CHARGES AGAINST POLICE OFFICER ALBERTO COVARRUBIAS

Police Officer Alberto Covarrubias, Star No. 18769, is charged with violating the following rules contained in Article V of the Rules and Regulations of the Chicago Police Department, which were in full force and effect on the date of the alleged violations:

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 3: Any failure to promote the Department’s efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals.

Rule 6: Disobedience of an order or directive, whether written or oral.

Rule 7: Insubordination or disrespect toward a supervisory member on or off duty.

Rule 8: Disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.

Rule 9: Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.

Rule 15: Intoxication on or off Duty.

SPECIFICATIONS

1. On or about March 26, 2016, at approximately 5:30 a.m. in the vicinity of 11355 S. Avenue J, Chicago, Illinois, Officer Alberto Covarrubias, engaged in a verbal argument with Guadalupe Morales while they were on a public street. Officer Covarrubias actions caused the Chicago Police Department to be summoned to the area and respond to a disturbance call. Officer Covarrubias thereby:

a. Engaged in any action or conduct which impedes the Department’s efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department in violation of Rule 2.

b. Showed disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty in violation of Rule 8.

c. Engaged in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty in violation of Rule 9.
2. On or about March 26, 2016, at approximately 5:30 a.m. in the vicinity of 11355 S. Avenue J, Chicago, Illinois, while Officer Alberto Covarrubias was placed by officers in the front passenger compartment of a Chicago Police Department issued vehicle, he removed Sergeant James Butler’s Watch Line-up sheet from that vehicle without permission. The Watch Line-up sheet was recovered on Officer Covarrubias’ person during a custodial search. Officer Covarrubrias thereby:


b. Engaged in any action or conduct which impedes the Department’s efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department in violation of Rule 2.

c. Engaged in insubordination or disrespect toward a supervisory member on or off duty in violation of Rule 7.

d. Showed disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty in violation of Rule 8.

3. On or about March 26, 2016, at approximately 5:30 a.m. in the vicinity of 11355 S. Avenue J, Chicago, Illinois, Officer Alberto Covarrubias, while being detained by police officers, threatened Chicago Police Officer Christopher Oehmen, who was dressed in full police uniform and driving a marked police vehicle, by stating words to the effect of “Do you want me to step out of this car and kick your fuckin’ ass.” Officer Covarrubrias thereby:

a. Violated any law or ordinance, (720 ILCS 5/12-1(A) Assault) in violation of Rule 1.

b. Engaged in any action or conduct which impedes the Department’s efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department in violation of Rule 2.

c. Showed disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty in violation of Rule 8.

d. Engaged in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty in violation of Rule 9.

4. On or about March 26, 2016, between approximately 5:30 a.m. and approximately 11:00 a.m., between the vicinity of 11355 S. Avenue J, Chicago, Illinois, and the Chicago Police Department 004th District Station, Officer Alberto Covarrubias, was intoxicated while he was off duty. Officer Covarrubrias thereby:

a. Engaged in any action or conduct which impedes the Department’s efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department in violation of Rule 2.

b. Engaged in any action that fails to promote the Department’s efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals in violation of Rule 3.
c. Was intoxicated on or off duty in violation of Rule 15.

5. On or about March 26, 2016, at approximately 8:25 a.m. at the Chicago Police Department 004th District Station, Officer Alberto Covarrubias, refused to cooperate in an investigation being conducted by Chicago Police Department by refusing to answer police officers’ and a police sergeant’s questions about himself and Guadalupe Morales, thereby obstructing the police investigation into this incident. Officer Covarrubias thereby:

a. Engaged in any action or conduct which impedes the Department’s efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department in violation of Rule 2.

b. Engaged in any action that fails to promote the Department’s efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals in violation of Rule 3.

c. Engaged in disobedience of an order or directive, whether written or oral in violation of Rule 6.

6. On or about March 26, 2016, at approximately 8:30 a.m. at the Chicago Police Department 004th District Station, Officer Alberto Covarrubias was given a direct order by Sergeant Joseph Stehlik to submit to a breathalyzer as part of the Administrative Investigation into Officer Covarrubias actions. Officer Covarrubias refused to submit to a breathalyzer examination as ordered. Officer Covarrubias thereby:

a. Engaged in any action or conduct which impedes the Department’s efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department in violation of Rule 2.

b. Engaged in any action that fails to promote the Department’s efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals in violation of Rule 3.

c. Engaged in disobedience of an order or directive, whether written or oral in violation of Rule 6.

7. On or about March 26, 2016, between approximately 8:25 a.m. and 8:45 a.m., at the Chicago Police Department 004th District Station, Officer Alberto Covarrubias refused to cooperate with an Administrative Investigation into his actions by refusing to sign his Notification of Charges and/or his Administrative Rights and/or his Notification of Duty Restriction, after being advised by Sergeant Joseph Stehlik to acknowledge said notifications and rights. Officer Covarrubias thereby:

a. Engaged in any action or conduct which impedes the Department’s efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department in violation of Rule 2.

b. Engaged in any action that fails to promote the Department’s efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals in violation of Rule 3.
c. Engaged in disobedience of an order or directive, whether written or oral in violation of Rule 6.

Based on the foregoing charges and specifications, the Superintendent recommends that Police Officer Alberto Covarrubias star #18769, be discharged from the Chicago Police Department.

EDDIE T. JOHNSON
Superintendent of Police

APPROVED AS TO FORM

THERESA SMITH
Senior Counsel
Labor Division

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CHICAGO POLICE BOARD