

BEFORE THE POLICE BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST )  
POLICE OFFICER MAURICE WILLIS SR. ) No. 06 PB 2600  
STAR No. 8562, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE, )  
CITY OF CHICAGO, )  
RESPONDENT ) (CR No. 276226)

FINDINGS

On March 15, 2006, the Superintendent of Police filed with the Police Board of the City of Chicago charges against Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr., Star No. 8562, (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Respondent") seeking his discharge for violating the following Rules:

- 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 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 38: Unlawful or unnecessary use or display of a weapon.

The Police Board caused a hearing on these charges against Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr. to be had before Michael G. Berland, Hearing Officer of the Police Board, on September 27, October 25, and November 20, 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. Hearing Officer Berland 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. Throughout the hearing, the Respondent appeared in person and was represented by legal counsel.

4. The Respondent, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr., Star No. 8562, 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.

Count I: There was insufficient evidence presented by the Superintendent to prove that on or about November 11, 2001, at approximately 0300 hours, while off duty and in the vicinity of 9159 South May Street, Chicago, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr. unnecessarily discharged his weapon, striking Lajeane McDaniel.

5. The Respondent, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr., Star

No. 8562, charged herein, is **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.

Count II: On or about November 11, 2001, at approximately 0300 hours and thereafter, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr. failed to report that his weapon had been fired.

Count III: On or about November 11, 2001, at approximately 0300 hours, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr. left the scene of a shooting that occurred in the vicinity of 9159 South May Street, Chicago.

6. The Respondent, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr., Star

No. 8562, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:

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

Count I: There was insufficient evidence presented by the Superintendent to prove that on or about November 11, 2001, at approximately 0300 hours, while off duty and in the vicinity of 9159 South May Street, Chicago, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr. discharged his weapon without justification, striking Lajeane McDaniel, in violation of General Order 86-08.

7. The Respondent, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr., Star

No. 8562, charged herein, is **guilty** of violating, to wit:

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

Count II: On or about November 11, 2001, at approximately 0300 hours and thereafter, while in the vicinity of 9159 South May Street, Chicago, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr. failed to make appropriate notification regarding the discharge of his firearm, in violation of General Order 99-01, section V.

Count III: On or about November 11, 2001, at

approximately 0300 hours and thereafter, while in the vicinity of 9159 South May Street, Chicago, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr. failed to remain on the scene following the discharge of his firearm, in violation of General Order 99-01, section V.

8. The Respondent, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr., Star No. 8562, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:

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

There was insufficient evidence presented by the Superintendent to prove that on or about November 11, 2001, at approximately 0300 hours, while in the vicinity of 9159 South May Street, Chicago, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr. engaged in an unjustified physical altercation with Lajeaune McDaniel.

9. The Respondent, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr., Star No. 8562, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:

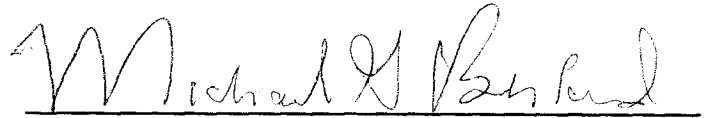
Rule 38: Unlawful or unnecessary use or display of a weapon.

There was insufficient evidence presented by the Superintendent to prove that on or about November 11, 2001, at approximately 0300 hours, while off duty and in the vicinity of 9159 South May Street, Chicago, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr. unnecessarily used and/or displayed a firearm toward Lajeaune McDaniel.

By reason of the findings of fact that the Respondent is guilty of violating Rules 2 (counts II and III) and 6 (counts II and III), and not guilty of violating count I of Rules 2 and 6, and Rules 9 and 38, 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 one (1) year, from March 16, 2006, to and including  
March 15, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Michael G. Berland". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "B".

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, 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 histories, copies of which are attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Respondent, Police Officer Maurice Willis Sr., Star No. 8562, as a result of having been found **guilty** of charges in Police Board Case No. 06 PB 2600, 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 from 16 March 2006 to and including 15 March 2007 (one year).

**DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS  
18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2007.**

*Herbert J. Canty*  
*Scott J. Davis*  
*Victor J. Goryunov*  
*Patricia A. Bobb*  
*Cheryl L. Miller*  
*Michael J. Kusk*  
*W. J. Smith*

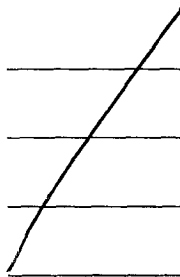
Attested by:

*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 \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE

Chicago Police Department  
Personnel Division

04/24/2002

COMPLIMENTARY HISTORY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>SSN</u>	<u>Star</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Detail Unit</u>
WILLIS SR MAURICE	9161	[REDACTED]	08562	002	

HONORABLE MENTIONS

42

COMPLIMENTARY LETTERS

3

DEPT. COMMENDATIONS

AWARD NUMBER:

1 85197

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OTHER AWARDS:

SPECIAL AWARDS:

Jr. Chamber of Comm	0	Unit Meritorious	0	Fitness Award	0
Rich. J Daley Award	0	Lambert Tree	0	Appearance Award	0
Police Medal	0	Carter Harrison	0	Special Commendation	0
S Awd of Valor	0	WGN Award	0	Partnership Award	0
Supt. Awd of Merit	0	Honored Police Star	0	Special Serv. Award	0
Police Blue Star	0	Life Saving Awd	0	Problem Solving Awd	0
Officer of The Month	0	Hnd Cld Med. of Val	0	Blue Shield Awd	0

Complimentary History Requested By:

NAME DUFFY MICHAEL OPS SUPERVISOR STAR: 00105 UNIT: 113

Completed by:

CR #:

Annette Steptore  
Personnel Division  
Records Section -2089-2092  
Pax 0-342 or Bell 5-5390

Ex. A 1/2



INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION  
RECORDS SECTION

24 April 2002

TO: OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

FROM: RECORDS SECTION  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

SUBJECT: PREVIOUS DISCIPLINARY RECORD OF:

<u>WILLIS</u>	<u>MAURICE</u>	<u>8562</u>	<u>113</u>
NAME	(LAST, FIRST M.I.)	STAR	UNIT
<u>M</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>	
SEX	RACE	S.S.N.	

REFERENCE: COMPLAINT REGISTER NUMBER(S) 276 226

THE PREVIOUS DISCIPLINARY RECORD OF THE SUBJECT ACCUSED HAS  
BEEN REQUESTED IN YOUR NAME BY:

<u>SUPV.</u>	<u>MICHAEL DUFFY</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>	<u>113</u>
RANK	NAME	STAR	S.S.N.	UNIT

RELATIVE TO A SUSTAINED FINDING IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THE  
ABOVE REFERENCED COMPLAINT REGISTER NUMBER.

THE RECORDS SECTION, INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION, DISCLOSES THE  
FOLLOWING DISCIPLINARY ACTION(S) ADMINISTERED TO THE  
SUBJECT ACCUSED FOR THE PAST FIVE (5) YEARS.

VERIFIED/PREPARED BY:

P.O. S. SASSO

FOR: COMMANDING OFFICER  
RECORDS SECTION  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

NONE

Ex. A 2/2