

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE	)	
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISCIPLINE OF	)	
POLICE OFFICER JAIME CASILLAS, STAR No. 4350,	)	Case No. 26 RR 44
AND	)	
POLICE OFFICER JESUS SANDOVAL, STAR No. 18139,	)	Case No. 26 RR 45
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE,	)	
CITY OF CHICAGO.	)	(CR No. 2024-3431)

REQUEST FOR REVIEW

On July 1, 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 recommendations for discipline of Police Officer Jaime Casillas, Star No. 4350, and Police Officer Jesus Sandoval, Star No. 18139, arising out of the investigation of Complaint Register No. 2024-3431 ("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 recommendations for discipline, the Superintendent of Police's written response to these recommendations, the Chief Administrator's written objections to the Superintendent's response, and a Certificate of Meeting and Service.

The investigation stems from an incident that took place on April 16, 2024, at the Roseland Neighborhood Health Center (RNHC). According to the Request for Review material, Officers Casillas and Sandoval responded to a call for assistance regarding [REDACTED] being hostile towards RNHC staff and refusing to leave. The officers spoke with [REDACTED] who refused to leave until she received some paperwork

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from RNHC staff. The officers informed [REDACTED] that they would arrest her if RNHC staff signed a criminal complaint if she did not leave. [REDACTED] then attempted to spray hand sanitizer at RNHC staff, incidentally sprayed Officer Sandoval, and the officers performed an emergency takedown and handcuffed her. After handcuffing [REDACTED] the officers grabbed the handcuff chain and pulled her to her feet and transported her to the 005th District station. Once they arrived at the station, [REDACTED] complained of an injury from the handcuffs and showed other officers a cut on her wrist.

Following the conclusion of COPA's investigation, the Chief Administrator recommended that the following allegations against Officers Casillas and Sandoval be *Sustained*.

1. Using excessive force in the apprehension and detention of [REDACTED] and
2. Directing profane language towards [REDACTED]

The Chief Administrator recommended that Officers Casillas and Sandoval be suspended without pay for 1 – 29 days.

The Superintendent disagreed with the Chief Administrator's recommendation in that the Superintendent proposed a finding of *Unfounded* for Allegation No. 1 and no discipline for Officers Casillas and Sandoval. (The Superintendent agreed with the finding of *Sustained* for Allegation No. 2 and recommended that Officers Casillas and Sandoval be given additional training on police professionalism and communication in the police environment.)

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According to the Certificate submitted by the Chief Administrator: (1) the Chief Administrator issued the recommendations for discipline on July 25, 2025; (2) the Chief Administrator received the Superintendent's written response on October 16, 2025; (3) the Chief Administrator's designees met with the Superintendent's designees and concluded their discussion of this matter on July 1, 2026; and (4) the Request for Review was sent via email to the Executive Director of the Police Board on July 1, 2026.

The Executive Director of the Police Board forwarded the Request for Review material to Justin L. Terry, 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. The Reviewing Member completed his initial review of this matter on July 16, 2026.

OPINION

Following a thorough review of the Request for Review material, it is my opinion that the Superintendent met the burden of overcoming the Chief Administrator's recommendations for discipline.

There is no dispute that, upon arriving at the RNHC, Officers Casillas and Sandoval demonstrated many of CPD's key principles of force mitigation when they first encountered [REDACTED]. The officers initially gave [REDACTED] time and

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space to gather her belongings and leave voluntarily. Only after she refused their requests to leave, was advised that RNHC staff would sign complaints against her and that she would be arrested if she did not leave the premises, and ultimately lunged toward RNHC staff in an attempt to spray them with hand sanitizer – which instead resulted in Officer Sandoval being sprayed in the eye – did the officers physically engage [REDACTED]. At that point, the officers were compelled to intervene and performed an emergency takedown.

Because [REDACTED] was being taken into custody, the officers handcuffed her while she remained in the takedown position. There is no allegation of excessive force arising from that conduct. [REDACTED] instead claims that the officers used excessive force when they lifted her from the ground while she was restrained. Based on the officers' statements, however, which should be afforded appropriate credibility, the officers lifted [REDACTED] by her arms and the handcuffs together because she was "just dead weight," leaving them with no other practical means of raising her while she resisted their efforts to do so. Further, Officer Sandoval stated that the "cuffs were properly secured," that his partner "was able to fit a whole pinky through it," and that they "didn't yank her from her hands or anything like that."

The officers' accounts support the conclusion that lifting [REDACTED] from the ground was a reasonable and necessary means of securing her custody, rather than an application of excessive force. It is unfortunate the [REDACTED] and both officers, were injured during the full course of this incident but the mere presence of a cut on

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██████████ wrist does not automatically result in a finding of force being used against her.

Accordingly, I agree with the Superintendent that Officers Casillas and Sandoval did not use excessive force against ██████████. I further agree that, with respect to the profane language directed toward ██████████ additional training on police professionalism and communication in the policing environment is an appropriate corrective measure. A 1-to-29-day suspension, as recommended by COPA, is not warranted under the circumstances.

Therefore, pursuant to Section 2-78-130(a)(iii) of the Municipal Code of Chicago, the Superintendent's response to the Chief Administrator's recommendations for discipline of Police Officer Jaime Casillas, Star No. 4350, and Police Officer Jesus Sandoval, Star No. 18139, shall be implemented.

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 20th DAY OF AUGUST 2026.

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JUSTIN L. TERRY
Member
Police Board

Attested by:

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MAX A. CAPRONI
Executive Director
Police Board