

BEFORE THE POLICE BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST)
POLICE OFFICER WILLIAM J. COZZI,) No. 06 PB 2604
STAR No. 4129, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE,)
CITY OF CHICAGO,)
)
RESPONDENT) (CR No. 307992)

FINDINGS

On April 03, 2006, the Superintendent of Police filed with the Police Board of the City of Chicago charges against Police Officer William J. Cozzi, Star No. 4129 (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Respondent"), seeking his discharge for violating the following Rules of Conduct:

- 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 6: Disobedience of an order or directive, whether written or oral.
- 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 14: Making a false report, written or oral.

The Police Board caused a hearing on these charges against Police Officer William J. Cozzi to be had before Thomas E. Johnson, Hearing Officer of the Police Board, on July 10 and August 17, 2007.

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. Thomas E. Johnson,

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 employed as a police officer 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 Respondent appeared throughout the hearing and was represented by legal counsel.

4. The Respondent, Police Officer William J. Cozzi, Star No. 4129, charged herein, is **guilty** of violating, to wit:

Rule 1: Violation of any law or ordinance.

in that:

Count I: On or about August 2, 2005, at or near Norwegian American Hospital at 1044 North Francisco Avenue, Chicago, he committed the offense of Aggravated Battery in that he, intentionally or knowingly without legal justification, caused bodily harm to Randle Miles by striking Miles about the head and/or body with a "blackjack" and/or "flat sap" and/or bludgeon, in violation of 720 ILCS 5/12-4(b)(1).

Count II: On or about August 2, 2005, at or near Norwegian American Hospital at 1044 North Francisco Avenue, Chicago, he committed the offense of Aggravated Battery in that he, intentionally or knowingly without legal justification, caused bodily harm to Randle Miles by striking Miles about

the head and/or body while Miles was on or about a public way, public property, or public place of accomodation, in violation of 720 ILCS 5/12-4(b)(8).

Count III: On or about August 2, 2005, at or near Norwegian American Hospital at 1044 North Francisco Avenue, Chicago, he committed the offense of Battery in that he, intentionally or knowingly without legal justification, caused bodily harm to Randle Miles by striking Miles about the head and/or body, in violation of 720 ILCS 5/12-3(a)(1).

Count IV: On or about August 2, 2005, at or near Norwegian American Hospital at 1044 North Francisco Avenue, Chicago, he committed the offense of Battery in that he, intentionally or knowingly without legal justification, made physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature with Randle Miles by striking Miles about the head and/or body, in violation of 720 ILCS 5/12-3(a)(2).

5. The Respondent, Police Officer William J. Cozzi, Star No. 4129, 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.

in that:

Count I: On or about August 2, 2005, at or near Norwegian American Hospital at 1044 North Francisco Avenue, Chicago, he struck Randle Miles about the head and/or body with a "blackjack" and/or "flat sap" and/or bludgeon.

Count II: On or about August 2, 2005, at or near Norwegian American Hospital at 1044 North Francisco Avenue, Chicago, while on duty, he used and/or was in possession of a weapon that is not prescribed by the Chicago Police Department.

Count III: On or about August 2, 2005, he generated one or more reports containing false information concerning his arrest of Randle Miles.

6. The Respondent, Police Officer William J. Cozzi, Star No. 4129, charged herein, is **guilty** of violating, to wit:

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

in that:

On or about August 2, 2005, at or near Norwegian American Hospital at 1044 North Francisco Avenue, Chicago, while on duty, he used and/or was in possession of a weapon that is not prescribed by the Chicago Police Department, in violation of General Order 98-10-03, paragraph II(G) and III(C).

7. The Respondent, Police Officer William J. Cozzi, Star No. 4129, charged herein, is **guilty** of violating, to wit:

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

in that:

On or about August 2, 2005, at or near Norwegian American Hospital at 1044 North Francisco Avenue, Chicago, he struck Randle Miles about the head and/or body with a "blackjack" and/or "flat sap" and/or bludgeon.

8. The Respondent, Police Officer William J. Cozzi, Star No. 4129, charged herein, is **guilty** of violating, to wit:

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

in that:

On or about August 2, 2005, at or near Norwegian American Hospital at 1044 North Francisco Avenue, Chicago, he struck Randle Miles about the head and/or body with a "blackjack" and/or "flat sap" and/or bludgeon.

9. The Respondent, Police Officer William J. Cozzi, Star No. 4129, charged herein, is **guilty** of violating, to wit:

Rule 14: Making a false report, written or oral.

in that:

On or about August 2, 2005, he generated one or more reports containing false information concerning his arrest of Randle Miles.

10. The Respondent's complimentary history includes thirty-two Honorable Mentions, seven Complimentary Letters, and other awards, and the Respondent's disciplinary history contains no sustained complaints.

By reason of the findings of fact and guilt herein, and taking into account the Respondent's complimentary and disciplinary histories, cause exists for the suspension of the Respondent, Police Officer William J. Cozzi, Star No. 4129, 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 two (2) years, from April 04, 2006, to and including April 03, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,



THOMAS E. JOHNSON
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, Thomas E. Johnson, 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 William J. Cozzi, Star No. 4129, as a result of having been found **guilty** of charges in Police Board Case No. 06 PB 2604, be and hereby is **suspended** from his position as a police officer, and from the services of the City of Chicago, for a period from 04 April 2006 to and including 03 April 2008 (two years).

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 18th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2007.

Patricia C. Bobb
Vicki Gonzales
John Smith
William F. Kelly
Per Johnny L. Miller

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.

The undersigned voted to order that the Respondent be discharged from his position as a police officer.

Hermita J. Carney

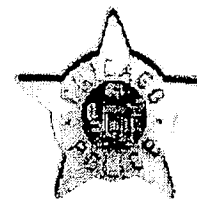
Scott Davis

RECEIVED A COPY OF
THE FOREGOING COMMUNICATION
THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2007.

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE

Report Date: 06 Sep 2005
Report Time: 0910 Hrs

Chicago Police Department Personnel Division



Information Services Division
Date: [redacted] house
Produced by: PC0T177

Complimentary Hist

| Name | Title | Star | Unit | Detail Unit | Emp Number |
|------------------|-------|------|------|-------------|------------|
| COZZI, WILLIAM J | 9161 | 4129 | 025 | | 56463 |

Achievements

Total No.

| | |
|--|----|
| MILITARY DEPLOYMENT AWARD | 1 |
| EMBLEM OF RECOGNITION - PHYSICAL FITNESS | 2 |
| HONORABLE MENTION | 32 |
| COMPLIMENTARY LETTER | 7 |

Ex. A, 1 of 2

NOTE: THIS REPORT IS FOR OFFICIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT / AUTHORIZED USE ONLY.
THE INFORMATION IS CURRENT AS OF THE DATE AND TIME OF THE REPORT.
THIS REPORT IS NOT FOR PUBLIC DISSEMINATION.



INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
RECORDS SECTION

06-SEP-2005

TO: COMMANDING OFFICER UNIT 113

FROM: RECORDS SECTION
INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

SUBJECT: PREVIOUS SUSTAINED DISCIPLINARY HISTORY OF:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---------|--------|------|
| COZZI | WILLIAM | 4127 | 025 |
| NAME (LAST, FIRST M.I.) | | STAR | UNIT |
| M | W | | |
| SEX | RACE | S.S.N. | |

REFERENCE: COMPLAINT REGISTER NUMBER 307992

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

| | | | | |
|------|---------|------|--------|------|
| SUPV | CARMODY | 108 | | 113 |
| 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 ADMINISTERED TO THE SUBJECT ACCUSED FOR THE PAST FIVE (5) YEARS.

VERIFIED/PREPARED BY:

BERNETTE KELLY

NONE

FOR: COMMANDING OFFICER
RECORDS SECTION
INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

Ex. A, 2 of 2