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November 30, 2016

Chief George Turner
City of Atlanta Police Department
226 Peachtree Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Complaint of Vincenzo Palazzola, ACRB File #16-004

Dear Chief Turner:

Please be advised that the Atlanta Citizen Review Board (ACRB) has concluded its investigation and adjudication of the complaint filed by Vincenzo Palazzola alleging that on July 29, 2015, Atlanta Police Officers John Harwell (Unique ID #4994), Jonathan Janke (Unique ID #5734) and Theodore Travis (Unique ID #6071) used unnecessary excessive force when they struck him from behind causing him to fall to the ground. Mr. Palazzola further alleges that while on the ground, Officer Harwell “beat” him in the face and chest with his fist. Furthermore, according to the incident report, Officer Janke struck Mr. Palazzola in the face twice with a closed fist while he was inside the ambulance.

The Board determined that the Excessive Force allegation against Officer Janke be assigned a finding of **Sustained** as it relates to Mr. Janke’s use of his ASP Baton on Mr. Palazzola while he was on the ground and recommends that he receive a 15 day suspension as penalty. However, as it relates to Officer Janke use of force against Mr. Palazzola while he was inside the ambulance, the Board recommends a finding of **Not Sustained**.

The Board determined that the Excessive Force allegation against Officers Harwell and Travis be assigned a finding of **Not Sustained**.

The file is available for review upon request. The ordinance requires that the Chief respond in writing regarding which recommendations are accepted, rejected, or will be implemented with modifications within thirty (30) days of the submission of a recommendation for action by the Board to the Chief (see Sec. 2-2211(O) of the Ordinance 07-0-0141).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sherry'.

Sherry B. Williams
Board Chair

cc: Mayor Kasim Reed
Council President Cesar Mitchell
Members of the Atlanta City Council
ACRB Members
Executive Director Lee Reid