 20, ██████████ related that Officer Tyler had never expressed concerns or doubt ██████████. ██████████ was very surprised to hear Officer Tyler deny ██████████.

¹⁰ Att. 54, page 20.

¹¹ Att. 54, page 21.

¹² Att. 54, page 45

¹³ Att. 54, page 23, ██████████ related that ██████████
██████████

¹⁴ Att. 54, page 24, ██████████ related that her ██████████
██████████

¹⁵ Att. 54, pages 33-34

¹⁶ Att. 54, pages 32-33

¹⁷ Att. 54, pages 48-49

¹⁸ Att. 9-10

arrived at Ms. ██████ residence and advised that he was going to bed as he and ██████¹⁹ were up all night arguing. Ms. ██████ stated she received a phone call at approximately 12:00 p.m. and advised Officer Tyler there was someone outside for him. Officer Tyler exited the residence, and approximately 20 minutes later, Ms. ██████ heard loud voices. Initially, Ms. ██████ did not realize Officer Tyler was involved in the conversation and did not believe the people talking were angry. Ms. ██████ stated she looked out the window of her residence, which gives her a view of the fence, sidewalk, and parkway. She observed ██████ leaning and rocking against the fence. Ms. ██████ perceived her to be “weak,” as ██████. Officer Tyler stood with his hands crossed and nodded his head in response to ██████ talking.

Additionally, Ms. ██████ observed another woman, now known as ██████ standing near a tree in the parkway. Ms. ██████ called her daughter, ██████ Officer Tyler’s mother, and asked her to come to the residence. After ██████ arrived, Ms. ██████ overheard her ask Officer Tyler if he was okay and he said he was. Ms. ██████ periodically observed from the window for approximately 40- 45 minutes and did not observe any physical altercation. However, she walked away to answer a few phone calls as well as care for her great-grandson, Officer Tyler’s eldest child. The incident ended with all parties getting into their vehicles and leaving the location. Ms. ██████ later learned that the altercation became physical from Officer Tyler, who stated ██████ slapped him in the face.²⁰ Officer Tyler advised her to stop, and ██████ slapped him again, at which time Officer Tyler grabbed ██████ by the arms and Ms. ██████ yelled at him to let her go. Officer Tyler pushed her down to restrain her.²¹

COPA obtained a statement from ██████ on May 13, 2021, at 10:14 a.m., via telephone. On the date of the incident, Ms. ██████ called ██████ to come over to her residence because ██████ was there arguing with Officer Tyler. It took approximately 15 minutes for ██████ to arrive at the location.²³ Upon arriving at Ms. ██████ house, ██████ observed Officer Tyler and Ms. ██████ in their vehicles at the traffic light on Leavitt Street. ██████ exited her vehicle and inquired about Officer Tyler’s well-being. ██████ then followed behind Officer Tyler to ██████ house. Shortly after, ██████ Officer Tyler, and ██████ arrived at ██████ home, and ██████ related to the two of them that she did not appreciate the drama being brought to her mother’s residence. ██████ related to ██████ that her world had turned upside down, because she learned that Officer Tyler was expecting a baby with another woman. ██████ apologized to ██████ and to Officer Tyler for putting her hands on him. ██████ did not observe the physical altercation between Officer Tyler and ██████ and did not become aware of anything physical until ██████ apologized. ██████ was emotional and crying, and ██████ comforted her and assured that everyone at the scene was in a calm state before she left. Additionally, ██████ stated that Officer Tyler grabbed her, and she sent ██████ a photo of a bruise that was on her arm above her elbow in the early morning of March 12, 2021. ██████ questioned Officer Tyler, who stated that he grabbed her by the arm to restrain her so she would stop hitting him.

¹⁹ ██████ referred to ██████ as ██████ stating that she never knew her full name.

²⁰ Att. 10 at 4:18.

²¹ Att. 10 at 4:20 – 5:11.

²² See Att. 52

²³ ██████ related she was driven by a friend of hers, named “Mr. ██████.” However, no further information for him was obtained. Additionally, it does not appear that he was a witness to the physical altercation or any other material events.

COPA obtained a statement from [REDACTED] on March 11, 2022, at 12:06 p.m., via telephone. [REDACTED] related that she and Officer Tyler [REDACTED]. In December 2009, [REDACTED] and Officer Tyler began dating during their senior year of high school. They dated through approximately March of 2018. She knew of [REDACTED] in high school as well, but she did not know her personally. In the early morning on the date of the incident, [REDACTED] reached out to [REDACTED] via Facebook messenger, and they exchanged phone numbers. [REDACTED] then called [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] inquired about the relationship status between [REDACTED] and Officer Tyler at that time. [REDACTED] related that at the time she and Officer Tyler [REDACTED]. They spoke on the phone for over an hour, and when the call was ended, [REDACTED] called Officer Tyler.²⁵ [REDACTED] suggested that she, Officer Tyler, and [REDACTED] meet at a Starbucks to clear the air about their situation and the stories that Officer Tyler had told [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Officer Tyler agreed, and [REDACTED] arranged for someone to watch her children for her so that she could meet at the Starbucks as well.

[REDACTED] did not have a car at the time, so Officer Tyler agreed to pick her up. When it was time for him to pick her up, she noticed there were two other cars in addition to Officer Tyler's car outside her house. Officer Tyler was in one car, [REDACTED] was in another car being driven by her coworker, and [REDACTED] was in the third car. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that a "physical scene" happened outside Ms. [REDACTED] residence, but she did not go into detail about it. [REDACTED] apologized to [REDACTED] for the scene that was caused. [REDACTED] then got in the vehicle with [REDACTED] got into Officer Tyler's vehicle, and they drove to a Starbucks.

[REDACTED] related that once they got to the location, she observed that [REDACTED] Officer Tyler, and [REDACTED] all looked upset. [REDACTED] left, and [REDACTED] and Officer Tyler all had a conversation in [REDACTED] vehicle. The conversation consisted of [REDACTED] and Officer Tyler discussing their relationship status, future, and [REDACTED] role. Officer Tyler was trying to portray that he and [REDACTED] were not in a relationship, whereas [REDACTED] was arguing that they had been dating since June of 2018, which was about three years. Officer Tyler denied that he and [REDACTED] were in a relationship for that long, stating that it was not a consecutive relationship. Officer Tyler again expressed doubt about the baby [REDACTED] had recently given birth to being his, which [REDACTED] stated further angered [REDACTED]. They also discussed that [REDACTED] was pregnant with Officer Tyler's child and how [REDACTED] had just been told that information for the first time that morning. [REDACTED] related that while at Starbucks, [REDACTED] and Officer Tyler were both calling each other names, and the word "bitch" was said by both. The physical altercation was not discussed during the conversation at Starbucks that day.

[REDACTED] stated that at a later time, Officer Tyler briefly discussed the physical incident with her. He related to her that they got in an argument and [REDACTED] tried to put her hands on him. He then tried to "subdue"²⁶ her by pulling her hands down so she could not swing at him, and he "got her to the ground."²⁷ [REDACTED] related that she reached out to [REDACTED] the next day to let her know

²⁴ Att. 59 & 63

²⁵ [REDACTED] related in her statement that [REDACTED] was on the line for the phone call as well, but she was silent.

²⁶ Att. 63, page 30.

²⁷ Att. 63, page 30, At first, [REDACTED] related that Officer Tyler had pushed [REDACTED] and then she corrected herself and stated that he "got her to the ground."

she was sorry for everything she was going through and suggested they get together and have their children meet because they are siblings.

COPA obtained a statement from ██████████ on March 24, 2022, at 12:33 p.m., at her residence located at ██████████ ██████████, Chicago, IL.²⁹ The information ██████████ provided was consistent with the information ██████████ related in her statement, along with additional information. ██████████ met ██████████ in 2017 or 2018 through ██████████ and once they developed a friendship ██████████, they became best friends. On March 11, 2021, ██████████ texted ██████████ very early in the morning, and ██████████ called her when she woke up. ██████████ asked that she come over because she found something concerning on Officer Tyler's cell phone.³⁰ ██████████ related to ██████████ that Officer Tyler had woken up and saw that ██████████ had been in his phone, which caused an argument. ██████████ had the phone in her hand, and Officer Tyler tried to grab the phone from her while they were on the bed, hovering over the newborn baby that was on the bed under them. Eventually, ██████████ let go of the phone, picked up the baby and took her across the room.

██████████ had also shared with ██████████ that she had spoken with ██████████ over the phone. ██████████ informed ██████████ that she found out Officer Tyler had essentially been living two separate lives and she and ██████████ had not realized it until that day. ██████████ then went to ██████████ residence around 9:00 a.m. to comfort ██████████. When ██████████ arrived at ██████████ residence, Officer Tyler was no longer there, but he was on a three-way phone call with ██████████ and ██████████. ██████████ was muted and ██████████ told Officer Tyler that ██████████ was not on the line with them, although he repeatedly expressed that he thought she was on the line. ██████████ related that Officer Tyler stated very disparaging things about his relationship with ██████████ and he denied the child ██████████ had recently given birth to. Ultimately, ██████████ advised ██████████ to hang up the phone because what Officer Tyler was saying was "torture" for ██████████ to hear. ██████████ related that the phone call lasted over an hour, and ██████████ was emotional and crying.

After the phone call ended, ██████████ expressed to ██████████ that she wanted to go talk to Officer Tyler in person. ██████████ questioned ██████████ decision, but ██████████ insisted so ██████████ decided she should not go alone. ██████████ and ██████████ then drove in their separate vehicles to Ms. ██████████ residence. When they arrived, ██████████ got into ██████████ vehicle that was parked across the street from Ms. ██████████ residence. ██████████ called Officer Tyler multiple times on the phone. Finally, Officer Tyler answered one of the calls and agreed to come outside to speak with ██████████. ██████████ related that she observed ██████████ walk up to Officer Tyler and stand with her arms crossed.³¹ ██████████ stated that ██████████ and Officer Tyler were speaking for less than two minutes before it turned physical. ██████████ assumed ██████████ asked Officer Tyler a question and he responded. Subsequently, ██████████ observed ██████████ try to swing at Officer Tyler with an open hand. He backed away, and ██████████ did not make contact with him. ██████████ then observed Officer Tyler grab onto ██████████ and "body slam" her onto the ground.³² ██████████ specifically recalled that

²⁸ Att. 64 & 67

²⁹ ██████████ also spoke with COPA via telephone on March 21, 2021 and related essentially the same information. See Att. 7.

³⁰ Att. 67, pages 9-10, ██████████ related ██████████ had shared with her that she thought it was strange that Officer Tyler's text message thread with ██████████ was always deleted on his cell phone.

³¹ Att. 67, page 26, ██████████ related that ██████████ was looking up to Officer Tyler because he is much taller than her.

³² Att. 67, page 40, ██████████ thought Officer Tyler grabbed onto ██████████ around her waist area to pick her up.

■■■■■■ feet were off the ground when he “picked her up”³³ with two hands. ■■■■■■ stated that when Officer Tyler “threw her on the ground,”³⁴ ■■■■■■ landed on her back on the ground facing Officer Tyler. She related that he put all his weight on ■■■■■■ and his knees were on her legs holding her down.

■■■■■■ exited her vehicle and ran over to ■■■■■■ and Officer Tyler. ■■■■■■ related that Officer Tyler was pushing ■■■■■■ face into the grass. ■■■■■■ tried to pull the two apart and told Officer Tyler to let go of ■■■■■■. In reply, he told ■■■■■■ to tell ■■■■■■ to let him go because ■■■■■■ was holding onto the collar area of his hoodie. Finally, ■■■■■■ got them to release each other, and she helped ■■■■■■ stand up. ■■■■■■ then stood in the middle of Officer Tyler and ■■■■■■ and they had a conversation. ■■■■■■ was crying and questioning Officer Tyler. ■■■■■■ described Officer Tyler’s demeanor at that time as emotionless and cold. ■■■■■■ stated that Officer Tyler did not offer any kind of apology or show empathy towards ■■■■■■ and the situation. They had a conversation for over thirty minutes, and then ■■■■■■ had to leave to go to a doctor’s appointment.³⁵

■■■■■■ checked in with ■■■■■■ later to ask if she was alright, which she said she was. The following day, ■■■■■■ informed ■■■■■■ that she needed to go to the emergency room. ■■■■■■ related to her that her back was in a lot of pain, and she sent her photos of bruises and swelling on her arms that she sustained from the incident.³⁶ ■■■■■■ related she felt like ■■■■■■ did not feel the full effects of how Officer Tyler handled her body in the moment because of the adrenaline. ■■■■■■ described Officer Tyler’s use of force during the incident as “very excessive,”³⁷ stating that ■■■■■■ was not a threat³⁸ to him and it seemed he had no consideration for the fact that she had just given birth ■■■■■■. She further stated, “He’s an officer. You’re trained in how to deescalate and how you definitely should at [bare] minimum know how to guide someone or restrain them. [...] He literally turned on a cold mask and it was like he didn’t know her. She got thrown and body slammed to the ground, and he’s a trained officer.”³⁹ ■■■■■■ did not see or speak to Officer Tyler after the incident, and she had no desire to.

COPA obtained a statement from **Officer Pierre Tyler**⁴⁰ on July 21, 2021. Officer Tyler related that on the date of the incident, he woke up around 5:00 a.m. and could not find his phone. He went to the common area bathroom, and when he got back to the bedroom his phone was on the bed. He asked ■■■■■■ why she took his phone, and she told him she did not want to talk. ■■■■■■ put her phone on the bed, and it was unlocked. Officer Tyler grabbed ■■■■■■ phone, she reached for the phone while he was holding it, she locked the phone, and then left the room. Once the phone was locked, he tried the passcode that he knew for her phone and it did not work,

³³ Att. 67, page 41.

³⁴ Att. 67, page 41.

³⁵ ■■■■■■ related that she was six months pregnant at the time of the incident.

³⁶ Att. 67, page 44, ■■■■■■ also related to ■■■■■■ that ■■■■■■ ■■■■■■.

³⁷ Att. 67, page 66.

³⁸ Att. 67, page 67.

³⁹ Att. 67, page 66.

⁴⁰ Att. 53 & 55

so he left the phone on the bed.⁴¹ He denied “snatching” the phone out of her hand, stating that he was holding the phone when she reached over, tried to take it, and then locked it. Afterwards, he went outside to his car and then came back inside. They argued about the fact that he cheated on her and his other child’s mother, ██████ was pregnant by him.

Around 7:00 a.m., Officer Tyler went to his grandmother’s residence. Around 1:20 p.m. or 1:30 p.m., he missed multiple phone calls from ██████ because he was sleeping. He woke up and answered one of the calls, and ██████ asked if he was home and if he could come outside to talk. Officer Tyler was aware that ██████ was upset by the situation but did not perceive her to be upset when she arrived at the residence. However, when Officer Tyler went outside, she started walking towards him and once she got close, she swung at him. Officer Tyler stated he was hit a couple times in the face with a closed fist, at which time he grabbed ██████ above her elbows on both arms and told her to calm down. ██████ then escaped his grip and began hitting him again. Officer Tyler was still holding her above left elbow with his right hand and his left hand was about her chin area. He “guided” her to the ground.⁴² He described that the motion was “not slow”, and the momentum caused them to spin and her to land on her back on the ground.⁴³ He related he did not fall on top of her, and his feet were still planted on the ground. ██████ yelled out for him to “let her go.” Officer Tyler stated that ██████ was pulling down on his shirt. After she released her grip, he walked away and stood outside the gate on the sidewalk. ██████ was standing by the gate inside the yard, and ██████ was on the sidewalk by a tree. ██████ asked ██████ if she was alright, and then entered her vehicle and left the location.

After the altercation ended, Officer Tyler stated that he, ██████ and ██████ went to ██████ house in separate vehicles. Once they arrived at ██████ house, ██████ apologized to ██████ for bringing drama to Ms. ██████ house, as well as for putting her hands on Officer Tyler. They then relocated to a Starbucks parking lot with ██████ included. ██████ left the Starbucks location, and Officer Tyler and ██████ entered ██████ vehicle to have a discussion. Officer Tyler stated, “I did call her a bitch. I got mad.”⁴⁴ He related that he apologized to ██████ for that. After they spoke to each other in the car, he drove ██████ back home and ██████ left on her own.

Approximately a day or two after the incident, ██████ sent a photo of bruising to her arm to Officer Tyler. He related he did not sustain any injuries from the incident.⁴⁵ Additionally, Officer Tyler stated that he looked at Police Observation Device (POD) video footage from the date of the incident.⁴⁶ He stated that the video did not show the physical incident, it showed himself and ██████ getting into their vehicles to go to ██████ residence.⁴⁷ Officer Tyler further stated he

⁴¹ Att. 55, pages 8-9, Officer Tyler related that he and ██████ shared their phone passcodes with each other, but she must have changed her passcode. He was unaware of when she changed her passcode.

⁴² Att. 55, page 24, Officer Tyler related that he is 5 feet and 9 inches tall and weighs approximately 173 pounds. He estimated that ██████ is between 5 feet 1 inch and 5 feet 6 inches tall and weighs between 120 and 140 pounds.

⁴³ Att. 55, page 27

⁴⁴ Att. 55, page 21

⁴⁵ Att. 55, page 17

⁴⁶ Att. 55, page 15

⁴⁷ COPA was not aware of this prior to Officer Tyler’s statement with COPA. Subsequently, COPA served Officer Tyler with an allegation relating to this allegation, but through his attorney, he invoked his Fifth Amendment rights and refused to provide a statement. See Att. 70 & 76. Additionally, COPA sent a request to the Bureau of Technical

reported the incident to CPD prior to ██████ making her report. Officer Tyler related that ██████ threatened him by stating words to the effect of, “You’re the lowest person on the totem pole. I can get you fired. I can get you arrested.”⁴⁸ He related that ██████ previously stated to him that she has ranking officers in her family and has friends who are married to police officers. Officer Tyler denied speaking to his grandmother about this incident.

COPA obtained **POD video footage**⁴⁹ that appears to capture ██████ arriving and leaving the scene of the incident. The camera is located at 2159 West Maypole Avenue, and it captures part of the intersection of North Leavitt Street and West Maypole Avenue. At 1:02:40 p.m. a silver sedan parallel parks across the street from ██████. Less than two minutes later, a person wearing a red top, believed to be ██████ walks up to the silver sedan and enters the vehicle on the front passenger side. At 1:14 p.m., a person wearing black clothing, believed to be ██████ exits the vehicle through the driver’s door and walks across the street. Less than two minutes later, at 1:15:20 p.m., the person believed to be ██████ exits the front passenger door and walks across the street, in the same direction that ██████ did. Thirty-five minutes later, at 1:57:30 p.m., ██████ is seen walking across the street and getting back into the silver sedan, and a black male wearing black pants and a black hoodie enters a gray sedan on the other side of the street. The gray sedan drove away, and the silver sedan conducted a U-turn to follow the gray sedan.

The physical incident is not captured on the footage, as the camera is not facing towards ██████. However, the footage corroborates ██████ statement in that she entered ██████ vehicle and spoke to her while she called Officer Tyler. ██████ also stated that it was less than two minutes into ██████ and Officer Tyler’s conversation in the front yard that she had to exit the vehicle to intervene, which is consistent with the video.

COPA obtained **Medical Records**⁵⁰ from ██████ through a subpoena. The records document that ██████ arrived at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in the Emergency Department on March 12, 2021, at 8:06 p.m. and was discharged on March 13, 2021, at 1:16 a.m. The chief complaints documented for the visit are domestic violence and ██████. ██████. ██████. The records reflect that a day prior to her arriving at the hospital, she got into a verbal argument with her significant other/father of the baby. She reported he became aggressive, grabbed her by the upper arms and chest and slammed her to the ground. She did not lose consciousness. ██████ reported pain to her right wrist, left upper arm, right upper chest, and lumbar back. ██████ had x-rays taken of her right wrist and chest, and although no abnormalities were found, she had a wrist brace placed on her right wrist. She also reported ██████. ██████. She did not want to report the incident to the police. The medical records further document bruising to the upper left arm and upper right chest.

Services to inquire if Officer Tyler viewed or requested the POD video footage using his own computer log-in credentials. The results showed that there were no formal requests through the CLEAR database under Officer Tyler’s log-in credentials between the date of the incident and the date of his statement with COPA. See Att. 62 & 66.

⁴⁸ Att. 55, pages 22-23

⁴⁹ Att. 11

⁵⁰ Att. 68-69

COPA obtained **Photos**⁵¹ from [REDACTED]. She provided 15 photos which depicted injuries she sustained from the physical altercation with Officer Tyler. The photos are of bruising to her chest, left and right upper arms. The bruised areas appear to be black and/or blue. Additionally, [REDACTED] right wrist appears to be swollen and is enclosed in a brace.



COPA obtained **Photos**⁵² taken by **Evidence Technician Alvarez #17615**, on March 17, 2021, which depict bruises to both of her upper arms and her chest. The photos were taken six days after the incident occurred. [REDACTED] can be seen with a brace on her right wrist.

⁵¹ Att. 5

⁵² Att. 23-39



⁵³ Att. 24.

⁵⁴ Att. 27.

⁵⁵ Att. 32.

COPA obtained three **Photos**⁵⁶ from ██████████⁵⁷ The first was a screenshot which depicts a text message received from ██████████⁵⁸ at 5:58 a.m., on March 13, 2021. Part of the message from ██████████ reads verbatim, “I’m sorry for any pain that I may have caused your son but this is so low and unbelievable. I’m sorry for anything I’ve done to him for him to act like this but no person deserves this and I never in a million years thought Pierre could do this.” Additionally, two photos were sent to ██████████ by ██████████” with phone number ██████████. Both photos depict the upper arm of an African American person with bruising.

IV. LEGAL STANDARD

For each allegation COPA must make one of the following findings:

1. Sustained - where it is determined the allegation is supported by a preponderance of the evidence;
2. Not Sustained - where it is determined there is insufficient evidence to prove the allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
3. Unfounded - where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that an allegation is false or not factual; or
4. Exonerated - where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that the conduct described in the allegation occurred, but it is lawful and proper.

A **preponderance of evidence** is evidence indicating that it is **more likely than not** that the conduct occurred and violated Department policy.⁵⁹ If the evidence gathered in an investigation establishes that it is more likely that the misconduct occurred, even if by a narrow margin, then the preponderance of the evidence standard is met.

Clear and convincing evidence is a higher standard than a preponderance of the evidence but lower than the “beyond-a-reasonable doubt” standard required to convict a person of a criminal offense.⁶⁰ Clear and convincing is defined as a “degree of proof, which, considering all the evidence in the case, produces the firm and abiding belief that it is highly probable that the proposition . . . is true.”⁶¹

V. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

a. Credibility Assessment

The credibility of an individual relies primarily on two factors: 1) the individual’s truthfulness and 2) the reliability of the individual’s account. The first factor addresses the honesty

⁵⁶ Att. 46 & 48

⁵⁷ ██████████ is the mother of Officer Pierre Tyler.

⁵⁸ ██████████ is known as ██████████ to ██████████ and ██████████

⁵⁹ See *Avery v. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co.*, 216 Ill. 2d 100, 191 (2005) (a proposition is proved by a preponderance of the evidence when it has been found to be more probably true than not).

⁶⁰ See e.g., *People v. Coan*, 2016 IL App (2d) 151036 (2016).

⁶¹ *Id.* at ¶ 28.

of the individual making the statement, while the second speaks to the individual's ability to accurately perceive the event at the time of the incident and then accurately recall the event at the time of the incident and then accurately recall the event from memory. In this case, Officer Tyler's account is so divergent from [REDACTED] account that the variances can only be explained by either Officer Tyler or [REDACTED] misrepresenting the facts of the incident.

A preponderance of the evidence demonstrates that [REDACTED] account of the incident is credible. [REDACTED] account remained consistent in her reporting to police, medical professionals, and COPA. These statements are consistent within themselves and amongst each other. Specifically, [REDACTED] account of the incident remained that Officer Tyler attempted to take her phone, which she ultimately gave to him after a brief struggle because their newborn was present. This account was repeated to [REDACTED] and COPA. Additionally, she remained consistent in her account that she approached Officer Tyler at his grandmother's home and attempted to strike him but missed. He then threw her to the ground, pushed her head into the ground, and placed his body on top of her. He later called her a "bitch." COPA found not significant inconsistencies in her account. Furthermore, [REDACTED] account was corroborated by [REDACTED] who gave two consistent accounts of the incident to COPA. [REDACTED] was the only direct witness to the incident and corroborated [REDACTED] account that she did not make physical contact with Officer Tyler. She further corroborated that [REDACTED] only attempted to strike Officer Tyler once, rather than repeatedly struck him, as he claimed.

COPA does not find Officer Tyler's account of the incident to be credible. Officer Tyler's account varies from [REDACTED] account. Additionally, the various accounts Officer Tyler provided to the Department, Ms. [REDACTED] and COPA were not consistent with each other. While Officer Tyler consistently reported that [REDACTED] struck him, starting the altercation, the manner in which she struck him was not consistent throughout his reporting. Specifically, he reported to Ms. [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] slapped him, while reporting to COPA that she punched him. Additionally, he told [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] tried to strike him, but did not report that she did strike him. Moreover, this account is directly contradicted by the only direct eyewitness to the incident, [REDACTED] who reported that [REDACTED] never made contact with Officer Tyler. Therefore, COPA does not find Officer Tyler credible.

b. Analysis

c.

COPA finds **Allegation 1** that the accused took [REDACTED] cell phone out of her hand without justification is **Sustained**. Officer Tyler and [REDACTED] statements regarding the cell phone are contradictory. However, as previously discussed, COPA finds [REDACTED] more credible. [REDACTED] related that when Officer Tyler "snatched" the phone, she was still holding onto it. She explained that they were on their knees on opposite sides of the bed, both holding onto the phone until she let go of the phone. Additionally, [REDACTED] related that [REDACTED] told her she had the phone in her hand when Officer Tyler tried to grab it from her, and [REDACTED] eventually let go of the phone. Officer Tyler denied "snatching" the phone out of her hand, stating the phone was positioned on the bed, he attempted to access it but could not, so he left the phone on the bed. Thus, COPA finds Allegation 1 is Sustained.

COPA finds **Allegation 2, 3, and 4** that the accused threw ██████████ to the ground, pushed ██████████ head to the ground, and placed his body on top of ██████████ without justification are **Sustained**. ██████████ directly witnessed the physical altercation, and her statement is consistent with ██████████ statement. COPA finds ██████████ and ██████████ accounts of the incident more credible. Although ██████████ Officer Tyler, and ██████████ all agreed that ██████████ attempted to swing at him first, Officer Tyler's use of force in response was excessive. Both ██████████ and ██████████ described that during the physical altercation Officer Tyler threw her to the ground. ██████████ specifically recalled that ██████████ feet were off the ground when Officer Tyler picked her up with two hands. Moreover, they both stated that when ██████████ landed on her back on the ground, he was on top of her. ██████████ described that he put all his weight on ██████████ and his knees were on her legs holding her down. Additionally, both ██████████ and ██████████ related that he pushed ██████████ head into the ground.

As an officer, Officer Tyler is trained how to deescalate situations. He could have simply walked away from ██████████ when she attempted to swing at him, since they were in a front yard and not in an enclosed space. Even if Officer Tyler felt the need to physically restrain ██████████ there was no need to throw her to the ground, push her head into the ground, and place his body on top of her. By all accounts, ██████████ weak and emotional from giving birth just three days prior. Even Ms. ██████████ stated she perceived ██████████ to be "weak" when she observed through the window. Furthermore, ██████████ stated that ██████████ was not a threat to Officer Tyler, and he had no consideration for the fact that she had just given birth to his child. ██████████ further related she observed Officer Tyler's demeanor turn emotionless and cold. ██████████ described that his behavior was very out of character for Officer Tyler compared to how she knew him to be.

Additionally, ██████████ sustained injuries due to the excessive force used by Office Tyler. She sustained bruises to her chest, and right and left upper arms, which she captured in photos. Furthermore, she sought medical attention and received a brace for an injury to her right wrist because of the incident. Officer Tyler, however, did not sustain any injuries. The information ██████████ reported to medical staff is consistent with what she reported to COPA. Based on a preponderance of the evidence, COPA finds ██████████ and ██████████ accounts more credible. Therefore, COPA finds these allegations are **Sustained**.

COPA finds **Allegation 5** that the accused directed profanities at ██████████ stating words to the effect of "bitch," without justification is **Sustained**. During the verbal altercation, ██████████ stated that Officer Tyler called her a "bitch." Additionally, during his statement to COPA, Officer Tyler admitted this action. However, he stated he did not use the profanity at the location listed in the allegation. Although there was a discrepancy with the location, the alleged misconduct occurred as reported by ██████████. Additionally, ██████████ related in her statement that ██████████ and Officer Tyler were both calling each other names during the conversation at Starbucks following the incident, and the word "bitch" was said by both. Therefore, Allegation 5 is **Sustained** based on a preponderance of the evidence.

COPA finds **Allegation 6** that the accused utilized Department computerized information systems in an unauthorized manner and not for the purpose of official police business, to wit: viewed POD video footage of an incident that occurred on March 11, 2021, is **Sustained**. Officer Tyler related in his statement that he looked at POD video footage from the date and location of

the incident. He stated that the video did not show the physical incident, it showed himself and ██████ getting into their vehicles to go to ██████ residence. Per *General Order 03-05 Video Surveillance Technology*, Department members will “When using any video-surveillance technology, Department members will only use Department-approved equipment and have a proper law enforcement purpose. **No unauthorized recording, viewing, reproduction, retention or distribution is permitted.**”⁶² The investigation revealed that Officer Tyler did not have a proper law enforcement purpose to view the POD footage from the date and location of the incident. It appeared he viewed the video for his own benefit, to determine if the physical incident was caught on camera. Therefore, Allegation 6 is **Sustained**.

VI. RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE FOR SUSTAINED ALLEGATIONS

d. Officer Pierre Tyler

i. Complimentary and Disciplinary History

Officer Tyler has received a total of 87 awards and recognitions. He has also received 1 Spar resulting in 1 day off for a Preventable Accident in 2021.

ii. Recommended Penalty

Officer Tyler violated Department Rules 2, 6, 8, and 9. He engaged in an unjustified physical altercation when he committed acts of domestic violence against ██████ causing visible injuries, including significant bruising. Allegations of domestic violence are serious in nature and reflect poorly on the Department. Such misconduct brings discredit on the Department and seriously undermines public trust in police officers charged with upholding the laws, including laws against domestic violence. Moreover, Officer Tyler violated Department policy by utilizing Department resources, namely accessing POD video footage, in an unauthorized manner and for his own personal benefit. Misuse of Department resources is a serious form of misconduct that cannot be tolerated. Thus, based on the serious nature of Officer Tyler’s misconduct, COPA recommends Separation.

Approved:

██
Sharday Jackson
Deputy Chief Administrator

February 28, 2023
Date

██
Andrea Kersten
Chief Administrator

February 28, 2023
Date

⁶² Emphasis included in the General Order not added by COPA.