Recommendation to Reopen Chicago Police Department Disciplinary Investigation

CPD Log #2025-0002498
OIG Case #C2025-000000267
Published October 16, 2025

DEBORAH WITZBURG | INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE CITY OF CHICAGO TOBARA RICHARDSON | DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

October 16, 2025

Pursuant to the Municipal Code of Chicago (MCC) § 2-56-230(c)(ii), the Public Safety section of the City of Chicago Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducts reviews of individual closed disciplinary investigations conducted by the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) and the Chicago Police Department's (CPD) Bureau of Internal Affairs (BIA). Based on those reviews, OIG may make a recommendation to reopen the investigation to address a deficiency materially affecting its outcome.¹

BIA investigated allegations that CPD Probationary Police Officer (PPO) Demetrius Jennings, Star #8058, was intoxicated while on-duty. BIA sustained the allegation and recommended a 15-day suspension and placement into CPD's Personnel Concerns Program.

During its review, OIG identified that BIA did not address information contained in the Initiation Report that noted PPO Jennings admitted to driving to CPD's 6th District station to report for their tour of duty while under the influence of alcohol, nor did it address a Sergeant's report that documented that PPO Jennings was in possession of their service weapon while under the influence of alcohol.

OIG recommended that BIA reopen the investigation to further review statements that may lead to additional allegations that PPO Jennings was in possession of their firearm while intoxicated in violation of Uniform and Property Directive U04-02, drove to work while under the influence of alcohol, and other potential violations of CPD Rules and directives.

In response to OIG's recommendations, BIA agreed to reopen the investigation to address PPO Jennings' possession of a firearm while intoxicated. However, BIA did not address their driving under the influence of alcohol determining that there were no witnesses to attest that PPO Jennings drove while intoxicated. BIA sustained the allegation that PPO Jennings was in possession of their firearm while intoxicated. The original recommended discipline of a 15-day suspension and placement into CPD's Personnel Concerns Program was unchanged.

OIG's letter to BIA containing its recommendations is attached in Appendix A. BIA's response is attached as Appendix B.

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¹ Once BIA or COPA has responded to an OIG recommendation to reopen an investigation, and once the underlying investigation has reached a final disciplinary decision, OIG's recommendation letters and the agencies' responses will be published on OIG's website. In these procedural postures, OIG's recommendations to reopen and the agencies' responses have been available and, from time to time, released pursuant to MCC § 2-56-250 and the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. These recommendations to reopen, issued pursuant to MCC § 2-56-230(c), are separate from OIG's own confidential investigative work, which is governed by the confidentiality provisions set out in MCC § 2-56-110.

Appendix A | OIG Letter



Deborah Witzburg | Inspector General City of Chicago Office of Inspector General 231 S. LaSalle Street, 12th Floor Chicago, IL 60604 Phone: (773) 478-7799

Via Electronic Mail

July 8, 2025

TIMOTHY L. MOORE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
BUREAU OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS
CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT
3510 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 60653

Re: Log #2025-0002498

Dear Deputy Director Moore:

Pursuant to § 2-56-230(c)(ii) of the Municipal Code of Chicago (MCC), the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) Public Safety section conducted a preliminary review of the investigation conducted by the Chicago Police Department's (CPD) Bureau of Internal Affairs (BIA) in Log #2025-0002498. OIG recommends that BIA reopen the investigation to fully account for all available evidence and investigate all potential allegations. Log #2025-0002498 is currently in a Command Channel Review status.

Log #2025-0002498 concerns allegations that CPD Probationary Police Officer (PPO) Demetrius Jennings, Star #8058, was intoxicated while on-duty. BIA sustained the allegation and recommended a 15-Day Suspension and placement into CPD's Personnel Concerns Program.

On May 24, 2025, Lieutenant Ryan Brown, Star #1836, conducted roll call at CPD's 6th District police station at 11:15 p.m. and noted PPO Jennings' absence. Following roll call, Lieutenant Brown observed PPO Jennings "standing by the watch secretary desk swaying and [their] eyes rolled up wards [sic] towards the back of [their] head." Lieutenant Brown initiated Log #2025-0002498 after they "smelled the strong odor of an alcoholic beverage" emanating from PPO Jennings' breath.

Per the Initiation Report, PPO Jennings admitted to Lieutenant Brown they had been drinking because they did not believe they were scheduled to work that day. PPO Jennings advised Lieutenant Brown that they were recently cleared from a medical leave of absence and their schedule was revised due to their medical leave. PPO Jennings told Lieutenant Brown they were unsure when they needed to report to work, but stated they were informed at approximately 9:00 p.m. on May 24, 2025, to report for their 1st Watch duty assignment that day. PPO Jennings related to Lieutenant Brown that

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¹ Attachment 3, p. 2.

they drove to CPD 6th District police station to report for their tour of duty. PPO Jennings also told Lieutenant Brown they misplaced the keys to their vehicle and believed they dropped them in the parking lot. Lieutenant Brown's Initiation Report listed Sergeant Michael St. Claire II, Star #1538, as a witness to the incident.

Sergeant St. Claire II completed a To From Subject Report (TFSR) regarding the incident. Sergeant St. Claire II observed PPO Jennings with "strong odor of an alcoholic beverage which exuded [PPO Jennings'] presence" and noted PPO Jennings was disoriented. Sergeant St. Claire II's TFSR stated that PPO Jennings' "ON-DUTY firearm was handed over to Lt. Brown to keep in the District safe." The TFSR also stated that Sergeant St. Claire II later transported PPO Jennings to their residence without incident.²

That night, BIA administered a breathalyzer examination on PPO Jennings at 1:16 a.m. on May 25, 2025.³ According to the breathalyzer examination, PPO Jennings' Breath Alcohol Concentration (BAC) was .275.⁴

In their statement to BIA, PPO Jennings stated they were cleared from their medical leave of absence on May 24, 2025, and believed they were detailed to work a special event on May 25, 2025, with a start time of 5:00 p.m.⁵ PPO Jennings stated they did not see their name on the 6th District's schedule for 1st Watch, but on May 24, 2025, at approximately 9:35 p.m., they called and spoke to the 6th District Watch Secretary for clarification on their schedule. The 6th District Watch Secretary advised PPO Jennings to report for their tour of duty at 11:00 p.m. that night.⁶ PPO Jennings admitted to BIA that they began drinking around 8:15 p.m. and drank 7-9 beers before their conversation with the 6th District Watch Secretary.⁷ PPO Jennings told BIA they showered, brushed their teeth, and used mouthwash before reporting to the 6th District and speaking with Lieutenant Brown after roll call concluded.⁸ PPO Jennings understood they reported to their tour of duty while intoxicated, but believed they could be assigned to desk duty.⁹ PPO Jennings stated to BIA that they reported for their tour of duty while intoxicated because they were nervous, unsure of what to do, and did not want to inform 6th District personnel that they were drinking and not physically fit to work.¹⁰

Section II(J) of CPD's U04-02 Uniform and Property Directive, Department Approved Weapons and Ammunition, states "[w]hile sworn members are permitted to carry firearms during non-duty hours, they are instructed to refrain from doing so when there is a likelihood that they will be consuming alcoholic beverages or medications which may impair their physical and/or mental abilities."

BIA did not address Lieutenant Brown's Initiation Report that noted PPO Jennings admitted to driving to CPD's 6th District police station. Additionally, BIA did not address Sergeant St. Claire II's TFSR that reported PPO Jennings was in possession of their on-duty firearm while under the influence of alcohol.

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² Attachment 5.

³ Attachment 6, p. 1.

⁴ Attachment 9.

⁵ Attachment 15, at 6:05 – 6:18.

⁶ Ibid., at 11:03 – 11:20.

⁷ Ibid., at 12:50 – 13:38.

⁸ Ibid., at 6:33 – 7:28.

⁹ Ibid., at 11:50 – 12:20.

¹⁰ Ibid., at 13:43 – 14:14.

supporting documents that may lead to additional allegations that PPO Jennings was in possession Based on OIG's preliminary review, and without taking any position on any other aspect of the investigation or its findings, OIG recommends that BIA further review statements included in while under the influence of alcohol, and other potential violations of CPD Rules and directives. of their firearm while intoxicated in violation of U04-02 Uniform and Property Directive, drove to work

lcandia-flanagan@igchicago.org or (773) 478-5614 with any questions. Please send your response to this recommendation within the time allowed by MCC \S 2-56-245. OIG will consider a failure to electronic case file to provide for a complete record. forward to BIA's response and recommends that BIA incorporate this letter and its response into the respond in the time permitted by ordinance to be a declination of our recommendation. OIG looks Please contact Chief Investigative Analyst LaDonna Candia-Flanagan at

Respectfully,

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Tobara Richardson

Deputy Inspector General for Public Safety

Office of Inspector General

cc: Deborah Witzburg, Inspector General, OIG

Samuel Chae, Associate General Counsel for Public Safety, OIG

LaDonna Candia-Flanagan, Chief Investigative Analyst for Public Safety, OIG

Deputy Chief Traci Walker, BIA, CPD

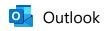
Scott Spears, General Counsel, CPD

Sergeant Connie Flores, BIA, CPD

Officer Jessica R. Medina, Legal Affairs, CPD

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Appendix B | Department Response



Re: Recommendation to Reopen Log #2025-0002498 (In CCR)

From Flores, Connie D. <Connie.Flores@chicagopolice.org>

Date Wed 7/23/2025 8:07 AM

To LaDonna Candia Flanagan < lcandia flanagan@igchicago.org>

Cc Moore, Timothy L. <Timothy.Moore@chicagopolice.org>; Walker, Traci L. <Traci.Walker@chicagopolice.org>; Spears, Scott <Scott.Spears@chicagopolice.org>; Medina, Jessica <Jessica.Medina@chicagopolice.org>; Tobara Richardson <trichardson@igchicago.org>; Samuel Chae <schae@igchicago.org>; Deborah Witzburg <dwitzburg@igchicago.org>; Flores, Robert A. <Robert.Flores@chicagopolice.org>; Schnoor, Kelly A. <Kelly.Schnoor@chicagopolice.org>; Powell Ward, Dina M. <Dina.PowellWard@chicagopolice.org>; Komosa, Evan J. <Evan.Komosa@chicagopolice.org>

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Good morning,

On behalf of Deputy Director Moore, upon review of Log #2025 0002498 the Bureau of Internal Affairs will address the allegation regarding possession of firearm while intoxicated but will not address driving under the influence of alcohol.

Thank you,

Sgt. Connie Flores Chicago Police Department

Bureau of Internal Affairs

Administrative Section 3510 S. Michigan Ave., 5th Floor

Office 312-745-6215 Ext: 85015, Pax: 0216



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From: Flores, Connie D. <Connie.Flores@chicagopolice.org>

Sent: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 12:28 PM

To: LaDonna Candia-Flanagan < lcandia-flanagan@igchicago.org>

Cc: Moore, Timothy L. <Timothy.Moore@chicagopolice.org>; Walker, Traci L. <Traci.Walker@chicagopolice.org>; Spears, Scott <Scott.Spears@chicagopolice.org>; Medina, Jessica <Jessica.Medina@chicagopolice.org>; Tobara Richardson <trichardson@igchicago.org>; Samuel Chae <schae@igchicago.org>; Deborah Witzburg <dwitzburg@igchicago.org>; Flores, Robert A. <Robert.Flores@chicagopolice.org>; Schnoor, Kelly A.

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J. <Evan.Komosa@chicagopolice.org>

Subject: Re: Recommendation to Reopen Log #2025-0002498 (In CCR)

Good afternoon,

On behalf of Deputy Director Moore, The Bureau of Internal Affairs has reopened Log Number 2025-0002498 for additional investigation.

Thank you,

Sgt. Connie Flores Chicago Police Department

Bureau of Internal Affairs

Administrative Section 3510 S. Michigan Ave., 5th Floor

Office 312-745-6215 Ext: 85015, Pax: 0216



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From: LaDonna Candia-Flanagan < lcandia-flanagan@igchicago.org>

Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 3:17 PM

To: Moore, Timothy L. <Timothy.Moore@chicagopolice.org>

Cc: Walker, Traci L. <Traci.Walker@chicagopolice.org>; Spears, Scott <Scott.Spears@chicagopolice.org>; Medina, Jessica <Jessica.Medina@chicagopolice.org>; Flores, Connie D. <Connie.Flores@chicagopolice.org>; Tobara Richardson <trichardson@igchicago.org>; Samuel Chae <schae@igchicago.org>; Deborah Witzburg <dwitzburg@igchicago.org>

Subject: Recommendation to Reopen Log #2025-0002498 (In CCR)

Dear Deputy Director Moore:

On behalf of Deputy Inspector General Tobara Richardson, please find attached to this email a recommendation to reopen Log # 2025-0002498 currently in CCR. Please acknowledge your receipt of this correspondence and let me know if you have any questions.

LaDonna Candia-Flanagan

Chief Investigative Analyst-Public Safety
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LaDonna Candia-Flanagan Chief Investigative Analyst for Public Safety

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