

BEFORE THE POLICE BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST )  
POLICE OFFICER CESAR F. ECHEVERRIA, ) No. 06 PB 2609  
STAR No. 14374, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE, )  
CITY OF CHICAGO, )  
RESPONDENT ) (CR No. 289377)

FINDINGS

On August 25, 2006, the superintendent of police filed with the Police Board of the City of Chicago charges against Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria, Star No. 14374 (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Respondent"), recommending that the Respondent be discharged from the Chicago Police Department for violating the following Rules of Conduct:

- 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 10: Inattention to duty.
- Rule 41: Disseminating, releasing, altering, defacing or removing any Department record or information concerning police matters except as provided by Department orders.

The Police Board caused a hearing on these charges against Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria to be had before Michael G. Berland, Hearing Officer of the Police Board, on February 5, March 12, May 7, and June 14, 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. 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 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. Throughout the hearing the Respondent appeared in person and was represented by legal counsel.

4. The Respondent, Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria, Star No. 14374, 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.

The superintendent did not prove by a preponderance of the evidence that on or about March 6, 2003, Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria told Jose Fernandez to be careful of Charles Patton, a target of an ongoing narcotic investigation, and/or disclosed confidential information about the investigation to Jose Fernandez.

5. The Respondent, Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria, Star No. 14374, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:

Rule 3: Any failure to promote the Department's efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals.

The superintendent did not prove by a preponderance of the evidence that on or about March 6, 2003, Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria told Jose Fernandez to be careful of Charles Patton, a target of an ongoing narcotic investigation, and/or disclosed confidential information about the investigation to Jose Fernandez.

6. The Respondent, Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria, Star No. 14374, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:

Rule 10: Inattention to duty.

The superintendent did not prove by a preponderance of the evidence that on or about March 6, 2003, Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria told Jose Fernandez to be careful of Charles Patton, a target of an ongoing narcotic investigation, and/or disclosed confidential information about the investigation to Jose Fernandez.

7. The Respondent, Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria, Star No. 14374, charged herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:

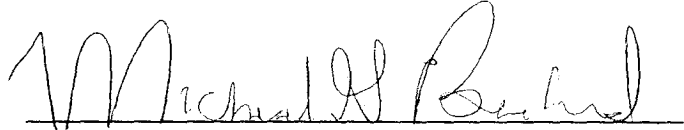
Rule 41: Disseminating, releasing, altering, defacing or removing any Department record or information concerning police matters except as provided by Department orders.

The superintendent did not prove by a preponderance of the evidence that on or about March 6, 2003, Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria told Jose Fernandez to be careful of Charles Patton, a target of an ongoing narcotic investigation, and/or disclosed confidential information about the investigation to Jose Fernandez.

By reason of the findings set forth herein, cause exists for restoring the Respondent, Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria, Star No. 14374, 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 August 29, 2006.

Police Board Case No. 06 PB 2609  
Police Officer Cesar F. Echeverria  
Page 4

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael G. Berland", written over a horizontal line.

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 Cesar F. Echeverria, Star No. 14374, as a result of having been found **not guilty** of the charges in Police Board Case No. 06 PB 2609, 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 29 August 2006.

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2007.

*Phyllis Spelbaum*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*Patricia C. Bobb*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
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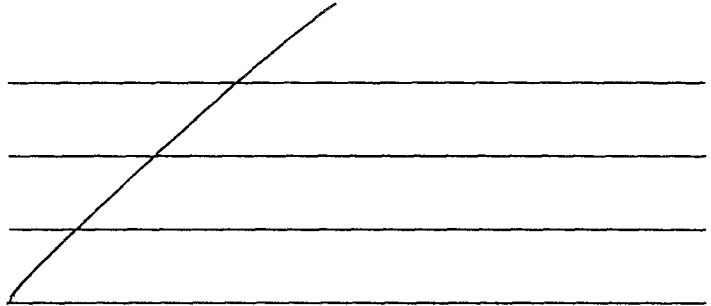
Attested by:

*M. 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