



CITY OF CHICAGO
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

20
25

Recommendation to Reopen Chicago Police Department Disciplinary Investigation

CPD Log #2025-0001793

OIG Case #C2025-0000000231

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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.

COPA investigated allegations that CPD Field Training Officer (FTO) Gloria Tirado, Star #3355, entered and searched the complainant's residence without a warrant, and "aggressively pushed" the complainant without justification. COPA interviewed the complainant, gathered evidence, and administratively closed the investigation without findings.

The incident occurred while FTO Tirado assisted a 911 caller in retrieving their property from their former residence. FTO Tirado escorted the 911 caller through two separate residential units in a two-flat apartment building. The 911 caller retrieved one item from a bedroom in the first-floor apartment, then accessed the complainant's separate second-floor apartment via the back porch stairway.

After FTO Tirado and the 911 caller entered the second-floor apartment, the complainant told them both to get out of their house. The 911 caller asked FTO Tirado to open a bedroom door in the second-floor apartment, and the complainant stood in front of the door. FTO Tirado told the complainant that the 911 caller was there to retrieve property, and the complainant responded, "I don't care, [they] don't live here." FTO Tirado shoved the complainant away from the bedroom door and opened the door, enabling the 911 caller to enter and search the bedroom.

In its Non-Final Summary Report (NFSR), COPA reported it found "no reasonable, objective, verifiable evidence to proceed with an investigation." COPA concluded that the 911 caller "had access to the building and the right to retrieve [their] property, and only [the 911 caller] searched the residence." Regarding the allegation that FTO Tirado pushed the complainant without justification, COPA stated it "does not believe this amounts to misconduct." COPA stated that the complainant grabbed FTO Tirado's hand and used their elbow to block FTO Tirado from opening the bedroom door, which COPA determined "amounts to force that could have caused injury and therefore elevated [the complainant] to an assailant."¹

OIG recommended that COPA reopen the investigation to consider all available evidence, including the case report that shows the 911 caller self-reported their residence, which supported the complainant's claim that the 911 caller's former residence was strictly the first-floor apartment. OIG also recommended that COPA evaluate whether CPD policies required FTO Tirado to complete a TRR for pushing the complainant before opening the closed bedroom door.

¹ CPD General Order G03-02-01 defines an assailant as "a person who is using or threatening the use of force against another person or himself/herself which is likely to cause physical injury. Assailants are further subdivided into two categories: (1) a person whose actions are aggressively offensive with or without weapons and (2) a person whose actions constitute an imminent threat of death or great bodily harm to a Department member or to another person." CPD General Order G03-02-01, "Response to Resistance and Force Options," effective June 28, 2023, accessed October 20, 2025, <https://directives.chicagopolice.org/#directive/public/6605>.

In response to OIG's recommendations, COPA declined to reopen the investigation. In its response, COPA stated that "no new evidence emerged" that could "materially affect" the results of the investigation. COPA stated that it did not find that the "manner in which the investigation was concluded resulted in a gross miscarriage of justice." COPA asserted that it is "unlikely that significant discipline" would be imposed on FTO Tirado, and therefore COPA does not believe that reopening the investigation would be "an efficient use of resources."

OIG's letter to COPA containing its recommendations is attached at Appendix A. COPA's response is attached at Appendix B.

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 23, 2025

LAKENYA WHITE
INTERIM CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR
CIVILIAN OFFICE OF POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY
1615 WEST CHICAGO AVENUE, 4TH FLOOR
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60622

Re: Log #2025-0001793

Dear Chief Administrator White:

Pursuant to § 2-56-230(c)(ii) of the Municipal Code of Chicago (MCC), the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) Public Safety section has conducted a preliminary review of the investigation conducted by the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) in Log #2025-0001793. OIG recommends that the investigation be reopened to consider all available evidence and potential allegations. Log #2025-0001793 is currently in a Closed/No Finding status.

Log #2025-0001793 concerns allegations against Chicago Police Department (CPD) Field Training Officer (FTO) Gloria Tirado, Star #3355. According to the web complaint form, on April 15, 2025, CPD members entered and searched the complainant's residence without a warrant, and a female white officer, later identified as FTO Tirado, "aggressively pushed" the complainant.¹ COPA conducted a preliminary investigation and determined that there was insufficient objective verifiable evidence to warrant serving allegations and administratively closed the investigation.²

According to the event query report, a 911 caller requested CPD assistance in retrieving their property from their former residence and FTO Tirado was the first CPD member who responded to the scene.³ FTO Tirado's body worn camera (BWC) video captures the initial encounter with the 911 caller as they describe the situation and their request for police service. The 911 caller is holding papers in their hand and states, "Here's the report, this was actually a week ago today when I actually left. I did file a report for the damage of my property, but I know the stuff is still there and I want to get my things. I just, I have keys, I lived here for two years, [the caller's former partner is] going to claim I didn't."⁴

¹ Attachment 1.

² Attachment 17.

³ Attachment 3.

⁴ Attachment 10 at 02:42-03:02.

FTO Tirado asks, “Now, did you leave on your own?” and the 911 caller responds, “The police took me to my dad’s.” FTO Tirado asks how long they lived there and the 911 caller answers, two years. FTO Tirado asks if they lived on the first floor, and they respond “Yeah, well, but it’s a building, it’s all connected, they’re all family, so my stuff could be either upstairs or downstairs, [the caller’s former partner is] probably hiding it.”⁵

FTO Tirado’s BWC video captures the 911 caller entering a bedroom in the first-floor unit and searching for their property while speaking to a person asleep in a bed. FTO Tirado states the 911 caller is “just going to get some personal stuff, ok? You’re ok.” The 911 caller then looks under the bed while FTO Tirado holds a blanket that the 911 caller handed them after retrieving it from a closet. FTO Tirado exits the bedroom and tells a person in the hallway the 911 caller is there to “get some stuff.” FTO Tirado asks this person if they are “the mom” and they respond “No.”⁶

FTO Tirado’s BWC video captures the 911 caller walking up the back stairway of the building. FTO Tirado does not immediately follow and instead stands in the doorway between the back porch stairwell and the first-floor kitchen, still holding the blanket and talking to the person previously seen in the hallway. FTO Tirado’s BWC video captures a voice shouting “Chicago Police,” and FTO Tirado responds, “Yeah, I’m in the back, I’m by the back porch,” while walking up the back stairs. FTO Tirado then opens the back door of the second-floor unit and enters the kitchen. The 911 caller then walks into the kitchen and says to FTO Tirado, “I just need to check one of the rooms for my PlayStation.”⁷

Meanwhile, BWC footage from CPD members Briana Byrd, Star #6802 and Gewargis Samuel, Star #19823, show them entering the building.⁸ Officers Byrd and Samuel climb the front stairs to the second-floor unit, knock on the door, and try to enter by turning the doorknob, but the door was locked. Officers Byrd and Samuel then descend the front stairs and enter the first-floor unit while Officer Byrd shouts “Chicago Police!”⁹

In the second-floor unit, FTO Tirado’s BWC video captures the 911 caller telling the complainant not to touch them. The complainant then repeatedly tells the 911 caller to get out of their house. The 911 caller asks FTO Tirado to open a bedroom door. The complainant unlocks and opens the front door of the second-floor unit apartment, steps in front of the bedroom door, and tells both the 911 caller and FTO Tirado to get out of their house. The complainant stands in front of the bedroom door and repeatedly tells FTO Tirado to get out of their house and that no one is allowed in their house. FTO Tirado responds that the 911 caller is going to get their “stuff,” and the complainant responds, “I don’t care, [they] don’t live here, [they] do not live here.”¹⁰

FTO Tirado responds that the 911 caller does live there, and the 911 caller holds up their keys and shakes them. The complainant again refutes the 911 caller’s claim that they live there and says, “I don’t want [them] in my house.” FTO Tirado then shoves the complainant away from the bedroom door and tells the complainant “Don’t get the fuck in front of my face.” FTO Tirado then turns the

⁵ Attachment 10 at 03:38-03:59.

⁶ Ibid at 04:22-05:41.

⁷ Ibid at 05:45-06:36.

⁸ Attachment 11 at 02:40 and Attachment 12 at 02:36.

⁹ Attachment 11 at 02:58-03:25. Officer Byrd’s announcement of “Chicago Police!” is the shout captured on FTO Tirado’s BWC footage at 06:11.

¹⁰ Attachment 10 at 06:36-06:53.

bedroom doorknob and opens the door. The 911 caller then enters, searches, and retrieves a PlayStation from the bedroom where a young person is lying in bed. While the 911 caller is in the bedroom, another person appears and tells the CPD members that the 911 caller does not live there but downstairs. After retrieving the PlayStation from the upstairs bedroom, the 911 caller and FTO Tirado exit the second-floor apartment and walk downstairs to the front porch.¹¹

Officer Byrd's BWC video captures Officers Byrd and Samuel remaining in the second-floor unit to speak with the residents, including the complainant. The occupant of the second-floor bedroom to which FTO Tirado entered walks into the common area and says "[They] live downstairs. Who let them in?" Officers Byrd and Samuel discuss the situation with the complainant and other residents of the second-floor unit, who all continue to insist the 911 caller had no right to enter their separate residence. As Officers Byrd and Samuel exit, the complainant states to the other residents, "[They] came in through the back door. This door, I wasn't opening it. I heard, and I wasn't opening it." The other resident asks who opened it, and the complainant replies "[They] came around through the back."¹²

CPD General Order G04-01: Preliminary Investigations requires CPD members to "conduct a thorough and accurate preliminary investigation."¹³ FTO Tirado asked the 911 caller questions about their prior residence but did not verify which portions of the building, if any, they were legally allowed to access by reviewing their identification, examining the case report in their possession, or taking any other measures. In fact, COPA's investigative file includes a CPD case report documenting an incident of the Criminal Damage to Property a week prior on April 8, 2025, which recorded the 911 caller as the victim and listed their residence as [address omitted] [REDACTED].¹⁴ FTO Tirado failed to look at this document that supports the complainant's assertion that the 911 caller lived on the first floor and therefore had no right to enter the second-floor unit.

Further, as COPA noted in its Non-Final Summary Report, FTO Tirado used force against the complainant to gain entry to the second-floor bedroom.¹⁵ There is no Tactical Response Report (TRR) documenting FTO Tirado's use of force in COPA's case file, and COPA does not mention its absence in the Non-Final Summary Report. COPA also stated that "only [the 911 caller] searched the residence."¹⁶ However, BWC video shows FTO Tirado opening the closed bedroom door after using force against the complainant.¹⁷

Based on OIG's preliminary review, and without taking any position on any other aspect of the investigation, OIG recommends that COPA reopen the investigation to consider all available evidence including the case report that shows the 911 caller self-reported their residence as [REDACTED]. Additionally, OIG recommends that COPA evaluate whether FTO Tirado was required to complete a TRR for pushing the complainant before opening the closed bedroom door.

¹¹ Attachment 10 at 06:54-08:05.

¹² Attachment 11 at 05:08-06:38.

¹³ CPD General Order G04-01 Preliminary Investigations, Section III-B-1.

¹⁴ Attachment 4.

¹⁵ Attachment 17, p.3.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Attachment 10 at timestamp 09:56:14

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

Respectfully,



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
Angela Snell, Assistant General Counsel, COPA
Timothy Moore, Deputy Director, Bureau of Internal Affairs, CPD

Appendix B | Department Response



October 15, 2025

Tobara Richardson
Deputy Inspector General
for Public Safety
Office of Inspector General
740 North Sedgwick Street, Suite 200
Chicago, Illinois 60654

Via Electronic Mail

Re: Re-Open Recommendation Re: Log No. 2025-0001793

Dear Deputy Inspector Richardson:

I am in receipt of the July 23, 2025 letter recommending that COPA re-open Log No. 2025-0001793. In particular, the Office of the Inspector General – Deputy Inspector General for Public Safety (PSIG) recommends re-opening this case to consider whether the involved officer conducted an adequate preliminary investigation and whether the involved officer was required to complete a Tactical Response Report (TRR). After a thorough review, we decline to re-open the investigation for the following reasons.

Respectfully, COPA notes that no new evidence emerged that was not available at the time the investigation was closed that could materially affect its results. Nor does COPA find that the manner in which the investigation was concluded resulted in a gross miscarriage of justice. Even if COPA were to re-open and sustain allegations against the involved officer, COPA believes it is unlikely that significant discipline would be imposed on that officer under the facts of this case. COPA therefore believes reopening this investigation would not be an efficient use of resources.

Under COPA's ordinance, subject to applicable law, the Chief Administrator may, in their discretion, re-open any closed investigation upon PSIG's recommendation.¹ Having reviewed PSIG's request and COPA's investigation, I find that there is no sufficient basis to re-open this investigation. Accordingly, COPA declines to re-open this investigation.

As always, we appreciate your continued diligent and careful review of closed COPA investigations.

Respectfully,

LaKenya White
Interim Chief Administrator
Civilian Office of Police Accountability

¹ MCC § 2-78-120(x)(iii).

cc: Deborah Witzburg (OIG)
Ladonna Candia-Flanagan (OIG)
Samuel Chae (OIG)
Timothy Moore (BIA)
Angie Snell (COPA)



LaDonna Candia-Flanagan

Chief Investigative Analyst for Public Safety

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For further information about this report, please contact the City of Chicago Office of Inspector General, 231 S. LaSalle Street, 12th Floor, Chicago, IL 60604, or visit our website at igchicago.org.

Talk to Us

(833) TALK-2-IG/(833) 825-5244

talk2ig@igchicago.org

igchicago.org/talk2ig

OIG Business Office

(773) 478-7799

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