

BEFORE THE POLICE BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST)
POLICE OFFICER ROBERT E. TAYLOR SR.) No. 05 PB 2578
STAR No. 2734, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE,)
CITY OF CHICAGO,)
)
RESPONDENT) (CR No. 299282)

FINDINGS

On October 4, 2005, the Superintendent of Police filed with the Police Board of the City of Chicago charges against Police Officer Robert E. Taylor Sr., Star No. 2734, (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Respondent") seeking his discharge for violating the following Rules:

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.

The Police Board caused a hearing on these charges against Police Officer Robert E. Taylor Sr. to be had before Michael G. Berland, Hearing Officer of the Police Board, on August 23 and September 13, 2006.

Following the hearing, the members of the Police Board read and reviewed the certified transcription of the hearing and viewed the video-recording of the hearing. Michael G. Berland, Hearing Officer, made an oral report to and conferred with the Police Board before it rendered a decision.

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

1. The Respondent was, at all times mentioned herein, a police officer 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, were served upon the Respondent more than five (5) days prior to the initial hearing on the charges.

3. The hearing was conducted on August 23 and September 13, 2006, before Michael G. Berland, Hearing Officer of the Police Board.

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

5. On August 22, 2006, the Superintendent filed a motion to amend the charges to correct a clerical error, to which the Respondent did not object, and which the Hearing Officer granted.

6. The Respondent's motion for a directed verdict is denied, as the Police Board decided the case on the merits.

7. The Respondent, Police Officer Robert E. Taylor Sr., Star No. 2734, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:

Rule 1: Violation of any law or ordinance.

Police Officer Robert E. Taylor Sr. reasonably believed that he was legally eligible to marry Bridgette A.

Jones on or about December 20, 2002, and therefore did not violate Chapter 720 ILCS 5/11-12(a).

8. The Respondent, Police Officer Robert E. Taylor Sr., Star No. 2734, 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.

Police Officer Robert E. Taylor Sr. reasonably believed that he was legally eligible to marry Bridgette A. Jones on or about December 20, 2002, and therefore did not impede the Department's efforts to achieve its policy and goals or bring discredit upon the Department.

By reason of the findings of fact that Respondent is not guilty of violating Rules 1 and 2, cause exists for restoring 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 October 6, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael G. Berland
Hearing Officer

DECISION

The Police Board of the City of Chicago, having read and reviewed the certified transcription of the hearing, having viewed the video-recording 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, hereby adopts all findings herein; and

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent, Police Officer Robert E. Taylor Sr., Star No. 2734, as a result of having been found **not guilty** of the charges in Police Board Case No. 05 PB 2578, 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 06 October 2005.

**DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS
19th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2006.**

Michael G. Berland

William J. King

John J. ...

Stephen ...

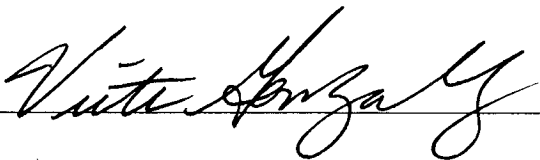
Attested by:

Max A. Caproni

Executive Director
Police Board

DISSENT

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



RECEIVED A COPY OF

THE FOREGOING COMMUNICATION

THIS 31 DAY OF OCT 2006.



SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE