BEFORE THE POLICE BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

| IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST |) | |
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| POLICE OFFICER VINCENT LOMBARDO, |) | No. 05 PB 2574 |
| STAR No. 19450, DEPARTMENT OF POLICE, |) | |
| CITY OF CHICAGO |) | (CR No. 289353) |

FINDINGS AND DECISION

On July 19, 2005 the Superintendent of Police filed charges with the Police Board of the City of Chicago, seeking the discharge of Police Officer VINCENT LOMBARDO, Star No. 19450, hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Respondent," for violation of 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."

RULE 6: "Disobedience of an order or directive, written or oral."

RULE 14: "Making a false report, written or oral."

RULE 15: "Intoxication on or off duty."

RULE 38: "Unlawful or unnecessary use or display of a weapon."

The Police Board of the City of Chicago caused a hearing on these charges against Police Officer VINCENT LOMBARDO, Star No. 19450, to be heard by JACQUELINE A. WALKER, Hearing Officer of the Police Board of the City of Chicago, on October 26, 2005, November 9, 2005, December 13, 2005, December 20, 2005, and January 17, 2006.

Following the Hearing, the members of the Police Board read and reviewed the certified transcription of the proceedings of the hearing and viewed the video-recordings

of the hearing. **JACQUELINE A. WALKER,** Hearing Officer made an oral report to and conferred with the Police Board before it rendered a decision.

As a result of the foregoing, the Police Board of the City of Chicago 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 on 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 of his choice;
- (4) Respondent, Police Officer VINCENT LOMBARDO, Star No. 19450, as charged herein, is guilty of violating, to-wit:

RULE 1: "Violation of any law or ordinance," in the following instances:

- A) On or about May 11, 2003, in the vicinity of 6401 West 52nd

 Street, Chicago, Illinois, he, while off duty, knowingly damaged property of another without that person's consent; to wit a 2000 Chevy Blazer belonging to Todd Scheel, thereby violating

 Chapter 720 of the Illinois Compiled Statues, Section 5/21-1(1)(a).
- B) On or about May 11, 2003, at 5546 South Nashville, Chicago, Illinois, while off duty, he discharged a firearm in a reckless

- manner which endangered the bodily safety of one or more individuals, thereby violating Chapter 720 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, Section 5/24-1.5(a).
- C) On or about May 11, 2003, at 5546 South Nashville, Chicago, Illinois, while off duty and without a police purpose, he fired and/or discharged a firearm within the City of Chicago, thereby violating Chapter 8, Section 24-010 of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago.
- D) On or about May 11, 2003, at 5546 South Nashville, Chicago,
 Illinois, he, while off duty, was in possession of an unregistered
 firearm, thereby violating Chapter 8, Section 20-40(a) of the
 Municipal Code of the City of Chicago.
- (5) Respondent, Police Officer, VINCENT LOMBARDO, Star No. 19450, as 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 the following instances:
 - A) On or about May 10, 2003, at 6401 West 52nd Street, Chicago, Illinois, while off duty, he kicked and pounded the front door to the residence of Kimberly Dominici.
 - B) On or about May 10, 2003, in the vicinity of 6401 West 52nd Street, Chicago, Illinois, while off duty, he yelled threats and obscenities while standing outside the residence of Kimberly Dominici.

- C) On or about May 11, 2003, in the vicinity of 6401 West 52nd Street,

 Chicago, Illinois, while off duty, he knowingly struck the front

 passenger window of a 2000 Chevy Blazer belonging to Todd Scheel,

 causing the window to break.
- D) On or about May 11, 2003, at 5546 South Nashville, Chicago, Illinois, while off duty and without a police purpose, he discharged a firearm.
- E) On or about May 11, 2003, at 5546 South Nashville, Chicago, Illinois, while off duty, he was in possession of an unregistered firearm within the City of Chicago.
- F) From about 2145 hours on May 10, 2003 until 0800 hours in May 11, 2003, or for some period of time therein, he was intoxicated while off duty.
- G) On or about March 16, 2004, during a statement at the Office of Professional Standards, he provided a false account of the circumstances surrounding the discharge of his weapon on March 11, 2003.
- (6) Respondent, Police Officer VINCENT LOMBARDO, Star No. 19450, as charges herein, is **not guilty** of violating, to wit:

Dodge Ram belonging to Steven Alexander.

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:

On or about May 11, 2003, in the vicinity of 6401 West 52nd Street,

Chicago, Illinois, while off duty, he did not repeatedly strike a 2002

(7) Respondent, Police Officer VINCENT LOMBARDO, Star No. 19450, as charges herein, is guilty of violating, to wit

RULE 6: "Disobedience of an order or directive, whether written or oral", in that:

On or about May 11, 2003, at 5546 South Nashville, Chicago, Illinois, while off duty, he was in possession of an unregistered firearm within the City of Chicago, contrary to Chicago Police Department General Order 92-3-5B, IV.A., thereby disobeying a written order.

(8) Respondent, Police Officer VINCENT LOMBARDO, Star No. 19450, as charges herein, is guilty of violating, to wit:

RULE 14: "Making a false report, written or oral," in that:

On or about March 16, 2004, during a statement at the Office of Professional Standards, he provided a false account of the circumstances surrounding the discharge of his weapon on March 11, 2003.

(9) Respondent, Police Officer VINCENT LOMBARDO, Star No. 19450, as charges herein, is guilty of violating, to wit:

RULE 15: "Intoxication on or off duty", in that:

From about 2145 hours on May 10, 2003 until about 0800 hours on May 11, 2003, or for some period of time therein, he was intoxicated while off duty.

(10) Respondent, Police Officer **VINCENT LOMBARDO**, Star No. 19450, as charges herein, is **guilty** of violating, to wit:

RULE 38: "Unlawful or unnecessary use or display of a weapon", in that:

On or about May 11, 2003, at 5546 South Nashville, Chicago, Illinois while off duty, he discharged a firearm in a reckless manner which endangered the bodily safety of one or more individuals, thereby engaging in unlawful use of a weapon, and/or discharged a firearm without a police purpose, thereby engaging in unnecessary use of a weapon.

BY REASON of the findings of fact and of guilt herein, cause exists for the suspension of the Respondent, Police Officer VINCENT LOMBARDO, Star No. 19450, from the Department of Police and from the services of the City of Chicago from July 20, 2005 to and including July 19, 2006; in addition, cause exists to require that the Respondent be evaluated by a Certified Alcohol and Drug Treatment Specialist to assess the Respondent's usage of alcohol, and, if the assessment results in a recommendation for treatment, to require the Respondent to complete successfully such treatment and submit to the Personnel Concerns Section of the Police Department. Personnel Division appropriate documentation verifying completion before the Respondent may be restored to his position as a police officer.

Respectfully Submitted,

JACQUELINE A. WALKER

Hearing Officer

DECISION

The members of the Police Board, 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, JACQUELINE A. WALKER, and having conferred with the Hearing Officer on the credibility of the witnesses and the evidence, hereby adopt 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 VINCENT LOMBARDO, Star #19450, as a result of having been found guilty of charges in Police Board Case No. 05 PB 2574, 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 20 July 2005 to and including 19 July 2006**

DATED AT CHICAGO, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 16^{TH}

DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2006.

**See the following page for a further Order.

##Joined the majority with regard
to the penalty and all findings
except (4)(B), (4)(C), (5)(D),
(5)(G), (8), and (10) above.

*

Executive Director

Police Board

DECISION (continued)

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, because of the nature of the incidents that led to the above suspension, the Respondent, Police Officer VINCENT LOMBARDO, Star No. 19450, be evaluated by a Certified Alcohol and Drug Treatment Specialist to assess the Respondent's usage of alcohol. The evaluating specialist must be approved by the Personnel Concerns Section of the Police Department's Personnel Division prior to the assessment, and the assessment findings must be forwarded directly to the Personnel Concerns Section. In addition, if the assessment results in a recommendation for treatment, the Respondent is required to complete successfully such treatment and submit to the Personnel Concerns Section appropriate documentation verifying completion before the Respondent may be restored to his position as a police officer. In the event that the Respondent fails to comply with this Order, the Board shall issue a further Order as it deems appropriate. The above assessment and any subsequent treatment are to be undertaken at the Respondent's expense.

DISSENT

The following member(s) of the Police Board hereby dissent from the decision of the majority of the Board.

The undersigned voted to impose a penalty of discharge.

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