



CITY OF CHICAGO
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

20
26

Recommendation to Reopen Chicago Police Department Disciplinary Investigation

CPD Log #2024-0007097

OIG Case #C2026-0000000124

September 30, 2026

DAVID GLOCKNER | INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE CITY OF CHICAGO
TOBARA RICHARDSON | DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

September 30, 2026

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 recommend reopening an investigation to address a deficiency materially affecting its outcome.¹

COPA investigated allegations against CPD Sergeant Dean Angelo, Star #2107, regarding verbal abuse. COPA reached a finding of Not Sustained for the allegation that Sergeant Angelo called the complainant a “bitch” and a “[n--ger]” in front of a minor child.

During the complainant's interview, the complainant told COPA they had text messages that showed Sergeant Angelo calling the complainant, “a delusional fucking mental case,” “a homeless bust-out loser,” and “mentally ill.” The investigative file includes copies of the text messages between the complainant and Sergeant Angelo. The text messages from Sergeant Angelo stated, “you're a delusional horrible person,” “fucking moron,” “asshole,” “You're a delusional fucking mental case,” “You're homeless, bust out, loser. Go check yourself in to [sic] a mental ward already,” and “fucking retard.”

OIG recommended that COPA reopen the investigation to account for the text messages produced by the complainant as additional allegations of verbal abuse against Sergeant Angelo.

COPA declined OIG's recommendation to reopen the investigation stating that Sergeant Angelo's collective bargaining agreement (CBA) requires that investigations be completed within 18 months of opening—the incident occurred 20 months ago. COPA also noted that the complainant failed to cooperate and it would have difficulty authenticating the text messages without the complainant's cooperation.

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

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



David Glockner | Inspector General
City of Chicago
Office of Inspector General
231 South LaSalle Street, 12th Floor
Chicago, IL 60604
Phone: (773) 478-7799

Via Electronic Mail

June 1, 2026

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

Re: Log #2024-0007097

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 #2024-0007097. OIG recommends that the investigation be reopened to fully account for all available evidence and investigate all allegations. Log #2024-0007097 is currently Pending Superintendent Review.

Log #2024-0007097 concerns allegations against Chicago Police Department (CPD) Sergeant Dean Angelo, Star #2107, related to verbal abuse. COPA Not Sustained the allegation that Sergeant Angelo called the complainant a "bitch" and a "[n--ger]" in front of a minor child.

During the complainant's interview, they told COPA that they have text messages from Sergeant Angelo. During the interview, the complainant alleges that Sergeant Angelo called the complainant, "a delusional fucking mental case," "a homeless bust-out loser," and "mentally ill."¹

The investigative file includes copies of the text messages between the complainant and Sergeant Angelo. The text messages from Sergeant Angelo stated, "you're a delusional horrible person," "fucking moron," "asshole," "You're a delusional fucking mental case," "You're homeless, bust out, loser. Go check yourself in to a mental ward already," and "fucking retard."²

During COPA's interview with Sergeant Angelo, the only allegation COPA addressed was, "On June 18, 2023, at 5430 North Olcott Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60656, Sergeant Dean Angelo verbally abused [the complainant] by stating words to the effect of calling her a bitch and an N-word in front of a minor child."³

¹ Attachment 1, p. 8 line 12, p.9. lines 16-23.

² Attachment 32.

³ Attachment 29.

Based on OIG's preliminary review, and without taking any position on any other aspect of the investigation or its findings, OIG recommends that COPA reopen this investigation to account for the text messages produced by the complainant as additional allegations of verbal abuse against Sergeant Angelo.

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
City of Chicago

cc: David Glockner, Inspector General, OIG
Samuel Chae, Associate General Counsel for Public Safety, OIG
LaDonna Candia-Flanagan, Chief Investigative Analyst for Public Safety, OIG
Angela Snell, Acting General Counsel, COPA
Timothy L. Moore, Chief, Bureau of Internal Affairs, CPD

Appendix B | Department Response



July 6, 2026

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 Log No. 2024-0007097

Dear Deputy Inspector General Richardson:

I am in receipt of your June 1, 2026, letter recommending that COPA re-open and conduct additional investigation in Log No. 2024-0007097. We understand the Office of the Inspector General - Deputy Inspector General for Public Safety (PSIG) recommends re-opening this case to consider additional verbal abuse allegations. For the reasons stated below, COPA does not concur with PSIG's recommendation to re-open.

First, the sergeant's collective bargaining agreement requires that investigations be completed within 18 months of opening. The incident in this case occurred over 20 months from the date of your letter. In addition, and as noted in COPA's final summary report for this log, the complainant declined to cooperate in COPA's investigation and told witnesses not to cooperate.¹ COPA would therefore have difficulty authenticating the text messages at issue.

Under COPA's ordinance, the Chief Administrator may, in their discretion, re-open any closed investigation upon PSIG's recommendation.² Here, I cannot find an appropriate basis to re-open this investigation. I appreciate your continued diligent and careful review of closed COPA investigations.

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¹ Also as noted in its report, COPA acknowledges that there are many factors that may cause a complainant to recant.

² MCC § 2-78-120(x)(iii).

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July 6, 2026
Ms. Tobará Richardson

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "LaKenya White". The signature is stylized with a large initial "L" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

LaKenya White
Chief Administrator
Civilian Office of Police Accountability

cc: David Glockner (OIG)
Samuel Chae (OIG)
LaDonna Candia-Flanagan (OIG)
Timothy Moore (CPD)
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.

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Alternate formats available upon request.

