



Log # 2025-0001740

FINAL SUMMARY REPORT¹

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) initiated this investigation after receiving a web complaint from ██████████² In his complaint, ██████████ alleged that on August 26, 2024, while riding his bicycle, Officer Jose Camacho approached him from behind, knocked him off his bicycle, and caused him to lose consciousness.³ ██████████ further stated that once he regained consciousness, he was bleeding from his head and was taken to the hospital. Upon review of the evidence, COPA served an allegation that Officer Camacho intentionally knocked ██████████ off of his bicycle, causing injury. However, after completing its investigation, COPA reached a Not Sustained finding regarding the allegation.

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE⁴

On the night of August 26, 2024, Officer Camacho⁵ and his partner, Officer Alejandro Olaguez,⁶ were on routine patrol when they were dispatched to a call of a domestic disturbance involving a man with a gun at ██████████.⁷ The victim, ██████████ called the police to report that her ex-boyfriend, ██████████ was attempting to enter her apartment by knocking on and kicking her back door, while also threatening to kill her with a gun.⁸

When the officers arrived at the scene, they exited their squad car and approached ██████████ who attempted to flee on his bicycle from the alleyway.⁹ The officers observed a heavy L-shaped item in ██████████ front left pocket, which the officers noted was consistent with the shape of a firearm.¹⁰ Officer Camacho grabbed the handlebars of ██████████ bicycle in an attempt to stop him from fleeing.¹¹ Both Officer Camacho and ██████████ fell to the ground, resulting in an injury to ██████████ head.¹² Officer Camacho and his partner requested an ambulance and began rendering aid to

¹ Appendix A includes case identifiers such as the date, time, and location of the incident, the involved parties and their demographics, and the applicable rules and policies.

² Att. 29.

³ One or more of these allegations fall within COPA's jurisdiction pursuant to Chicago Municipal Code § 2-78-120. Therefore, COPA determined it would be the primary investigative agency in this matter.

⁴ The following is a summary of what COPA finds most likely occurred during this incident. This summary utilized information from several different sources, including BWC footage, police reports, medical records, and interviews.

⁵ Att. 2, Officer Camacho's BWC.

⁶ Att. 3, Officer Olaguez's BWC.

⁷ Att. 6, OEMC Event Query; Att. 7, OEMC Event Query; Att. 8, Original Case Report.

⁸ Atts. 6 and 7; Att. 1, Arrest Report of ██████████ signed complaints seeking ██████████ arrest.

⁹ Att. 2, at 2:40.

¹⁰ Att. 1, pg. 3.

¹¹ Att. 2, at 2:54.

¹² Att. 2, at 2:56.

██████████¹³ Officer Olaguez conducted a protective pat-down on ██████████ and located a loaded Glock 23, 40-caliber semi-automatic pistol, in ██████████ left pocket.¹⁴

Chicago Fire Department paramedics arrived at the scene, rendered care, and transported ██████████ by ambulance to ██████████ Hospital.¹⁵ ██████████ was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and being an armed habitual criminal.¹⁶ He is currently in the custody of the Illinois Department of Corrections, housed at Robinson Correctional Center.¹⁷

COPA obtained permission from ██████████ attorney, Attorney ██████████, to interview ██████████. On November 5, 2025, ██████████ provided a telephonic statement to COPA in which he provided an account of the incident that was consistent with his original complaint.¹⁸ ██████████ described the physical contact as him being “snatched” from his bicycle.¹⁹

COPA reviewed medical records from ██████████ Hospital and obtained photographs taken by a CPD evidence technician. The medical records document that ██████████ was diagnosed with a head contusion following the incident. Hospital staff reported that ██████████ was aggressive with officers, refused a CT scan and treatment, and was released to CPD custody in stable condition. ██████████ did not report a loss of consciousness or any neck pain, and the photographs taken by the evidence technician did not appear to depict any visible injuries.²⁰

COPA conducted an audio-recorded interview with Officer Camacho. Officer Camacho explained that on the date of this incident, he and his partner were dispatched to a domestic call involving a man with a gun.²¹ Upon arrival at the scene, they exited their squad car and observed ██████████ fleeing from the alleyway on a bicycle. Officer Camacho and assisting officers requested ██████████ to stop; instead, he swerved around the officers in an attempt to escape. Officer Camacho then grabbed ██████████ and the handlebars of the bicycle to stop him. Officer Camacho further stated that they both fell to the ground, and ██████████ was injured as a result of the fall. Officer Camacho denied intentionally knocking ██████████ off his bicycle.²²

III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer Jose Camacho:

1. Intentionally knocking ██████████ off of his bike, causing injury.
 - Not Sustained.

¹³ Att. 2, at 3:22.

¹⁴ Att. 2, at 3:04.

¹⁵ Att. 2, at 10:55 to 12:20.

¹⁶ Att. 1.

¹⁷ Att. 13, IDOC Inmate Search Results.

¹⁸ Atts. 39 and 40, Interview of ██████████

¹⁹ Att. 40, pg. 5, ln. 6

²⁰ Att. 30, pg. 6, Loretto Hospital Medical Records; Att. 32, ET Photos.

²¹ Att. 38, Officer Camacho Interview.

²² Att. 38, Officer Camacho Interview.

IV. CREDIBILITY ASSESSMENT

This investigation did not reveal any evidence that caused COPA to doubt the credibility of Officer Camacho, who provided a statement that was consistent with the BWC footage and CPD reports.

█████ however, appeared to minimize his actions during his COPA statement. He denied going to his ex-girlfriend's residence and stated that he had been riding his bicycle for exercise. Additionally, he did not recall being in possession of a firearm, although one was recovered from his person.²³ He also denied using alcohol or drugs on the date of the incident, despite the fact that he admitted to using both substances during his interaction with the CFD paramedics.²⁴ COPA finds these discrepancies significantly reduced █████ credibility.

V. ANALYSIS²⁵

a. Excessive force allegation

COPA finds the allegation that Officer Camacho intentionally knocked █████ off his bike is **not sustained**. CPD policy specifies that all uses of force employed by officers must be “objectively reasonable, necessary, and proportional, under the totality of the circumstances.”²⁶ Ideally, officers will employ their training and experience to resolve problematic situations and obtain compliance in such a way as to make the use of force unnecessary.²⁷ Throughout any potential use of force scenario, officers must continually assess the situation to determine if any use of force is necessary, if the seriousness of the situation requires an immediate response, and which of the available force options would be appropriate under the circumstances.²⁸ CPD members are trained to view the use of force according to whether the subject involved is a cooperative person, a passive resister, an active resister, or an assailant, with greater levels of force being permitted as the subject's behavior becomes more dangerous.²⁹

In this case, Officer Camacho responded to a domestic abuse call involving █████ who had reportedly threatened his ex-girlfriend with a firearm. In Officer Camacho's statement to COPA, he recalled that █████ attempted to flee from officers on his bicycle, lost momentum, and swerved around the officers. Officer Camacho attempted to grab █████ or the bike's handlebars to try to stop █████ which resulted in both █████ and the officer falling to the ground. Officer Camacho denied that he intentionally knocked █████ off the bicycle.

The BWC footage corroborates Officer Camacho's statement in that it shows █████ maneuvering his bicycle around multiple officers. Officer Camacho then moved toward █████

²³ Compare Att. 40, pg. 10 with Att. 2 at 3:04, Att. 1, and Att. 16.

²⁴ Compare Att. 40, pg. 12 with Att. 23, pg. 2.

²⁵ For a definition of COPA's findings and standards of proof, *see* Appendix B.

²⁶ Att. 41, G03-02(III)(B), De-Escalation, Response to Resistance, and Use of Force (effective June 28, 2023 – Present).

²⁷ Att. 41, G03-02(II)(C).

²⁸ Att. 45, G03-02-01(II)(E), Response to Resistance and Force Options (effective June 28, 2023 – Present).

²⁹ Att. 45, G03-02-01(IV)(A to C).

with his hands extended in front of him, before both men fell to the ground. The footage, however, does not clearly show whether the officer was attempting to grab [REDACTED] or push [REDACTED] off the bicycle. Based on the available evidence, COPA cannot determine whether or not Officer Camacho’s action was intentional. Therefore, COPA recommends a finding of **Not Sustained**.

Approved:



Steffany Hreno
Acting Deputy Chief Administrator

1/15/2026

Date

Appendix ACase Details

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	August 26, 2024 / ██████████, Chicago, Illinois, 60644 /11:35 p.m.
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	April 13, 2025 / 6:22 p.m. / Internet Complaint
Involved Officer #1:	Jose Camacho, Star # 13322 / Employee# ██████████ / Date of Appointment: June 16, 2021 / Unit of Assignment: 10 th / Male/ Hispanic
Involved Individual #1:	██████████ Male, Black

Applicable Rules

- Rule 2:** Any action or conduct which impedes the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department.
- Rule 3:** Any failure to promote the Department's efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals.
- Rule 5:** Failure to perform any duty.
- Rule 6:** Disobedience of an order or directive, whether written or oral.
- Rule 8:** Disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.
- Rule 9:** Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.
- Rule 10:** Inattention to duty.
- Rule 14:** Making a false report, written or oral.

Applicable Policies and Laws

- Chicago Police Rules and Regulations (effective April 16, 2015 to present)
- G03-02, De-Escalation, Response to Resistance, and Use of Force (effective June 28, 2023 to present)
- G03-02-01, Response to Resistance and Force Options (effective June 28, 2023 to present).

Appendix B

Definition of COPA’s Findings and Standards of Proof

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** can be described as evidence indicating that it is **more likely than not** that a proposition is proved.³⁰ For example, if the evidence gathered in an investigation establishes that it is more likely that the conduct complied with Department policy than that it did not, 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. Clear and convincing can be 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.”³¹

³⁰ 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 is found to be more probably true than not).

³¹ *People v. Coan*, 2016 IL App (2d) 151036, ¶ 28 (quoting Illinois Pattern Jury Instructions, Criminal, No. 4.19 (4th ed. 2000)).

Appendix C

Transparency and Publication Categories

Check all that apply:

- Abuse of Authority
- Body Worn Camera Violation
- Coercion
- Death or Serious Bodily Injury in Custody
- Domestic Violence
- Excessive Force
- Failure to Report Misconduct
- False Statement
- Firearm Discharge
- Firearm Discharge – Animal
- Firearm Discharge – Suicide
- Firearm Discharge – Unintentional
- First Amendment
- Improper Search and Seizure – Fourth Amendment Violation
- Incidents in Lockup
- Motor Vehicle Incidents
- OC Spray Discharge
- Search Warrants
- Sexual Misconduct
- Taser Discharge
- Unlawful Denial of Access to Counsel
- Unnecessary Display of a Weapon
- Use of Deadly Force – other
- Verbal Abuse
- Other Investigation