

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE</b>	)	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISCIPLINE OF</b>	)	
	)	
<b>POLICE OFFICER ADOLFO BOLANOS,</b>	)	<b>No. 22 RR 04</b>
<b>STAR No. 16767, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE,</b>	)	
<b>CITY OF CHICAGO,</b>	)	
	)	
<b>AND</b>	)	
	)	
<b>POLICE OFFICER GUILLERMO GAMA JR.,</b>	)	<b>No. 22 RR 05</b>
<b>STAR No. 17268, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE,</b>	)	
<b>CITY OF CHICAGO.</b>	)	<b>(CR No. 2019-0090)</b>

**REQUEST FOR REVIEW**

On April 29, 2022, the Office 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 Adolfo Bolanos, Star No. 16767, and Police Officer Guillermo Gama Jr., Star No. 17268, arising out of the investigation of Complaint Register No. 2019-0090 (“Request for Review”).

The investigation stems from an incident during the evening of February 16, 2019. Officers Bolanos and Gama attempted to stop a silver sedan for a traffic violation when the vehicle fled and ultimately crashed into a fence at the southeast corner of 21<sup>st</sup> Place and Keeler Avenue. After the officers and three occupants of the silver sedan exited their vehicles, Officer Bolanos fatally shot one of the occupants, Michael Elam. Following the conclusion of the investigation, the Chief Administrator issued recommendations for discipline of Officer Bolanos and Officer Gama. The Superintendent of Police did not agree with the Chief Administrator’s recommendations and proposed less discipline for these two officers.

Nos. 22 RR 04 & 05  
Police Officers Bolanos and Gama  
Request for Review and Opinion

The Chief Administrator recommended that the following allegations against Officer Bolanos be *Sustained*:

On or about February 16, 2019, at approximately 8:31 p.m., in the vicinity of 4199 West 21<sup>st</sup> Place, Chicago, Officer Bolanos:

1. Discharged his weapon at Michael Elam, in violation of General Order G03-02;
2. Failed to activate his body-worn camera, in violation of Special Order S03-14;
3. Failed to immediately notify the Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC) of the firearms discharge and/or provide all relevant information, in violation of General Order G03-02-03; and
4. Failed to immediately request appropriate medical aid for Michael Elam, in violation of General Order G03-02-03.

The Chief Administrator recommended that Officer Bolanos be discharged from the Chicago Police Department.

The Superintendent objected to the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline of Officer Bolanos. The Superintendent recommended that Allegation No. 1 be classified as *Not Sustained*, that Allegation Nos. 2 – 4 be *Sustained*, and that Officer Bolanos be suspended for a period of ten (10) days.

The Chief Administrator recommended that the following allegation against Officer Gama be *Sustained*:

On or about February 16, 2019, at approximately 8:31 p.m., in the vicinity of 4199 West 21<sup>st</sup> Place, Chicago, Officer Gama failed to immediately request appropriate medical aid for Michael Elam, in violation of General Order G03-02.

The Chief Administrator recommended that Officer Gama be suspended from the Chicago Police Department for a period of thirty (30) days.

The Superintendent objected to the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline of Officer Gama. The Superintendent agreed that the above allegation be *Sustained* but

recommended that Officer Gama be suspended for a period of ten (10) days.

According to the Certificate submitted by the Chief Administrator: (1) the Chief Administrator issued the recommendation for discipline on December 15, 2021; (2) the Chief Administrator received the Superintendent's written response on March 28, 2022; (3) the Chief Administrator's designees met with the Superintendent's designees and concluded their discussion of this matter on April 22, 2022; and (4) the Request for Review was sent via email to the Executive Director of the Police Board on April 29, 2022.

The Executive Director of the Police Board prepared and forwarded the Request for Review file to Ghian Foreman, 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"). On April 29, 2022, 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.

### **OPINION**

Regarding Officer Bolanos, it is my opinion that, based on a thorough review of the Request for Review material, the Superintendent did not meet the burden of overcoming the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline. Based on the facts and circumstances of this matter, an evidentiary hearing before the Police Board is necessary to determine whether Officer Bolanos violated any of the Police Department's Rules of Conduct and, if so, the appropriate disciplinary action. 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 Adolfo Bolanos, Star No. 16767, shall be deemed accepted by the Superintendent.

Nos. 22 RR 04 & 05  
Police Officers Bolanos and Gama  
Request for Review and Opinion

Regarding Officer Gama, it is my opinion that, based on a thorough review of the Request for Review material, the Superintendent did not meet the burden of overcoming the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline. 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 Guillermo Gama Jr., Star No. 17268, shall be deemed accepted by the Superintendent.

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2022.

/s/ GHIAN FOREMAN  
President  
Police Board

Attested by:

/s/ MAX A. CAPRONI  
Executive Director  
Police Board