BEFORE THE POLICE BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST)	
POLICE OFFICER TARIC G. WEBB,)	No. 14 PB 2852
STAR No. 19633, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE,)	
CITY OF CHICAGO,)	
)	(CR No. 1040250)
RESPONDENT.)	,

FINDINGS AND DECISION

On March 24, 2014, the Superintendent of Police filed with the Police Board of the City of Chicago charges against Police Officer Taric G. Webb, Star No. 19633 (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Respondent"), recommending that the Respondent be discharged from the Chicago Police Department for violating the following Rules of Conduct:

- Rule 1: Violation of any law or ordinance.
- Rule 2: Any action or conduct which impedes the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department.
- Rule 25: Failure to actually reside within the corporate boundaries of the City of Chicago.

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 October 15 and November 13, 2014.

Following the hearing, the members of the Police Board read and reviewed the record of the 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 before it rendered its findings and decision.

POLICE BOARD FINDINGS

The Police Board of the City of Chicago, as a result of its hearing on the charges, finds and determines that:

- 1. The Respondent was at all times mentioned herein employed as a police officer by the Department of Police of the City of Chicago.
- 2. The written charges, and a Notice stating when and where a hearing on the charges was to be held, were served upon the Respondent more than five (5) days prior to the hearing on the charges.
- 3. Throughout the hearing on the charges the Respondent appeared in person and was represented by legal counsel.
- 4. The Respondent, Police Officer Taric G. Webb, Star No. 19633, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:
 - Rule 1: Violation of any law or ordinance,

in that the Superintendent did not prove by a preponderance of the evidence the following charge:

<u>Count I</u>: From at least in or around 2011 to at least on or about May 31, 2012, or for some time period therein, Officer Taric G. Webb resided at [xxxxx] Tyler Drive, Lynwood, Illinois, in violation of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago, Chapter 2-152, Section 050, thereby violating any law or ordinance.

Competent testimony was received from Annie Sams, Diana Plummer, Inez Riley, Terri Merriweather, and Police Officer Webb that Officer Webb's resided at [xxxx] South Coles, in Chicago.

Sams testified that Officer Webb is her nephew, and that he rents a bedroom in her apartment, located at [xxxx] South Coles. Sams also provided evidence of rent receipts she

issued to Officer Webb indicating payment for his rent of \$950.00 a month.

Plummer gave her address as [xxxx] South Coles, which she testified is across the street from [xxxx] South Coles, where she said Officer Webb lives. She testified further that she knows Officer Webb as her neighbor, and that she also knows Ms. Sams as a neighbor and a friend.

Riley testified that she is a Chicago police officer, and that she lives at [xxxx] South Coles. She further confirmed that Officer Webb also lives at [xxxx] South Coles, and also testified that Officer Webb is at the Lynwood address often because his son lives there, and he helps his estranged wife with his son, who has special needs.

Merriweather testified that she resides at [xxxxx] Tyler Drive, Lynwood with her son, Taric, Jr., who has special needs. She further testified that she and Officer Webb have been separated for 11 years, and that Officer Webb does not live with her at her address, but rather he lives at [xxxx] South Coles, in Chicago. Her testimony also confirmed that Officer Webb comes to the Lynwood address, but only does this when she is not at home, and that he comes exclusively to assist her with their son, particularly since she has had congestive heart failure and has been hospitalized on several occasions in 2011 and 2012. Finally, she testified that Officer Webb has no personal items in the Lynwood house.

Officer Webb testified that he and his wife, Ms. Merriweather, are separated and have been so for about 10 years, that his son has special needs, and that he is frequently at the Lynwood address to help out his estranged wife with their son. He also testified that his residence is at [xxxx] South Coles, and that is where he has all of his police equipment and his uniforms.

The Superintendent did present testimony from police personnel from the Bureau of

Internal Affairs regarding surveillances that were conducted at the Lynwood address.

Notwithstanding, there was limited surveillance done at [xxxx] South Coles, and the surveillances in Lynwood were only done prior to Officer Webb's reporting to his duty assignment. This evidence, along with the Superintendent's failure to call witnesses who could identify Officer Webb as living at the Lynwood address, and in light of the testimony summarized in the preceding paragraphs, was insufficient to meet the Superintendent's burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that Officer Webb resided in Lynwood.

- 5. The Respondent, Police Officer Taric G. Webb, Star No. 19633, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:
 - Rule 1: Violation of any law or ordinance,

in that the Superintendent did not prove by a preponderance of the evidence the following charge:

Notwithstanding Officer Webb's testimony that he registered his vehicle at [xxxx] East 96th Street, which was not his domicile address at the time, he did, according to the testimony of former Internal Affairs Investigator Linda Martinez, subsequently change his registration address.

6. The Respondent, Police Officer Taric G. Webb, Star No. 19633, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:

Rule 2: Any action or conduct which impedes the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department,

in that the Superintendent did not prove by a preponderance of the evidence the following charge:

Count I: From at least in or around 2011 to at least on or about May 31, 2012, or for some time period therein, Officer Taric G. Webb failed to actually be a resident of the City of Chicago in that he resided at [xxxxx] Tyler Drive, Lynwood, Illinois, thereby impeding the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals or bringing discredit upon the Department.

See the findings set forth in paragraph no. 4 above, which are incorporated here by reference.

- 7. The Respondent, Police Officer Taric G. Webb, Star No. 19633, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:
 - Rule 2: Any action or conduct which impedes the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department,

in that the Superintendent did not prove by a preponderance of the evidence the following charge:

<u>Count II</u>: From at least in or around 2011 to at least on or about May 31, 2012, or for some time period therein, Officer Taric G. Webb failed to provide the Department with written notification of his address and/or telephone number at his residence of [xxxxx] Tyler Drive, Lynwood, Illinois, thereby impeding the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals or bringing discredit upon the Department.

See the findings set forth in paragraph no. 4 above, which are incorporated here by reference.

8. The Respondent, Police Officer Taric G. Webb, Star No. 19633, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:

Rule 25: Failure to actually reside within the corporate boundaries of the City of Chicago, in that the Superintendent did not prove by a preponderance of the evidence the following charge:

From at least in or around 2011 to at least on or about May 31, 2012, or for some time period therein, Officer Taric G. Webb resided at [xxxxx] Tyler Drive, Lynwood, Illinois, thereby failing to actually reside within the corporate boundaries of the City of Chicago.

See the findings set forth in paragraph no. 4 above, which are incorporated here by reference.

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POLICE BOARD DECISION

The Police Board of the City of Chicago, having read and reviewed the record of proceedings in this case, having viewed the video-recording of the testimony of the witnesses, having received the oral report of the Hearing Officer, and having conferred with the Hearing Officer on the credibility of the witnesses and the evidence, hereby adopts the findings set forth herein by the following votes:

By votes of 5 in favor (Demetrius E. Carney, William F. Conlon, Rita A. Fry, Elisa Rodriguez, and Rhoda D. Sweeney) to 2 opposed (Ghian Foreman, Michael Eaddy), the Board finds the Respondent **not guilty** of violating Rule 1, Rule 2, and Rule 25.

As a result of the foregoing, the Board, by a vote of 5 in favor (Carney, Conlon, Fry, Rodriguez, and Sweeney) to 2 opposed (Foreman and Eaddy), hereby determines that cause exists for restoring the Respondent to his position as a police officer with the Department of Police, and to the services of the City of Chicago, with all rights and benefits, effective April 12, 2014.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent, Police Officer Taric G. Webb, Star No. 19633, as a result of having been found **not guilty** of the charges in Police Board Case No. 14 PB 2852, be and hereby is **restored** to his position as a police officer with the Department of Police, and to the services of the City of Chicago, with all rights and benefits, effective April 12, 2014.

This disciplinary action is adopted and entered by a majority of the members of the Police Board: Demetrius E. Carney, William F. Conlon, Rita A. Fry, Elisa Rodriguez, and Rhoda D. Sweeney.

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS $15^{\rm th}$ DAY OF JANUARY, 2015.

Police	Board (Case No.	14 PB	2852
Police	Officer	Taric G.	Webb	

Attested by:

/s/ DEMETRIUS E. CARNEY President

/s/ MAX A. CAPRONI Executive Director

DISSENT

We hereby dissent from the Findings and Decision of the majority of the Board, for we find that there is sufficient evidence to prove that the Respondent actually resided in Lynwood, not in Chicago.

/s/ GHIAN FOREMAN Vice President

/s/ MICHAEL EADDY

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THESE FINDINGS AND DECISION

THIS _____ DAY OF ________, 2015.

GARRY F. McCARTHY
Superintendent of Police