

**BEFORE A MEMBER OF THE POLICE BOARD
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO**

IN THE MATTER OF THE	)	
RECOMMENDATION FOR DISCIPLINE OF	)	
POLICE OFFICER CHARLES WHITE,	)	Case No. 26 RR 36
STAR No. 6422, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE,	)	
CITY OF CHICAGO.	)	(CR No. 2021-1096)

REQUEST FOR REVIEW

On May 18, 2026, the Executive Director of the Police Board of the City of Chicago received from the Chief Administrator of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) a request for review of the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline of Police Officer Charles White, Star No. 6422, arising out of the investigation of Complaint Register (CR) No. 2021-1096 ("Request for Review"). The Request for Review included the following material: the Final Summary Report of COPA's investigation that sets forth the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline, the Superintendent of Police's written response to this recommendation, the Chief Administrator's written objections to the Superintendent's response, and a Certificate of Meeting and Service.

The investigation stems from an incident on March 27, 2021, involving Officer White and his then-girlfriend, [REDACTED]. According to the Final Summary Report of COPA's investigation, at approximately 3:00 a.m. Chicago Police received three 911 calls in succession describing a domestic-violence incident occurring on 106th Street in the vicinity of the bridge over the Calumet River. The first caller reported that he saw a

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guy (now known to be Officer White) hitting a girl (now known to be [REDACTED] in the street and [REDACTED] stopped the caller in the middle of the street. He added that both parties were hitting each other. During this call, Officer White came up to the 911 caller and could be heard identifying himself as a police officer and saying that she struck him. At the same time, [REDACTED] yells out, "please don't believe him." The second caller indicated that as he drove past, he saw a guy hitting a lady, and the third caller says the woman made an outcry that her boyfriend had hit her.

Chicago Police Officers Danielle Clifford and Erik Seija responded and encountered [REDACTED] next to a parked SUV. [REDACTED] was barefoot and crying. Officer White was further down the street and began to approach when officers arrived. He identified himself as a Chicago police officer and explained that as they left a party his girlfriend became "pissy" and that when she drinks she becomes aggressive with him. When asked if he put hands on [REDACTED] Officer White said "I swear to God I did not."

Officer Clifford then spoke with [REDACTED] She was crying and became a bit combative with Officer Clifford while expressing that she was scared. She conveyed that Officer White snatched her Apple watch off her wrist and hit her in the face. She admitted that she hit him back during the altercation. She added that Officer White told her that no one would believe her because he is a cop. She later told another officer that Officer White took her watch because he knew she would use it to call her mom for help. Officer Clifford eventually located [REDACTED] purse and one shoe in the gutter a few hundred yards down the street.

██████ had a swollen left eye and bruising around her left eye. Officers called an ambulance and paramedics provided ██████ with an ice pack for her face. ██████ indicated that she did not wish to press charges and wanted to go home; however, Sergeant Steven Haltek transported her to the 004th District to speak with a lieutenant before she went home. Officer White had some injuries to the right side of his face which were visible on responding officers' body-worn cameras (BWCs); however, he declined medical care. Because ██████ sustained injuries, officers arrested Officer White and charged him with Domestic Battery.

Following the conclusion of COPA's investigation, Chief Administrator recommended that the following allegation be *Sustained*:

3. Officer White struck ██████ in the face with his hand without justification. The Chief Administrator recommended that Officer White be suspended without pay for 45 – 60 days.

The Superintendent disagreed with the Chief Administrator's recommendation in that he proposed a finding of *Not Sustained* for Allegation No. 3, arguing that the burden of proof has not been met, and proposed no discipline for Officer White.

According to the Certificate submitted by the Chief Administrator: (1) the Chief Administrator issued the recommendation for discipline on June 27, 2024; (2) the Chief Administrator received the Superintendent's written response on September 20, 2024; (3) the Chief Administrator's designees met with the Superintendent's designees and concluded their discussion of this matter on May 18, 2026; and (4) the Request for

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Review was sent via email to the Executive Director of the Police Board on May 18, 2026.

The Executive Director of the Police Board forwarded the Request for Review material to Kathryn Liss, the member of the Police Board who was selected on a random basis, pursuant to Article VI of the Police Board's Rules of Procedure ("Reviewing Member"). The Reviewing Member reviewed the Request for Review pursuant to Section 2-78-130(a)(iii) of the Municipal Code of Chicago and Article VI of the Police Board's Rules of Procedure. Following her initial review of this matter on June 1, 2026, the Reviewing Member requested, received and reviewed BWC video footage from the investigation file.

OPINION

Following a thorough review of the Request for Review material and the BWC video footage, it is my opinion that the Superintendent did not meet the burden of overcoming the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline.

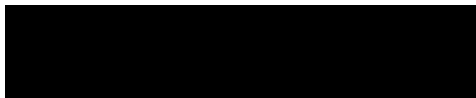
The Superintendent in his response to COPA's recommendation compared this case to another investigation conducted by COPA – CR No. 2021-4747. This case is distinguishable from CR No. 2021-4747 because there are two independent witnesses who called 911. Both of these independent witnesses described a man hitting a woman. Additionally, Officers Clifford, Hernandez, and Walls reported to COPA that [REDACTED]

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had a swollen face, with Officer Walls indicating that the swelling was consistent with being struck and not crying.

Therefore, pursuant to Section 2-78-130(a)(iii) of the Municipal Code of Chicago, the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline of Police Officer Charles White, Star No. 6422, shall be deemed accepted by the Superintendent.

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 08th DAY OF JUNE 2026.



KATHRYN LISS
Member
Police Board

Attested by:



MAX A. CAPRONI
Executive Director
Police Board