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 REMAND

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. On January 15, 2015, the Police Board found the Respondent not guilty of violating Rules 1, 2, and 25.

The Superintendent 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

November 12, 2015, the Court entered an Order (1) affirming the Board's findings that the Respondent is not guilty of violating Rule 1 (Count I), Rule 2, and Rule 25 (all pertaining to his residency), and (2) reversing the Board's finding that the Respondent is not guilty of violating Rule 1 (Count II) pertaining to his registering his car at an address other than his domicile address. The Court remanded the case to the Board with directions to (1) determine whether the evidence in the existing administrative record establishes a violation of Rule 1 (Count II) on a basis other than the one articulated by the Board in its original decision, and (2) if it does, what sanction is appropriate, if any.

POLICE BOARD FINDINGS ON REMAND

The Police Board, as a result of its further consideration of this matter in accordance with the Court's Order, finds and determines that:

1. The Respondent, Police Officer Taric G. Webb, Star No. 19633, charged herein, is **guilty** of violating, to wit:

Rule 1: Violation of any law or ordinance,

in that the Superintendent proved by a preponderance of the evidence the following charge:

<u>Count II</u>: On or about April 2, 2012, Officer Taric G. Webb registered a 2012 Chevrolet 4 Door, VIN # [xxxxxxxxxxxx], with the State of Illinois Secretary of State using the address of [xxxx] East 96th Street, Chicago, Illinois, which was not his domicile address, in violation of 625 ILCS 5/3-405(a)1, thereby violating any law or ordinance.

Evidence in the existing administrative record establishes a violation of Rule 1 on a basis other than the one articulated by the Board in its original decision. Officer Webb testified on cross-examination by the Assistant Corporation Counsel that he registered his 2012 Chevrolet vehicle at [xxxx] East 96th Street in Chicago. Further, his testimony was that at the time he

registered this vehicle, he resided at [xxxx] South Coles in Chicago, and did not reside at the East 96th Street address.

State law, 625 ILCS 5/3-405 (a)1, requires the use of one's domicile address on the vehicle registration, with the exception of police officers who may use the address of the police district where he works instead of a domicile address. Officer Webb used neither his domicile address nor that of the police district in registering his vehicle, and therefore, was in violation of the applicable statute.

2. The Police Board has considered the facts and circumstances of the Respondent's conduct with respect to his vehicle registration, the evidence presented in defense and mitigation, and the Respondent's complimentary and disciplinary histories.

The Respondent provided the wrong address when registering his vehicle to the Secretary of State's office, in violation of Illinois law. Providing complete and accurate information to government agencies in compliance with the law is an important duty of all citizens, especially police officers, who are sworn to uphold the law. The Respondent failed to do so, and discipline is therefore warranted.

Based on the nature of the misconduct of which the Respondent is guilty and the circumstances in which it took place, and based on the Respondent's record and years of service to the Department, the Board finds that a suspension of thirty-one (31) days is a justified penalty on the facts of this particular case.

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POLICE BOARD DECISION ON REMAND

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, having conferred with the Hearing Officer on the credibility of the witnesses and the evidence, and having considered this matter in accordance with the Court's Order, hereby adopts the findings set forth herein by the following vote:

By a vote of 7 in favor (Lori E. Lightfoot, Ghian Foreman, Melissa M. Ballate, William F. Conlon, Rita A. Fry, John H. Simpson, and Rhoda D. Sweeney) to 0 opposed, the Board finds the Respondent **guilty** of violating Rule 1 (Count II).

As a result of the foregoing, the Board, by a vote of 7 in favor (Lightfoot, Foreman, Ballate, Conlon, Fry, Simpson, and Sweeney) to 0 opposed, hereby determines that cause exists for suspending the Respondent from his position as a police officer with the Department of Police, and from the services of the City of Chicago, for a period of thirty-one (31) days.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent, Police Officer

Taric G. Webb, Star No. 19633, as a result of having been found guilty of violating Rule 1

(Count II) in Police Board Case No. 14 PB 2852, be and hereby is suspended from his position

as a police officer with the Department of Police, and from the services of the City of Chicago,

for a period of thirty-one (31) days.

This disciplinary action is adopted and entered by a majority of the members of the Police Board: Lori E. Lightfoot, Ghian Foreman, Melissa M. Ballate, William F. Conlon, Rita A. Fry, John H. Simpson, and Rhoda D. Sweeney.

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 19th DAY OF MAY, 2016.

Attested by:

/s/ LORI E. LIGHTFOOT President

/s/ MAX A. CAPRONI Executive Director

DISSENT

The following members of the Police Board hereby dissent from the Findings and

Decision of the majority of the Board.

[None]

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THESE FINDINGS AND DECISION

THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2016.

EDDIE T. JOHNSON Superintendent of Police