

BEFORE THE POLICE BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST)
POLICE OFFICER SLAWOMIR PLEWA,) **No. 12 PB 2819**
STAR No. 14604, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE,)
CITY OF CHICAGO,)
RESPONDENT.) **(CR No. 1016210)**

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

On September 24, 2012, the Superintendent of Police filed with the Police Board of the City of Chicago charges against Police Officer Slawomir Plewa, Star No. 14604 (hereinafter sometimes referred to as “Respondent”), recommending that the Respondent be discharged from the Chicago Police Department for violating several Rules of Conduct.

The Police Board caused a hearing on these charges against the Respondent to be had before Jacqueline A. Walker, Hearing Officer of the Police Board, on December 18 and 19, 2012. Following the hearing, the members of the Police Board read and reviewed the record of proceedings and viewed the video-recording of the testimony of the witnesses. Hearing Officer Walker made an oral report to and conferred with the Police Board.

On July 18, 2013, the Police Board found the Respondent guilty of violating Rules 2, 3, 5, 11, 14, 21 by: (1) giving false testimony under oath in a criminal case in 2008; and (2) falsely reporting on his 2001 application for employment with the Chicago Police Department that he had never been interviewed by the police in a criminal matter, and failing in his duty as a police officer to report this information to the Department. The Board ordered that the Respondent be discharged from his position as a police officer, and from the services of the City of Chicago.

The Respondent filed a petition for administrative review in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Chancery Division, seeking reversal of the Board’s Findings and Decision. On April 29, 2014, the Court entered an Order affirming the Police Board’s guilty findings as to the charges

relating to the employment application process, and reversing the Board's guilty findings as to the charges relating to providing false testimony. On July 31, 2014, the Court remanded the case to the Board for it to impose a penalty based solely on the charges relating to the employment application process.

In response to the Court's Orders, the Board has further reviewed and considered this matter with regard to only the charges relating to the employment application process (Counts I, II, and III of the Rule 2 violation; Counts I, II, and III of the Rule 3 violation; Counts I, II, and III of the Rule 5 violation; Counts I and II of the Rule 14 violation; and the Rule 21 violation). Because this misconduct took place more than eleven years prior to the filing of the charges, and based on the Respondent's extensive complimentary history during those eleven years (including nine Department commendations, one special commendation, four police officer of the month awards, and 106 honorable mentions) and his lack of prior disciplinary history, the Board determines that a reprimand is the appropriate penalty on the particular facts of the Respondent's misconduct pertaining to the employment application process.

POLICE BOARD ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent, Police Officer Slawomir Plewa, Star No. 14604, as a result of having been found **guilty** of charges in Police Board Case No. 12 PB 2819, be and hereby is **reprimanded** for his misconduct pertaining to the employment application process.

This disciplinary action is adopted and entered by a majority of the members of the Police Board: Demetrius E. Carney, Melissa M. Ballate, Rita A. Fry, Susan L. McKeever, Elisa Rodriguez, and Rhoda D. Sweeney.

Police Board Case No. 12 PB 2819
Police Officer Slawomir Plewa

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 16th DAY
OF OCTOBER, 2014.

Attested by:

/s/ DEMETRIUS E. CARNEY
President of the Police Board

/s/ MAX A. CAPRONI
Executive Director of the Police Board

DISSENT

We vote to impose a more severe punishment for the Respondent's misconduct pertaining to the employment application process. We find Plewa's explanation for his failure to disclose that he had been interviewed by the police in another criminal matter to be unbelievable.

We believe the proper discipline for a sworn police officer who, as both the Court and the Board found, falsely reported information on the Questionnaire, failed to disclose that falsehood to an investigating police officer, and continued to fail to disclose that information during his continued service as a member of the Chicago Police Department, is discharge.

/s/ GHIAN FOREMAN

/s/ WILLIAM F. CONLON

RECEIVED A COPY OF
THIS MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER
THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2014.

GARRY F. McCARTHY
Superintendent of Police