

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE</b>	)	
<b>RECOMMENDATION FOR DISCIPLINE OF</b>	)	<b>No. 22 RR 16</b>
<b>POLICE OFFICER STEVEN SMITH,</b>	)	
<b>STAR No. 6684, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE,</b>	)	<b>(CR No. 2019-2550)</b>
<b>CITY OF CHICAGO.</b>	)	

**REQUEST FOR REVIEW**

On August 10, 2022, the Executive Director of the Police Board of the City of Chicago received from the Chief Administrator of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability a request for review of the Chief Administrator’s recommendation for discipline of Police Officer Steven Smith, Star No. 6684, arising out of the investigations of Complaint Register No. 2019-2550 (“Request for Review”).

The investigation stems from an incident on July 7, 2019, in which Officer Smith and his partner responded to a business burglary alarm at 8001 South Martin Luther King Drive in Chicago. The officers observed a shattered front window and a man inside the business. After the man fled, Officer Smith encountered him outside the rear of the business and ordered him to the ground. The man did not comply, and Officer Smith used an emergency takedown and used force on the man. Following the conclusion of the investigation, the Chief Administrator issued a recommendation for discipline of Officer Smith. The Superintendent of Police did not agree with the Chief Administrator’s recommendation and proposed no discipline for Officer Smith.

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

1. On or about July 7, 2019, at approximately 12:56 a.m., at or near 8001 South Martin Luther King Drive in Chicago, Officer Smith kicked/stomped [B.D.] in the head/face without justification; and

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2. Officer Smith failed to properly document the force used on [B.D.] in a Tactical Response Report.

The Chief Administrator recommended that Officer Smith be suspended without pay for a period of sixty (60) days.

The Superintendent disagreed with the Chief Administrator's recommendation for discipline of Officer Smith. The Superintendent recommended that the above allegations be classified as *Not Sustained* and proposed no disciplinary action.

According to the Certificate submitted by the Chief Administrator: (1) the Chief Administrator issued the recommendation for discipline on January 28, 2022; (2) the Chief Administrator received the Superintendent's request for further investigation on March 25, 2022, and the Superintendent's final written response on June 10, 2022; (3) the Chief Administrator's designees met with the Superintendent's designees and concluded their discussion of this matter on August 3, 2022; and (4) the Request for Review was sent via email to the Executive Director of the Police Board on August 10, 2022.

The Executive Director of the Police Board prepared and forwarded the Request for Review file to Paula Wolff, 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 August 20, 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.

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**OPINION**

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 Steven Smith, Star No. 6684, shall be deemed accepted by the Superintendent.

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

/s/ PAULA WOLFF  
Vice President  
Police Board

Attested by:

/s/ MAX A. CAPRONI  
Executive Director  
Police Board