

Charges Filed with the Police Board

The following charges have been filed with the Police Board by the Superintendent of Police. The public is reminded that the filing of charges is not evidence of guilt. The accused officer is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair hearing at which the Superintendent has the burden of proving guilt by a preponderance of the evidence.

CHARGES AGAINST POLICE OFFICER SHELDON THRASHER

Police Officer Sheldon Thrasher, Star Number 17871, 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 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 9: Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.
- Rule 11: Incompetency or inefficiency in the performance of duty.
- Rule 38: Unlawful or unnecessary use or display of a weapon.

SPECIFICATIONS

1. On or about June 6, 2018, at or near 4719 South Prairie Avenue, in Chicago, Illinois, Police Officer Sheldon Thrasher discharged his firearm at or in the direction of Maurice Granton which resulted in Granton's death. Officer Thrasher's use of force was not necessary to prevent death or great bodily harm from an imminent threat posed to him or another person. Nor was the use of deadly force necessary to prevent an arrest from being defeated because Granton did not pose an imminent threat of death or great bodily harm to Officer Thrasher or anyone else unless he was arrested without delay. Officer Thrasher 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, and/or
 - b. Failed to promote the Department's efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals, in violation of Rule 3, and/or
 - c. Disobeyed an order or directive, whether written or oral (General Order 03-02 - Use of Force) in violation of Rule 6, and/or
 - d. Unlawfully or unnecessarily used or displayed a weapon, in violation of Rule 38.

2. On or about June 6, 2018, at or near 4719 South Prairie Avenue, in Chicago, Illinois, Police Officer Sheldon Thrasher failed to activate his body worn camera (“BWC”) in a timely manner in that he waited until after he had discharged his weapon to do so, even though he had been engaged in law-enforcement activity before he discharged his weapon. Officer Thrasher 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, and/or
 - b. Failed to promote the Department’s efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals, in violation of Rule 3, and/or
 - c. Disobeyed an order or directive, whether written or oral (Special Order 03-14 Body Worn Cameras) in violation of Rule 6, and/or
 - d. Engaged in incompetency or inefficiency in the performance of duty, in violation of Rule 11.

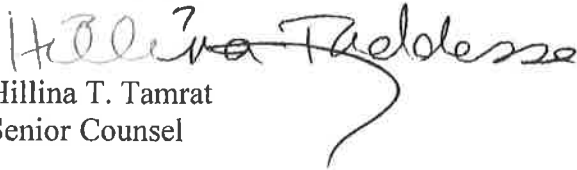
3. On or about June 6, 2018, at or near 4719 South Prairie Avenue, in Chicago, Illinois, after shooting Maurice Granton, and as Granton was lying on the ground injured, Police Officer Sheldon Thrasher stated words to the effect of, “You see your homie right there? You see your homie shot? You see your homie? You see your homie shot? Get back. Get back.” Officer Thrasher directed one or more of these statements to one or more civilians who were calling Granton by name and/or who were expressing concern for Granton’s safety and/or were questioning the need to shoot Granton. Officer Thrasher 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, and/or
 - b. Failed to promote the Department’s efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals, in violation of Rule 3, and/or
 - c. Engaged in any unjustified verbal altercation with any person, while on or off duty, in violation of Rule 9.

Based on the foregoing charges and specifications, the Superintendent recommends that Officer Sheldon Thrasher, Star Number 17871, be separated from the Chicago Police Department.



David O. Brown
Superintendent of Police

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Hillina T. Tamrat
Senior Counsel

FILED: August 6, 2021
POLICE BOARD
Case No. 21 PB 2995