BEFORE THE POLICE BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST) DETECTIVE DENNIS ALTOBELLE, STAR #20012) No. 00-2439 DEPARTMENT OF POLICE, CITY OF CHICAGO) CR#249576

FINDINGS & DECISION

On December 18, 2000, the Superintendent of Police Filed charges with the Police Board of the City of Chicago against Detective Dennis Altobelle, Star #20012, (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Respondent") seeking the discharge of the Respondent for violating the following Rules:

<u>Rule 1</u>: Violation of any law or ordinance

- <u>Rule 2</u>: Any action or conduct which impedes the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and/or goals and/or brings discredit upon the Department.
- <u>Rule 8</u>: Disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.
- <u>Rule 9</u>: Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.

The Police Board of the City of Chicago caused a hearing on these charges against Detective Dennis Altobelle to be had before Michael G. Berland, Hearing Officer of the Police Board of the City of Chicago on August 2, 2000, August 17, 2000 and, September 26, 2000.

Following the hearing, the members of the Police Board read and reviewed the certified transcription of the proceedings of the hearing. Michael G. Berland, Hearing Officer, made an oral

report and conferred with the Police Board before it rendered a decision.

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

1. The Respondent was at all times a Detective employed by the Department of Police of the City of Chicago.

2. The charges were filed in writing and a Notice, stating the time, date and place, when and where a hearing of the charges was to be held, together with a copy of the original charges, was served upon the Respondent more than five (5) days prior to the hearing on the charges.

3. The hearing was conducted before Michael G. Berland, Hearing Officer of the Police Board of the City of Chicago, on on August 2, 2000, August 17, 2000 and, September 26, 2000.

4. Throughout the hearing the Respondent did appear in person and was represented by counsel of his choice.

5. Respondent Detective Dennis Altobelle, Star # 20012, charged herein, contrary to the Rules and Regulations, is <u>guilty</u> of violating, to wit:

<u>Rule 1</u>: Violation of any law or ordinance.

A. On or about October 30, 1998, at approximately 2320 hours, while in the vicinity of 800 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, Detective Dennis Altobelle, while off duty, committed the offense of Domestic Battery in that he grabbed, pushed, shook and/or threw Patricia Brenann in violation of 720 ILCS, Section 5/12-3.2 (a).

B. On or about October 30, 1998, at approximately 2320 hours, while in the vicinity of 800 N Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, Detective Dennis Altobelle, while off duty, committed the offense of Reckless Conduct in that he grabbed, pushed, shook and/or threw Patricia Brennan violation of 720 ILCS, Section 5/12-5.

6. Respondent Detective Dennis Altobelle, Star # 20012, charged herein, contrary to the Rules and Regulations, is <u>guilty</u> of violating, to wit:

<u>Rule 2</u>: Any action or conduct which impedes the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and/or goals and/or brings discredit upon the Department.

A. On or about October 30, 1998, at approximately 2320 hours, while in the vicinity of 800 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, Detective Dennis Altobelle, while off duty, grabbed, pushed, shook and/or threw Patricia Brennan, thereby impeding the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals and/or bringing discredit upon the Department.

B. On or about October 30, 1998, at approximately 2320 hours, Detective Dennis Altobelle while off duty failed to render first aid to Patricia Brennan and/or left the scene of an incident near 800 North Clark Street without obtaining medical attention for Patricia Brennan, thereby impeding the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals and/or bringing discredit upon the Department.

C. On or about October 30, 1998, at approximately 2320 hours, while in the vicinity of 800 North Clark Street, Chicago,

Illinois, Detective Dennis Altobelle, while off duty, committed the offense of Domestic Battery in that he grabbed, pushed, shook and/or threw Patricia Brennan, thereby impeding the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals and/or bringing discredit upon the Department.

D. On or about October 30, 1998, at approximately 2320 hours, while in the vicinity of 800 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, Detective Dennis Altobelle, while off duty, committed the offense of Reckless Conduct in that he grabbed, pushed, shook and/or threw Patricia Brennan, thereby impeding its policy and goals and/or bringing discredit upon the Department.

7. Respondent Detective Dennis Altobelle, Star # 20012, charged herein, contrary to the Rules and Regulations, is <u>guilty</u> of violating, to wit:

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

A. On October 30, 1998, at approximately 2320 hours, while in the vicinity of 800 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, Detective Dennis Altobelle did disrespect and maltreat any person, while off duty in that he grabbed, pushed shook and/or threw Patricia Brennan.

B. On or about October 30, 1998, at approximately 2320 hours, while in the vicinity of 800 North Clark Street, Detective Dennis Altobelle did disrespect and maltreat any person, while off duty, in that he failed to render first aid to Patricia Brennan and/or left the sene of an incident at or near 800 North Clark Street without obtaining medical attention for Patricia

Brenann.

8. Respondent Detective Dennis Altobelle, Star #20012, charged herein, contrary to the Rules and Regulations, is<u>guilty</u> of violating, to wit:

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

A. On or about October 30, 1998, at approximately 2320 hours, while in the vicinity of 800 North Clark Street, Detective Dennis Altobelle, while off duty, grabbed, pushed, shook and/or threw Patricia Brennan, thereby engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person while on or off duty.

B. On or about October 30, 1998, at approximately 2320 hours, while in the vicinity of 800 North Clark Street, Detective Dennis Altobelle engaged in an unjustified verbal altercation with any person, while off duty, in that he stated to Patricia Brennan words to the effect, "Don't fuck with me."

9. Both of the Motions To Dismiss filed by the Respondent were denied by the Board.

By reason of the fact that Detective Dennis Altobelle, Star#20012, is guilty of violating Rules 1, 2, 8 and 9, cause exists for the suspension of Dennis Altobelle from his position as a Detective with the Department of Police and from the City of Chicago from December 19, 2000, to and including December 3, 2001 with restoration of all rights and benefits thereafter.

Respectfully submitted, lales

Michael G. Berland, Hearing Officer

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DECISION

The members of the Police Board, having read and reviewed the certified copy of the transcription of the hearing, having received the oral report of the Hearing Officer, Michael G. Berland, and having conferred with the Hearing Officer on the credibility of the witnesses and the evidence; and, in reaching its decision as to the penalty imposed, the Board has taken into account not only the facts of this case but also the respondent's complimentary and disciplinary history, which is attached hereto as Exhibit A; and;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the respondent, Detective Dennis Altobelle, Star # 20012, as a result of having been found guilty of the charges in Police Board Case 00-2439, is hereby suspended from his position as a Detective and from the services of the City of Chicago, from December 19, 2000, to and including "December 3, 2001.

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS $\frac{2151}{2}$ DAY OF <u>November</u>, 2001.

Executive Director of the Police Board

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<u>DISSENT</u>

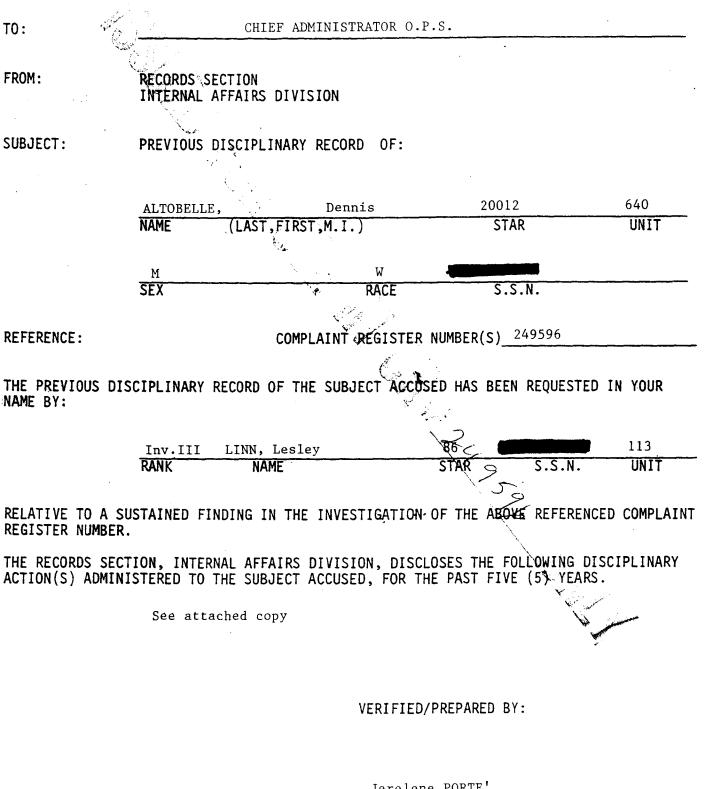
The following members of the Police Board hereby dissent from the decision of the majority of the Board.

While concurring in a finding of guilt, the following supports a less severe penalty.

RECEIVED A COPY OF THIS COMMUNICATION	
THIS 29th DAY OF November, 20	01.
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SUPERINZENDENT OF POLICE	

INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION RECORDS SECTION

27, APRIL 1999



Ex. A

Jerelene PORTE' FOR:COMMANDING OFFICER RECORDS SECTION INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

NO MORE CLOSED - SUSTAINED SSN 640 EMP NO 009839 SI R. 9165 PO AS DETECTIVE INCIDENT DISCIPL CASE NO DATE ACTION C240609 24 APR 97 SUSTAIN	SCIPLINARY ACTION SUMMARYFUNCTIONCR'S (PAST 5 YEARS) OR SP'S (PAST 1 YEAR)ALTOBELLEFIRST DENNISALTOBELLEFIRST DENNISEX M RACE X DOB 02 MAY 46DATE APPTD 04 JUN 73INARYDATES SUSPENDED OR WORKEDOPTN/TDFAKEN(FROM - TO)GRNT'DED-NO PENALTY- ;RSONNEL VIOLATION:REPORTS - FAIL TO SUBMIT/IMPROPER
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CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT COMPLIMENTARY HISTORY

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DATE: 29 April 1999

NAME: <u>Altobelle, De</u>	nnis RAN <u>K Det</u> SSN im	STAR 20012 UNIT 640
SPECIAL AWARDS		
D RTMENT C .ENDATIONS:	002	
HONORABLE MENTIONS :	237	
COMPLIMENTARY LETTERS:	051	
Complimentary Hist	tory Requested By:	
NAME:Linn, Lesley	RANK:Inv 111	
CR # : <u>249596</u>		
PERSONNEL SER	9	Completed By: <u>Demetra Berry</u> Personnel Division Records Section-Rm 803 Pax 0342 - Bell 747-5549
CHICAGO POLICE DEPAR	KINEN)	