



Brandon Johnson
Mayor

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

Larry B. Snelling
Superintendent

May 23, 2024

Andrea Kersten
Chief Administrator
Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA)
1615 West Chicago Avenue, 4th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60622

Re: Superintendent's Non-Concurrence with Findings and Penalty Recommendation
Complaint Log No. 2019-0002864

Dear Chief Administrator Kersten:

After a careful review of the above referenced complaint log number investigation, the Chicago Police Department (Department) does not concur with the recommended sustained finding nor with the penalty recommendation as they pertain to Officer Kamal Judeh, Star No. 8825. Pursuant to the Municipal Code of Chicago, the Department provides the following comments.

The COPA investigation recommended a penalty of a suspension of up to 30 days for Officer Judeh after concluding that he:

1. Committed misconduct from July 25, 2019 until August 15, 2019 by his failure to return [REDACTED] custody without legal justification.

The Department does not agree with the sustained finding and recommends a finding of Unfounded. In sustaining these allegations, COPA does not indicate what policy was violated. COPA cited Officer Judeh with a Rule 2 violation (bringing discredit on the Department) and a Rule 8 violation (Disrespect/Maltreatment of any person). But the only support they give is that Officer Judeh violated a parenting time court order. But there is no explanation as to how this violation brought discredit upon the Department nor was disrespectful or maltreatment of any person.

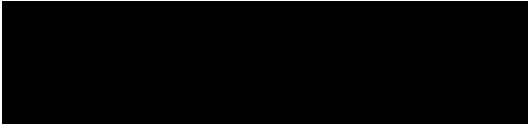
This situation was a family matter and it did not involve or relate to his police duties. The remedy available to [REDACTED] was exactly what [REDACTED] did which was to go back to court and have the judge order any appropriate remedy. The Municipal Code specifically states that COPA's duties include the ability to conduct investigations into complaints against members of the Police Department alleging domestic violence, excessive force, coercion or verbal abuse. M.C.C. 2-78-120 (b). The jurisdiction does not extend to a member's involvement as a party in domestic relations court absent an allegation of domestic violence, which is not present in this case.

Further, this was not a complicated investigation. The violation of the court order and the court hearings occurred in August and October 2019. [REDACTED] was interviewed almost a year later in

June 2020. But the accused member was not interviewed until December 22, 2023. There was no reasonable explanation given for this investigation to take almost 5 years to complete.

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

Sincerely,



Larry B. Snelling
Superintendent
Chicago Police Department