



Brandon Johnson
Mayor

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

Larry B. Snelling
Superintendent of Police

December 04, 2025

Lakenya White
Interim Chief Administrator
Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA)
1615 W. Chicago Ave., 4th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60622

Re: Superintendent's Non-Concurrence with COPA's Finding and Penalty Recommendation
Complaint Log. 2024-0002187, Officer Derek McMahon Star #3920

Dear Interim Chief Administrator White:

After a careful review of the above referenced complaint log number, the Chicago Police Department (Department) does not concur with the recommended sustained finding nor with the penalty recommendation, as it pertains to Officer Derek McMahon, Star No. 3920. Pursuant to the Municipal Code of Chicago, the Department provides the following comments:

The COPA investigation recommended a suspension of 1-29 days for Officer Derek McMahon after concluding that he:

1. Failing to properly secure a handcuffed person, without justification.

The Department does not concur with allegation one for Officer McMahon. COPA states that "Officer McMahon was [...] responsible for ensuring that [REDACTED] was appropriately restrained to prevent injury or escape. [And] he did not do so." Attachment #51 at pg 5. The Department disagrees. The video evidence shows that [REDACTED] did not want to sit in the CPD vehicle and, as COPA describes, [REDACTED] was restless. Attachment #4 at 26:22. [REDACTED] becomes very agitated during the encounter and Officer McMahon attempts to explain and de-escalate the encounter. Attachment #4 at 26:46. However, [REDACTED] does not cooperate. Officer McMahon had the option to force [REDACTED] into the CPD vehicle, but opted to allow [REDACTED] to express his frustration. Officer McMahon maintained [REDACTED] in handcuffs and ensured [REDACTED] was as secure as reasonably possible. For the foregoing reasons, the Department does not concur with allegation one and recommends a finding of Unfounded.

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

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Larry B. Snelling
Superintendent of Police
Chicago Police Department