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COMMUNITY COMMISSION for PUBLIC SAFETY and
ACCOUNTABILITY
PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, February 26, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
Gurdon S. Hubbard High School
6200 South Hamlin Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

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APPEARANCES:

- President Remel Terry
- Vice President Angel Rubi Navarajo
- Commissioner Aaron Gottlieb
- Commissioner Sandra Wortham
- Commissioner Abierre Minor
- Commissioner Gina Piemonte
- Executive Director Adam Gross

1 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you all for being
2 here.

3 The February 26th meeting of the
4 Community Commission for Public Safety and
5 Accountability is called to order.

6 Good evening, everyone. We're going
7 to get started. And please place your cell
8 phones on silent mode, remain seated, and please
9 refrain from using small hand-held devices in a
10 way that interferes with the ability of others to
11 see or hear proceedings.

12 We'll begin by calling the roll to
13 establish a quorum. Commissioner Driver.

14 Commissioner Gottlieb

15 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Here.

16 PRESIDENT TERRY: Commissioner Minor.

17 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Present.

18 PRESIDENT TERRY: Commissioner Piemonte.

19 Vice President Rubi Navarijo

20 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: Present.

21 PRESIDENT TERRY: President Terry is present.

22 Commissioner Wortham

23 With four of the members of the
24 Community Commission for Public Safety and

1 Accountability present, we have a quorum, and we
2 can conduct the Commission's business.

3 Before we begin public comment, I'd
4 like to say a few words about the Commission's
5 rules for behavior at Commission meetings.

6 The Commission's bylaws establish
7 rules that apply to everyone at our meetings,
8 both Commissioners and people in the audience.
9 We have these rules for a few reasons.
10 Commission meetings cover very important issues
11 that can have a huge impact on people's safety
12 and their lives.

13 People come to Commission meetings
14 with strong opinions and strong feelings, and we
15 encourage that.

16 We want Commission meetings to be
17 safe and inclusive for anyone who attends.

18 All speakers at our meetings should
19 have an opportunity to be heard and to be able to
20 speak without disruption or intimidation.

21 Under the Commission's bylaws,
22 people in the meeting aren't allowed to interrupt
23 speakers, be disruptive, disrespectful,
24 discriminatory, harassing, or threatening.

1 If the rules are violated, the Chair
2 of the meeting will call order, issue warnings to
3 people who are violating the rules and can
4 ultimately have someone removed for violating the
5 rules.

6 Commissioners can also make motions
7 to enforce the rules.

8 We ask everyone, Commissioners,
9 public speakers, panelists, and audience members
10 to help create a safe space where we can be
11 heard.

12 Conversations are incredibly
13 important issues, and so in a way that is
14 respectful and allows every speaker to be heard.

15 And so before I move forward for the
16 purpose of the roll, Commissioner Piemonte is
17 present.

18 The next item of business is public
19 comment. If you would like to share -- if you'd
20 like to share related to the Commission's work on
21 public safety and accountability, you have a few
22 options. You can speak at a public meeting such
23 as this. You can also submit public comment in
24 writing by emailing your comment to

1 CommunityCommissionpubliccomment@CityofChicago.
2 org, or you can bring a copy of your comments to
3 one of the Commission's public meetings and give
4 it to someone on the Commission or someone on
5 Commission staff.

6 People who wanted to speak during
7 public comment period were asked to submit their
8 names in writing earlier tonight. Names were
9 drawn at random by a member of Commission staff
10 and speakers will be called in the order in which
11 their names were drawn.

12 If your name is called to offer
13 public comment, we ask that you approach the
14 microphone, line up in the order in which your
15 name is called. When it's your turn to speak,
16 please say your name, then spell your name, then
17 offer your comments. Each speaker will have two
18 minutes.

19 Our first speaker is 10th District
20 Councilor Ely Bahina.

21 MS. BAHENA: Good evening, everyone. My name
22 is Ely Bahina, and I represent the 10th District.

23 Today, we're asking for a full
24 hearing.

1 On November 13th, District
2 Councilors formally requested a comprehensive
3 public hearing on CPD's collaboration with
4 federal immigration enforcement, including a
5 hearing that included Superintendent Snelling.

6 With no meaningful action, more than
7 2000 residents submitted signed petitions on
8 December 11 which triggered an ordinance
9 requirement for a hearing.

10 Today's meeting is in this hearing.

11 On January 8th, instead of that
12 hearing, the Commission held a listening session.
13 More than 1500 residents showed up virtually and
14 in person. They were clear accountability can't
15 be delayed.

16 Since January 23rd, District
17 Councilors who were petition organizers have met
18 five times with Commission staff and with the
19 Vice President of this Commission. We came
20 prepared every time with recommendations on
21 location, panelists, structured questions,
22 peacekeepers, and a process for community input.
23 We did this in good speed. Yet, this isn't the
24 hearing we asked, and the Superintendent isn't

1 present today.

2 So today marks the second time this
3 issue comes before you without the full
4 accountability that the residents requested.

5 So I'm asking how many times do we
6 have to ask for it?

7 I'm the daughter of immigrants.
8 Since I was five years old, I've been navigating
9 systems that weren't created for my parents.

10 The community I serve has families
11 just like mine. I've seen the terror in the
12 streets, neighbors protecting each other, but
13 just bodies in their whist.

14 I was kidnapped from the streets
15 that I grew up in. That same week, my uncle was
16 detained, and it's been 120 days since we've seen
17 him.

18 My community is courageous. We
19 continue to show up, and all we're asking is you
20 do the same. Hold the full hearing. Bring
21 clarity. Bring transparency. The third time
22 cannot be another delay. Thank you.

23 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Our next
24 speaker is Simon Huffman-Gottschiling.

1 And for the purpose of the record,
2 Commissioner Wortham is present.

3 And after Mr. Gottschiling, we have
4 20th District Councilor it Deirdre O'Connor.

5 MR. HUFFMAN-GOTTSCHLING: Sorry. One
6 second. There we go.

7 My name is Simon
8 Huffman-Gottschiling. Do you need me to spell my
9 name? Okay. S-I-M-O-N, and then H-U-F-F-M-A-N,
10 and then there's a hyphen,
11 G-O-T-T-S-C-H-I-L-I-N-G.

12 Thank you. I'm here to ask CCPSA to
13 do everything in their power to investigate and
14 stop collaboration between Chicago Police
15 Department and the various federal agencies
16 deporting people from the streets of Chicago.

17 We do not need ICE, CBP, DHS, or any
18 other so-called immigration enforcement agency to
19 become better oriented with the City of Chicago
20 and thus better equipped to kill, brutalize, and
21 disappear our families, friends, and neighbors.

22 Chicago does not need and does not
23 want CPD helping and defending ICE as they attack
24 its people.

1 That is why I am calling for CCPSA
2 to comply with the Chicago Alliance Against
3 Racist and Political Repression's six demands
4 which are, one: Present the community on a
5 monthly basis all communications, internal memos,
6 and guidances regarding CPD and ICE
7 collaboration.

8 Two: End CPD crowd control during
9 immigration enforcement activities.

10 Three: End pretextual traffic
11 stops.

12 Four: End CPD's use of tactical
13 teams.

14 Five: Remove all current and former
15 Oath Keepers and other members of white
16 supremacists hate groups from the police force.

17 And, six: Transfer Oath Keeper
18 investigations from the BIA to COPA. Thank you.

19 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

20 MS. O'CONNOR: Hello. My name is Deirdre
21 O'Connor, and I'm a 20th District Councilor.
22 That's D-E-I-R-D-R-E, E, O-C-O-N-N-O-R. I'm a
23 District Councilor for the 20th Police District,
24 and I am part of the group that helped pass

1 petitions to hear from the Superintendent on ICE
2 interactions with CPD.

3 Since January, DCs and I have worked
4 with the CCPSA staff and Commissioners to plan a
5 meaningful meeting.

6 Since then, the Mayor has issued an
7 executive order and City Council has worked to
8 pass -- excuse me. Has worked to try to and
9 strengthen the Welcoming City Ordinance.

10 Tonight's meeting isn't what we
11 asked for, but I hope that we can hear from COPA
12 surrounding the new executive order.

13 I urge this Commission to continue
14 to work urgently to get the meeting that we have
15 demanded.

16 Yesterday, a worker in my district
17 was kidnapped. He was at work. He had an
18 appointment scheduled for tomorrow. We do not
19 have to wait. Thank you.

20 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Our next two
21 speakers, Carly Bryant and River Argyilan.

22 MS. BRYANT: Hello. My name is Carly Bryant.
23 That's C-A-R-L-Y, B-R-Y-A-N-T, and I am here to
24 speak about the hostile and terrorizing

1 relationship that is held between CPD and ICE.

2 Let us not forget that not far from
3 where we are today, federal agents shot Marimar
4 Martinez five times and deemed her a domestic
5 terrorist for alerting the community of ICE
6 presence.

7 For the rest of this comment, I
8 speak with the intention that you hold the weight
9 of the fatalities and disasters ICE has caused,
10 like the case of Marimar Martinez, and move with
11 the speed to ensure CPD has no part in ICE's
12 illegals.

13 The people organizing for an actual
14 sanctuary city in the streets, the people you all
15 represent, are experiencing not only the weight
16 of the National Guard, ICE, but all seem to have
17 seen the same horrendous tactics used with them
18 in the Chicago Police force.

19 Some of the similarities between the
20 two include using tactics like pretextual traffic
21 stops, CPD's tactical teams that are used to
22 terrorize black and brown communities, and the
23 astounding amount of white supremacists in CPD
24 and up.

1 After witnessing the CCPSA's failure
2 to protect our communities from ICE during the
3 operation Midway Blitz, I think it is time now
4 more than ever for the CPOP referendum to
5 be used.

6 Community control over the police
7 is the only way we can ensure that we have access
8 to all communications between ICE and CPOP on a
9 monthly basis, and an end to CPD crowd control
10 during immigration enforcement activities, an end
11 to pretextual traffic stops, an end to the use of
12 CPD's tactical teams, a complete removal of
13 current white supremacists and Oath Keepers on
14 the force and transferring Oath Keeper
15 investigations from BIA to COPA. Do better.
16 Thank you.

17 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

18 MR. ARGYILAN: Hello. My name is River
19 Argyilan. That's R-I-V-E-R, A-R-G-Y-I-L-A-N.
20 And I am here to read the Chicago Alliance
21 Against Racist and Political Repression's demand
22 of the CCPSA. Present to the community on a
23 monthly basis all communications, internal memos,
24 and guidance regarding CPD and ICE collaboration.

1 End CPD crowd control during immigration
2 enforcement activities. End pretextual traffic
3 stops. End CPD's use of tactical teams, remove
4 all current and former Oath Keepers and other
5 members of white supremacists hate groups from
6 the police force, and finally transfer Oath
7 Keeper investigations from the BIA to COPA.
8 Thank you.

9 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Our next two
10 speakers, District Councilor Erin Vogel and then
11 Sully Peterson-Quinn.

12 MS. VOGEL: Good evening. My name is Erin
13 Vogel. E-R-I-N, V-O-G-E-L.

14 Hi, Commissioners. I'm here again
15 frustrated and imploring you act boldly and act
16 urgently in giving community and organizers the
17 hearing that we asked for.

18 I'm not going to go over the whole
19 timeline again because you heard it from Ely, but
20 we first sent a letter to you all in mid
21 November.

22 At this point, I'm angry, I'm
23 frustrated, and I'm really tired of hearing from
24 my constituents, What are we doing? What are we

1 doing? What are we doing?

2 I believe that we have acted in good
3 faith as organizers to show up to meetings with
4 Vice President Rubi Navarijo and Commission
5 executive staff.

6 This feels like we're moving at a
7 snail's pace. And when I think of the
8 consequence of that and like the real tangible
9 fear that's in our communities, like that
10 terrifies me that we won't be prepared, that we
11 as an accountability body, District Councilors
12 and Commission alike, are not taking proactive
13 steps to just have a hearing. Right?

14 I think there's more end goals there
15 of what like actual passing of legislation would
16 look like.

17 But meantime, we're asking for a
18 hearing.

19 15 out of the 20 District Councils
20 had immigration in their communities as one of
21 the top issues.

22 If you read the reports coming out
23 of your districts or District Councils, this is
24 something that's important.

1 And so I implore all of you, please
2 take this as seriously as we do, because time is
3 really of the essence. Use your power. Use your
4 power that you were appointed for. Represent the
5 communities that are begging at this point for
6 some action on your end.

7 It is hard to hear the traumas of
8 our community come up over and over again. And
9 to know that March is around the corner is scary
10 that we're not prepared. Thanks.

11 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

12 MS. PETERSON-QUINN: Hello. Good evening.
13 My name is Sully Peterson-Quinn. I'm the
14 campaign coordinator for the Grass Roots Alliance
15 for Police Accountability. We are a community
16 coalition united by a common demand for safer
17 neighborhoods through community-led oversight and
18 transparent accountable policing that serves the
19 needs of all Chicagoans.

20 We want to uplift and re-emphasize
21 the demands and frustrations of the District
22 Councilors who have spoken before me about the
23 need for a thorough and substantive subject
24 matter hearing that includes CPD leadership,

1 immigrant rights experts, and also the sharing of
2 resources that the Commission can share to help
3 defend and protect community members.

4 I think that this is also an
5 opportunity to use the platform that you all have
6 to share resources to help community members
7 protect each other, and the role that the
8 Commission plays in that I think is a really
9 important one.

10 We also want to call on COPA to
11 investigate past CPD and ICE collaboration.
12 There must be real investigations and
13 accountability for any CPD violations of the
14 Welcoming City Ordinance.

15 We also are asking the Commission to
16 strengthen policies that protect Chicagoans, such
17 as closing loopholes in CPD policies that allow
18 officers to share information, block streets,
19 guide ICE, or otherwise help immigration
20 enforcement, and to work in good faith with the
21 District Councilors that put forward the initial
22 petition to hold the subject matter hearing in
23 the first place.

24 And, finally, to hold ICE

1 accountable by drafting policies that require CPD
2 to treat the violence and kidnappings by ICE like
3 any other person who commits such crimes.

4 For anyone else who wants to get
5 involved with the Grass Roots Alliance for Police
6 Accountability, we'll have more information at
7 the back after the meeting and want to thank the
8 Commission for their time tonight. Thank you.

9 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

10 Our next two speakers Leonardo
11 Quintero, District 12, and April Guevara
12 Espinosa.

13 MR. QUINTERO: Hello. All right. Don't mean
14 to reiterate what everyone said. It's
15 disappointing to see that CPD leadership isn't at
16 this meeting. They are the people who have to be
17 held accountable.

18 The last three letters of the CCPSA
19 is Public Safety and Accountability, right? And
20 we cannot have public safety without
21 accountability. No matter how we split it, no
22 matter how we cut it. If the people are not
23 being held accountable, they're always going to
24 try to get away with what they can.

1 I also want to reiterate, somebody
2 mentioned that we need to take the priority that
3 was submitted in 2024 for 2025 about switching
4 investigatory powers from BIA to COPA when it
5 comes to people with -- for officers with ties,
6 connections or affiliations with hate groups, and
7 handing it over to COPA, right? I think that's
8 an important part because the more that we allow
9 that to happen, the more we allow them to stay in
10 these ranks, the more likely they are to work and
11 collaborate with ICE and other racist
12 institutions.

13 CPD is a racist institution itself.
14 So with that, I also want to mention two things.
15 One: The 12th District is going to be looking
16 for a 3rd District Councilor. So if you live in
17 the 12th District, know somebody that lives in
18 the 12th District, please encourage them to
19 apply.

20 And, two: I'm collecting
21 petitions. Last month, Commissioner Minor
22 mentioned that there was a want for some type
23 of -- of victim's bill of rights or something
24 along those lines. I also have been working on

1 this prior to that, but I'm collecting petitions,
2 signatures for that -- for that to be a hearing.

3 So if the Commission isn't listening
4 to Commissioner Minor, then we want to trigger it
5 in this way as well. Thank you.

6 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

7 MS. GUEVARA ESPINOSA: My name is April
8 Guevara Espinoza. G-U-E-V-A-R-A,
9 E-S-P-I-N-O-Z-A. I'm an attorney at Impact for
10 Equity. We are members of the ECPS and GAPA
11 coalitions.

12 The ECPS ordinance granted this
13 Commission with more power and civilian oversight
14 over the police than exists in the entire
15 country.

16 There is an incredible amount of
17 opportunity to ensure police accountability and
18 public safety.

19 While we appreciate the six
20 Commissioners who supported COPA investigating
21 Welcoming City Ordinance violations, the
22 Commission must demand an investigation of CPD
23 and ICE collaborations that took place in the
24 fall.

1 There must be accountability for the
2 harms caused to community loss here.

3 We cannot wait until the next time a
4 violation takes place.

5 The Commission also has the power to
6 amend CPD policy, close the loopholes, and define
7 what it means to collaborate by including things
8 like crowd control, guiding ICE, and blocking
9 streets for ICE to kidnap our neighbors, and
10 different CPD directives.

11 These hearings also must continue,
12 but they need an agenda that reflects community
13 needs.

14 You have the platform to equip the
15 community with safety resources like connecting
16 people with their local rapid response networks,
17 know your rights and Migra Watch trainings, how
18 they can find a loved one taken by ICE, how to
19 report CPD violations to COPA.

20 There's so much work to be done.
21 Listening to community must be shown to be a
22 priority by this Commission before you lose their
23 trust forever. Thank you.

24 PRESIDENT TERRY: Our final speaker is Tywon

1 Sims.

2 MR. SIMS: Good evening, Commissioners. So
3 some months ago, I came to you all and talked
4 about unlawful arrests of our stuff down at 121
5 North LaSalle, case number is 25120458301. That
6 was April 16th. Second arrest June 3rd. Case
7 number is 2512086920.

8 I'll be -- I'm supposed to go to
9 trial tomorrow, but I was also arrested a third,
10 given a warrant after this case was supposedly
11 SOL'd. Not supposedly. It was SOL'd down at
12 3150 North Flourney by Peter Gonzalez; however,
13 when I got the warrant, Peter Gonzalez changed
14 his whole tune and said that the officer came.

15 So I'm back here just in front of
16 y'all. Just like y'all take -- so I'm a citizen
17 of the City of Chicago. I know that we have all
18 this evening -- everything else that's going on,
19 everything else, but I'm a citizen. 45 years in
20 this City of Chicago, and if this Commission
21 doesn't work for me, how can it work for anything
22 else?

23 So everybody in here that's
24 concerned, showing compassion, going out of their

1 way, all the resources, whether it be litigation
2 or housing, all the consideration, what about me?
3 So how does this work?

4 Once again, Adam, President, again,
5 how does it work?

6 You see their face once again. So
7 maybe I can get from the organization that the
8 police -- my name is Tiwon Sims, spelled
9 T-I-W-O-N. S-I-M-S is my last.

10 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. The next order
11 of business is the approval of minutes. Before
12 today --

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Excuse me. I signed
14 up to speak before 6:00 o'clock.

15 PRESIDENT TERRY: Excuse me, sir. We already
16 allotted our time for public speaking.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I signed up before
18 6:00 o'clock though.

19 PRESIDENT TERRY: As I stated when we began
20 the conversation, random names were drawn. We
21 selected, and we had ten speakers. God bless
22 you.

23 THE WITNESS: Eat {___}.

24 PRESIDENT TERRY: The next order of business

1 is the approval of minutes.

2 Before today's meeting, draft
3 minutes of the Commission's special meeting held
4 on January 8th and the regular meeting held on
5 January 29th were shared with all Commissioners.

6 Are there any corrections to the
7 draft minutes that have been circulated? If
8 there are no corrections, I move to approve the
9 minutes.

10 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: Second.

11 PRESIDENT TERRY: I have moved to approve the
12 minutes of the Commission special meeting held on
13 January 8 and regular meeting held on January
14 29th. Commissioner Piemonte has seconded. Is
15 there any debate on the motion?

16 Hearing none, we will move to a
17 vote. Those in favor of adopting the motion to
18 approve the minutes of the Commission's special
19 meeting held on January 8th at the regular
20 meeting held on January 29th, please signal by
21 saying aye.

22 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

23 PRESIDENT TERRY: Those opposed, please say
24 nay.

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(NO RESPONSE.)

PRESIDENT TERRY: The ayes have it, and the motion carries.

For the record, Commissioner Wortham is an abstention.

New business. Our next order of business is new business.

On January 8th, 2026, the Commission held a special meeting convened as a product of petition received by the Commission with more than 2000 signatures. Nearly 1500 people attended the meeting in person and online. Many speakers expressed their fear, anger, and uncertainty about how CPD activity during immigration enforcement actions affects public safety and trusts in law enforcement.

Speakers also raised concern about the lack of clarity around existing policies related to CPD interactions with immigration agents and border patrol agents, a concern whether there is appropriate accountability when violations of those policies are alleged.

Last month, at the January 29 meeting, the Commission adopted seven strategic

1 priorities to focus on in 2026, and one of these
2 priorities is to work with the community, the
3 Mayor's Office, City Council, and CPD to
4 strengthen policy and accountability around this
5 issue.

6 At tonight's meeting, we will work
7 to address some of the questions raised by
8 members at the January 8th meeting.

9 We will continue the work at another
10 Commission meeting to be determined.

11 Tonight we will focus on the role of
12 COPA and the Chicago Office of Inspector General
13 and its role in playing enforcement around CPD
14 interaction related to the Welcoming City
15 Ordinance.

16 Many of the biggest questions raised
17 at the January meeting were about the Department.
18 The Superintendent was not able to attend
19 tonight's meeting, and so we are actively working
20 to schedule a future public meeting.

21 We will talk about the CPD policies,
22 the trainings, accountability systems that are to
23 ensure compliance with relevant laws and
24 policies. We will also talk about how those

1 rules are being followed and whether they're
2 doing what they're supposed to do. If there are
3 problems, we will explore potential changes to
4 law, policies, trainings, and accountability
5 systems.

6 We'll also talk about what happens
7 if officers see certain issues around immigration
8 enforcements.

9 We expect that we will include to
10 talk to the Superintendent about next steps.

11 The order that requires CPD to make
12 reports on the violations of state or local law
13 is to give evidence of potential violations to
14 the State's Attorney. This information we're
15 still learning. We don't have all the ins and
16 outs.

17 We, to my knowledge, have not spoken
18 with the Mayor's Office, the State's Attorney's
19 Office, and all the other parties that we need to
20 communicate with. So more to come once we have
21 that information.

22 For tonight's meeting with COPA and
23 the OIG, there are a few other pieces of
24 important background information.

1 One of the issues that people raised
2 at the January 8 meeting was about the
3 enforcement of the welcoming City ordinance.

4 There's also CPD policy that
5 basically takes the Welcoming City Ordinance and
6 puts it into CPD rules that police officers have
7 to follow.

8 The Welcoming City Ordinance is City
9 law that says CPD can't assist federal agents in
10 civil immigration enforcement; however, the
11 Welcoming City Ordinance says that CPD is allowed
12 to protect public safety. For example, if a
13 crime is occurring around immigration enforcement
14 activity or a risk that someone could get hurt,
15 CPD can protect them.

16 This law and policy have led to
17 questions about whether certain actions amount to
18 assisting with civil immigration enforcement,
19 which isn't allowed, or if those CPD actions are
20 protecting public safety, which is allowed.

21 There are also questions about who
22 is responsible for enforcing the Welcoming City
23 Ordinance and related CPD directives.

24 Right now, if there is an allegation

1 that a CPD officer violated the Welcoming City
2 Ordinance, that allegation is investigated by
3 CPD's Bureau of Internal Affairs.

4 There is an ordinance in City
5 Council now that will give COPA that power to
6 investigate claims of violations around the
7 Welcoming City Ordinance.

8 At the Commission's meeting in late
9 January, Superintendent Snelling said that he
10 supported the ordinance that would shift those
11 investigations from CPD to COPA.

12 The City Council is expected to vote
13 on that ordinance at its meeting in the middle of
14 March.

15 So COPA's role and accountability
16 around these issues may grow significantly, and
17 one of those things we will talk about tonight is
18 what that would look like.

19 Tonight, we've invited COPA and the
20 OIG here to provide information and answer
21 questions. The panel will discuss existing
22 policies and procedures and accountability
23 systems to help ensure compliance with the
24 Welcoming City Ordinance and relevant CPD

1 directives.

2 We will also ask the panelists to
3 consider how to create greater transparency and
4 reporting around this work.

5 I'd now like to invite our speakers
6 on the stage for this discussion. Interim Chief
7 of COPA LaKenya White and Public Safety Inspector
8 Tobara Richardson.

9 Each panelist will open up with a
10 statement about their roles and responsibilities,
11 and then Commissioners will ask questions.

12 Interim Chief White, we will start
13 with you.

14 INTERIM CHIEF WHITE: I have a PowerPoint.
15 Hello, everybody. My name is Interim Chief
16 LaKenya White, and I want to walk you through a
17 PowerPoint. We gave this PowerPoint to a City
18 Council hearing in January, so forgive me if you
19 saw this PowerPoint already, but I do need to
20 show the people that are not privy to this
21 PowerPoint what we do and where we stand.

22 To ensure a clear understanding of
23 the current involvement of accountability as it
24 relates to federal immigration enforcement in

1 Chicago, we have prepared a brief presentation
2 that provides relevant context.

3 Afterward, I am happy to answer any
4 questions from the Commissioners.

5 Before I begin, I would like to
6 clarify COPA's role within the public safety
7 framework.

8 COPA's authority is limited to
9 conducting an administrative investigation into
10 alleged misconduct by members of the Chicago
11 Police Department.

12 COPA does not have legal authority
13 over law enforcement personnel who are not
14 employed by the Chicago Police Department.

15 Additionally, as an investigative
16 agency, COPA's function is to investigate alleged
17 misconduct.

18 COPA does not comment on CPD
19 training, operational procedures, or the rules
20 and directives governing how CPD members carry
21 out their duties.

22 Questions regarding those matters
23 should be directed to CPD leadership.

24 Change slide. And I hope you all

1 can see it. Bear with me.

2 As many of you are aware, COPA
3 currently does not have investigative
4 jurisdiction over the Welcoming City Ordinance
5 violations.

6 COPA's jurisdiction is online at
7 Chicago Municipal Code, which is 2-78-120, which
8 lists the allegation types COPA is authorized to
9 investigate.

10 Allegations outside those listed in
11 the code are forwarded to the Bureau of Internal
12 Affairs for investigations as our ordinance
13 requires.

14 That is the process COPA currently
15 follows, outside of a small subset of cases
16 referred to the Inspector General when an
17 external investigative body is authorized by law.

18 From June 4, 2025, through February
19 17, 2026, COPA has received 44 complaints about
20 incidents related to federal immigration
21 activity, including incidents that happened at
22 protests.

23 Some of these complaints
24 are duplicates, meaning they were about the same

1 incident.

2 I want to stress that these figures
3 reflect initial allegations as reported to COPA
4 and should not be interpreted as indicating any
5 investigative outcome.

6 Change slide.

7 In July of last year, COPA heard
8 from stakeholders, including many individuals in
9 this room, about the desire for these incidents
10 to be investigated by COPA.

11 We immediately began working towards
12 a legislative solution.

13 In September, Alderperson Jessie
14 Fuentes introduced an amendment to the municipal
15 code that will bring investigations of alleged
16 Welcoming City Ordinance violations under COPA's
17 jurisdiction.

18 As of today, that remains pending.
19 And these cases continue to be routed to the
20 Bureau of Internal Affairs for investigation.

21 If and when this amendment is
22 adopted, COPA will immediately begin
23 investigating new complaints alleging violations
24 of the Welcoming City Ordinance.

1 Complaints received prior to the
2 effective date will continue to be investigated
3 by the Bureau of Internal Affairs.

4 Additionally, any new complaint that
5 duplicates a matter already under investigation
6 by the Bureau of Internal Affairs will remain
7 with BIA until the resolution of the complaint.
8 And if you don't know BIA, I'm referring to the
9 Bureau of Internal Affairs.

10 Change slide.

11 COPA started a clearinghouse of all
12 allegations of misconduct by Chicago Police
13 Department members, sworn or civilian.

14 Upon receiving a complaint, COPA
15 immediately begins working on the case. This
16 includes collecting relevant materials,
17 identifying involved personnel, determining
18 allegations, assessing investigative
19 jurisdiction, and reassigned cases when COPA
20 lacks jurisdiction.

21 In some instances, jurisdiction is
22 clear at intake, allowing us to make an immediate
23 determination without the need for extensive
24 preliminary investigation.

1 Next slide.

2 When COPA does have investigative
3 jurisdiction, the case is assigned to one of our
4 general investigations or special victims squad.
5 Investigators continue gathering evidence,
6 canvassing scenes when necessary, conducting
7 interviews, and taking any additional
8 investigative steps as required.

9 At the conclusion of the
10 investigation, investigators work in
11 collaboration with supervisory staff and for
12 significant cases our legal team to determine
13 findings, then they draft a closure record and
14 complete required closure process.

15 I know transparency on this issue
16 remains critically important to the people in
17 this room.

18 In this moment, transparency is
19 not just a value, it is a necessity.

20 COPA was built entirely on the
21 foundation of transparency, and our agency exists
22 to ensure that accountability is conducted in the
23 open and with the public at the center of our
24 work; therefore, I would like to briefly

1 highlight COPA's transparency practices.

2 First, all COPA investigations
3 produce a closing record that describes the how
4 and the why COPA closed a case.

5 If the case results in findings, the
6 record will explain those findings and the
7 associated disciplinary and/or training
8 recommendation.

9 Unless prohibited by law, these
10 documents are subject to disclosure requirements
11 outlined at the Municipal Code and through the
12 Freedom of Information Act, which a lot people
13 know as FOIA.

14 Additionally, COPA makes online case
15 portals and dashboards that provide public access
16 and statistical information.

17 COPA also produces monthly,
18 quarterly, and annual reports. These reports
19 include intake, pending, and closure figures
20 broken down by allegation type.

21 Per the Municipal Code, COPA must
22 report quarterly to the Committee of Police and
23 Fire to answer any questions about its report.

24 And, finally, all closed COPA

1 investigations are subject to review by the
2 Public Safety Inspector General, who happens to
3 be sitting right next to me.

4 COPA remains committed to
5 transparency and accountability, and we stand
6 ready to work in collaboration towards solutions
7 that serve the public interest. Thank you.

8 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

9 So now we will turn it over to you,
10 attorney general -- I mean Inspector General
11 Richardson.

12 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: My name is
13 Tobara Richardson, and I serve as the Deputy
14 Inspector General for Public Safety with the
15 Chicago Office of Inspector General.

16 I know this evening is to be an
17 overview of the work of the Office of Inspector
18 General.

19 I will admit that normally if I had
20 a PowerPoint, I would be talking for about an
21 hour, and even without a PowerPoint, I would be
22 talking for about half an hour. I was instructed
23 that I had approximately the same amount of time
24 you all had for public comment, which was

1 somewhere between two to three minutes, so I'm
2 going to give a general overview of the office,
3 and then I welcome questions from the
4 Commissioners.

5 Additionally, I stay around after,
6 and I welcome any opportunity to come to any of
7 your organizations or District Council meeting.

8 So with that, the City of Chicago
9 Office of Inspector General, or OIG, is an
10 independent, nonpartisan oversight agency with
11 the mission of promoting economy, effectiveness,
12 efficiency, and integrity in the operation of
13 City government.

14 How do we do that? We do that
15 three main ways. The first way is by conducting
16 investigations.

17 Now, admittedly, most
18 investigations into CPD members are going to be
19 conducted by those agencies with the sole purpose
20 of conducting investigations into CPD members, so
21 that's going to be the Bureau of Internal Affairs
22 within the Chicago Police Department and the
23 Civilian Office of police accountability.

24 The OIG has jurisdiction over the

1 entire City, so meaning that we conduct
2 investigations into our City actors and
3 departments.

4 Of course, both BIA and COPA are
5 welcome to provide referrals -- specific
6 referrals to OIG, if for a specific case the
7 respective entity thinks that OIG is better
8 suited to conduct an investigation.

9 Now, with regard to the second way
10 in which we reach our mission, that way is going
11 to be by conducting audits and audit-based
12 evaluations and reviews, and specifically the
13 public safety section within it, it has two
14 units, one unit is the performance analysis unit,
15 and that unit has -- well, the section has
16 jurisdiction over the Chicago Police Department,
17 COPA, the Police Board, and so that unit conducts
18 audit-based evaluations and reviews specifically
19 into the Police Department, COPA, Police Board,
20 and because the public section sits within the
21 OIG, because OIG has jurisdiction over the entire
22 City, that means that the public safety section
23 does as well.

24 So you'll notice that sometimes our

1 evaluations will cover agencies in addition to
2 CPD, COPA, Police Board, to include OPFA and OEM.
3 Some of the recent publications have included an
4 evaluation on the Gun Offender Registration
5 Ordinance or 911 response times or higher than
6 (inaudible).

7 If you go to our website and look
8 under publications, the website being
9 IGChicago.org, you will find all of the
10 publications there.

11 The last way that OIG serves its
12 mission is through its transparency initiatives.
13 Then if you go to IGChicago.org, click on
14 information portal, and specifically if you click
15 on public safety, you will see that there are a
16 total of nine public safety dashboards, eight
17 pertaining to the Chicago Police Department, and
18 one pertaining to the Chicago Fire Department.
19 To include our latest dashboard, we've always had
20 where you can look up CRs, or complaint
21 registrations, for CPD members, but the latest
22 expansion, so to speak, include looking at where
23 CPD members are co-accused, at least twice, the
24 CR network dashboard.

1 So all those things are there. I
2 will make them available for transparency sake
3 with the thought that information about the
4 government belongs in the hands of the govern.

5 The last thing I will say
6 specifically as it relates to the public safety
7 section, which has already been brought up, is
8 that the public safety section also conducts
9 reviews of individual closed misconduct
10 investigations conducted by BIA or COPA. What we
11 are looking in there are deficiencies that affect
12 the outcome, material deficiency. So where we
13 see those, you may see recommendations to reopen
14 the respective entity, and we publish --
15 ultimately, once that investigation is closed, we
16 publish all those on our website at
17 IGChicago.org.

18 Look at publications, the
19 recommendation to reopen. I also recommend
20 looking at our annual report. The 2024 annual
21 report, we conducted approximately 1,316 reviews
22 of individual closed conduct investigations,
23 sending 30 recommendations to reopen, 18 of which
24 to COPA, 12 to BIA.

1 So all of our public safety section
2 work is transparent, available on the website.
3 And I will say as far as the investigations
4 conducted by the office are concerned, those are
5 confidential to include the intake to certain
6 municipal code, specifically Section 2-78-110.
7 But what we can say we do say in our quarterly
8 reports, which are also a good resource.

9 So what we can say is all available
10 on our website, IGChicago.org.

11 And if there's anything else,
12 otherwise I will answer questions. Thank you

13 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, both. We will
14 now transition and open it up to the Commission.
15 Any questions? Vice President Rubi Navarijo.

16 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you,
17 Chief White and Deputy Inspector General, for
18 joining us tonight.

19 My first question is for COPA.
20 Given the anticipation of the Fuentes Ordinance
21 passing, what happened to those cases that you
22 referred out? Are they completely referred out?
23 Will you reopen those cases once you gain
24 jurisdiction, or are those cases just gone?

1 INTERIM CHIEF WHITE: Repeat the first part.

2 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: Yeah. So
3 basically like if the Fuentes Ordinance passes
4 both City Council, and you gain that
5 jurisdiction, what happens to those cases that
6 either you referred out, do they reopen? Or what
7 occurs to those complaints that relate to maybe
8 Welcoming City Ordinance violation?

9 INTERIM CHIEF WHITE: Sure. If and when this
10 ordinance is passed, it will not be retroactive.
11 So any cases that went to BIA will have to stay
12 at BIA. When the ord -- if and when the
13 ordinance is passed, any case we receive after
14 that day will stay with us; however, if it
15 happened, and there's already been made a
16 complaint, somebody made a complaint on that, it
17 will already be processed at the BIA and continue
18 to stay with BIA.

19 PRESIDENT TERRY: Commissioner Minor.

20 COMMISSIONER MINOR: I'm also wondering if
21 COPA's ordinance is expanded, and you all have
22 investigatory powers over potential violations of
23 WCO, can you tell us a little bit more about how
24 that might impact your internal operations? Do

1 you foresee any challenges as it relates to
2 caseload, staffing, trainings? And how do you
3 anticipate overcoming any challenges if you have
4 already identified them?

5 INTERIM CHIEF WHITE: Sure. So in January,
6 in my hearing, I say, you know, take this on, and
7 then when I got back to work, my staff is like,
8 you take on a lot already because we have a lot
9 of vacancies, and I do, and I keep saying I can
10 do this. I'm not changing that. We can do this,
11 but I need staff in order to do this.

12 We have currently 30 vacancies,
13 six -- well, actually seven in leadership,
14 because a permanent chief has not been confirmed
15 yet.

16 So with that being said, once I get
17 the staff, we can do this.

18 So what do I need? I need to work
19 with OBM, which is Office of Budget Management,
20 and also the Department of Human Resources, which
21 I will refer to as DHR, in order to get my
22 staffing needs.

23 And I'm also going to be looking to
24 collaborate with you all, with the Chicago Police

1 Department, and with the Police Board to get my
2 administrative needs met as well, too.

3 We all have to work together in
4 order to get this done because we hear you all.
5 We hear the complaints.

6 Trust me, this is a goal we want to
7 do, and we are determined to do.

8 PRESIDENT TERRY: Commissioner Gottlieb.

9 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Thank you. So who's
10 responsible for monitoring and enforcing the
11 Mayor's February 2nd Executive Order?

12 INTERIM CHIEF WHITE: I can tell you right
13 now, that has not been settled. We are still in
14 talks with the Department of Law, so I have no
15 comment on that because that has not rolled down
16 to us. So there's no comment I can provide you
17 right now for that.

18 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: I would just say if
19 you listen back to our January hearing, a lot of
20 the concerns the community members raised were
21 different from the Welcoming City Ordinance.
22 They were about things that would be covered by
23 the Executive Order.

24 So I'm really hoping that soon it

1 gets sorted out who is going to be responsible
2 for enforcing it, and that there's a clear plan
3 in figuring out how it will be monitored.

4 PRESIDENT TERRY: Commissioner Piemonte.

5 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: So you're
6 referring to the -- I'll just say it, was it last
7 week when the Cook County State's Attorney's
8 Office issued their federal immigration
9 enforcement action response protocol? So as far
10 as criminal -- possible criminal prosecution of
11 federal agents within the Cook County State's
12 Attorney's Office jurisdiction, OIG's
13 jurisdictions are for City employees, which CCSAO
14 would follow that.

15 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: Deputy Inspector
16 Richardson, hi.

17 Under OIG authority, the public
18 safety unit can conduct programmatic evaluations.
19 How would OIG approach evaluating, the first one
20 is, individual CPD members' interactions with
21 federal immigration enforcement?

22 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: With regard to
23 that, as far as individual CPD members, I will
24 say everybody who works for the City has a duty

1 to report. CPD members themselves who are City
2 employees have a duty to report, specifically
3 under Rules 21 and 22. Rule 21 referring to
4 possibly kind of related to crimes. Rule 22
5 related to possible misconduct relating to rules,
6 directives, policies.

7 So those obligations to report
8 misconduct are present.

9 And then, of course, anybody,
10 members of the public should always feel free to
11 submit allegations of misconduct to OIG, COPA, or
12 any other body, and then once those -- for the
13 individual members, that wouldn't necessarily
14 mean an audit; that would be an allegation of
15 misconduct of both COPA's ordinance and the
16 Welcoming City Ordinance. Say that the filter
17 for any allegations of misconduct against CPD
18 members is going to be COPA. And so as far as
19 individual members, that's going to be like other
20 allegations of misconduct.

21 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: So it's not proactive
22 on your part? You wait until someone reports
23 something, and then you evaluate it?

24 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: If I understood

1 you correctly, if you see something in the media,
2 right, we have a robust intake process. Not
3 myself. If I see something in the media which
4 looks like it could be, because I'm also a City
5 employee, I have a duty to report, where it looks
6 like it could be an allegation of misconduct,
7 then I myself send it through our intake process.
8 But the first step would be to be aware of
9 something. Once everybody is aware, then it goes
10 through its process.

11 Even when OIG receives an intake as
12 it relates to allegations of misconduct
13 regarding CPD members, the filter is still COPA.
14 So even we receive intake, it will always go to
15 COPA.

16 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: Okay. Second part is
17 whether or not CPD as an organization is
18 complying with the Welcoming City Ordinance?

19 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: That would fall
20 under an audit, an evaluation or review.

21 Each year, we publish our annual
22 outlook of public safety sections, annual outlook
23 where we have a list of possible evaluations or
24 reviews that we may conduct. And if you look

1 even before recent years, we've had the
2 possibility of an evaluation as it relates to
3 CPD compliance with the Welcoming City Ordinance.
4 And, again, that's based off of our capacity at
5 any moment, what we launch. And we have a
6 process from when we launch projects to determine
7 what our objectives will be, what the goal of the
8 investigation is or the audit.

9 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: How frequently is
10 that done? Is there any set standard or is it --

11 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: There is no set
12 amount of time we publish our evaluation that
13 they are completed. And then same thing, as we
14 have capacity with our staff, we decide when
15 we're going to launch it. So there isn't a set
16 time frame.

17 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: There could be a lag
18 between the activity and the evaluation?

19 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: Right. For an
20 audit, the information has to be present to be
21 able to conduct a review, and sort of where the
22 difference lies in between if you're going to
23 conduct an investigation into an individual
24 member where there is allegation of misconduct

1 versus a review or evaluation would require the
2 necessary data to review.

3 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: Okay. That's it.

4 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Are there any
5 other questions? Vice President Rubi Navarijo.

6 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you very
7 much.

8 For the OIG, so are those decisions
9 public, those audits that you decide to make?

10 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: Yes. So the
11 public safety section is public-facing. When we
12 complete an evaluation or review, we publish our
13 findings, and we have recommendations. All of
14 that's published to our website, to include any
15 of the respective agencies we are providing
16 recommendations to, and they are required to
17 respond to our recommendations in writing. So we
18 publish our findings and our recommendations,
19 along with the respective department's response
20 all on our website.

21 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: My last
22 follow-up. If you are able to share, is there a
23 current investigation into violation of the
24 Welcoming City Ordinance? Are you able to share

1 that information?

2 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: With regard to
3 investigations that fall under our confidential
4 work, so our intakes are confidential, our
5 investigations are confidential, and so the
6 closest you can get to that information would be
7 to look at our quarterly reports which we publish
8 on the 15th of each month after each quarter
9 ends, and there we will publish BIA summaries to
10 include findings, recommendations to the
11 respective agency and their response.

12 COMMISSIONER MINOR: I have a question.

13 PRESIDENT TERRY: Commissioner Minor.

14 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Thank you. I have a
15 question for Interim Chief White.

16 Thank you so much, Vice President
17 Navarijo, as you talked about, where can the
18 public get information as it relates to different
19 reports? I'm also wondering what that would look
20 like for COPA if your charter is expanded. In
21 the past, you all have provided public reportings
22 on allegations and investigations that are great
23 public interest, such as your resolutions of
24 investigations for the 2020 protests. So I'm

1 wondering should we anticipate any kind of public
2 resolutions on these kind of cases as it relates
3 to violations of Welcoming City Ordinance?

4 INTERIM CHIEF WHITE: As you know, pretty
5 much all of our cases are open to transparency.
6 So with that being said, we have data portals,
7 and we have our dashboards as well where people
8 can obtain this information. All of our -- any
9 case that we close gets a record, meaning the
10 record will explain the how and the why the case
11 was closed.

12 If a case has a finding, it will
13 tell you what that finding is, and any training,
14 what discipline was recommended, and these cases
15 are subjected to disclosure under the Municipal
16 Code and under the Freedom of Information Act.

17 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Thank you.

18 PRESIDENT TERRY: Commissioner Gottlieb.

19 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Thank you. So
20 Deputy, Inspector General Richardson, are there
21 plans -- or can you share if there are plans to
22 conduct a programmatic evaluation of CPD's
23 compliance with the Welcoming City Ordinance?

24 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: So thus far, we

1 have not published any recommendations related to
2 it, but look at our annual outlook that was even
3 before recent years, it's been one of the
4 possible topics for us.

5 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: I would just say,
6 given sort of the allegations that have been
7 made, plus sort of how important this topic is
8 right now, that that would be a good use of time.

9 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: I appreciate
10 that, and when we publish our draft annual
11 outlook, we receive feedback to include
12 information related to this. And in March and
13 April, we're also going to conduct our listening
14 tours where, again, we receive feedback. All of
15 that feedback and information is definitely taken
16 into account when we decide what to proceed with
17 as far as evaluation and review. So I definitely
18 appreciate that. Thank you.

19 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, both. So I do
20 have a couple of questions, and mine are
21 specifically related to the CPD directives.

22 So, Inspector General Richardson, I
23 don't know how familiar you are with the policy,
24 but that's where my questions are coming from,

1 just to learn, right? I think we need to have a
2 lot more understanding of what the department is
3 responsible for doing, what sort of things are we
4 hearing, and what does that look like from
5 y'all's perspective.

6 So one of the first questions I
7 have, it deals with part of the policy that
8 outlines that Department members will not stop,
9 arrest, detain, or continue to detain someone
10 solely based off of, you know, their immigration
11 status or the fact that they may have committed a
12 civil immigration violation.

13 So the question, I guess, this
14 would be for you, Interim Chief White, really,
15 have you all saw complaints around the Department
16 doing this sort of activity?

17 INTERIM CHIEF WHITE: I really can't speak to
18 that because those complaints went directly to
19 Bureau of Internal Affairs.

20 So, you know, again, just remind
21 you all, when a person calls in and says, Hey,
22 CPD is violating the WCO, we don't go any further
23 into those complaints. Those complaints will go
24 straight to the Bureau of Internal Affairs.

1 Now, a person provides additional
2 information that might fall under our
3 jurisdiction, we may be able to look into those
4 complaints, but I don't have that information on
5 hand, so I can't comment on that.

6 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

7 Another portion of the policy --
8 because we heard a lot about the fact that the
9 Department will not participate in civil
10 immigration enforcement operations or assist;
11 however, as we've highlighted, there is an
12 exception around that, and I just want to hear
13 from you all because I consider you all as
14 subject matter experts just how you interpret the
15 exception because I think that's important for us
16 as a body to be aware of and then also community
17 so that we are all coming from the same
18 understanding of the language.

19 So it says, "This does not preclude
20 Department members from responding and taking
21 police action should a contemporaneous public
22 safety concern arise or in violation -- or in
23 response to alleged violations of the Illinois
24 compiled statutes and Municipal Code of Chicago."

1 So my reason for asking that --
2 because I think, you know, having context and
3 examples is important in terms of expectations
4 that we may have about when there is a violation
5 versus what is allowed within policy, so if you
6 all can just share sort of your understanding or
7 your interpretation in a way that we can
8 understand with examples of what it is and what
9 it isn't essentially.

10 INTERIM CHIEF WHITE: I'll start. So my
11 interpretation is if there is a federal
12 immigration activity going on, and somebody in
13 the crowd calls 911 -- and I can just, you know,
14 give you an example, somebody in the crowd gets
15 into it -- because, as we know, sometimes things
16 happen. Right? So there can be two people in
17 the crowd, you know, get into a physical
18 altercation, and somebody calls the police, then
19 the police can respond because there is the
20 public safety issue as it relates to somebody
21 being in danger of immediate threat, great bodily
22 harm, or something to that effect.

23 So the police have the right to
24 respond to those incidents. That's where that

1 exemption kind of lags in because, again, police
2 are here to protect and serve and somebody calls
3 911 and says, Hey, my friend is sitting up here
4 getting hit with a bat. The police have a duty
5 to respond. If they don't respond, then that's a
6 liability on the Police Department because they
7 did not respond and somebody can potentially lose
8 their life.

9 DEPUTY INSPECTOR RICHARDSON: Now, I won't
10 get into it all, the response, because we haven't
11 conducted any evaluation or, you know, if it came
12 up in an investigation, they would (inaudible),
13 but I will say general counsel and also
14 (inaudible) so to the extent the plain language
15 of the Welcoming City Ordinance comports with or
16 the directive from it, that is something that
17 needs to be considered and discussed.

18 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Well, thank
19 you, Interim Chief White and Public Safety
20 Inspector General Tobar Richardson, for
21 participating in tonight's discussion.

22 If you would like to receive
23 updates when we schedule upcoming meetings,
24 please let us know, and we will ensure that you

1 are on the list to be included.

2 Now we will go into our reports and
3 updates.

4 Our next order of business will be
5 reports and updates. I would like to ask
6 Commissioner Wortham to provide an update on the
7 Commission's work around traffic stops.

8 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: All right. Good
9 evening, everyone.

10 So a little over a year ago, it was
11 recommended that the issue of traffic stops be
12 added to the Consent Decree.

13 I know a lot of you know it, but I
14 will review it just for those who might not know.

15 In that vein, President Terry and I
16 serve on the Commission's CPD Policy Working
17 Group. So given the recommendation that traffic
18 stops be added to the Consent Decree,
19 Commissioner Terry and I on behalf of the
20 Commission have been working with the Chicago
21 Police Department, the Illinois Attorney General
22 Office, as well as the Consent Decree monitoring
23 team to work out how traffic stops will be added
24 to the Consent Decree.

1 We said this a couple of times, but
2 just so the audience is clear, the Consent Decree
3 work has a confidentiality clause for all
4 parties, so our recommendations do have to be
5 quite limited in these meetings, but what we can
6 tell you and do want to tell you every month is
7 that we are continuing to work.

8 Back in July, the Commission took a
9 vote on various policy prescriptions for traffic
10 stops.

11 President Terry and I have taken
12 the spirit of those votes into our work with the
13 parties we just discussed; however, when we took
14 that vote, we as a Commission also committed to
15 the public that we would continue to be open to
16 feedback from the public and from the community
17 because that's kind of the whole point.

18 And so even though we voted on
19 certain policy prescriptions, those may evolve
20 based on Commission learning or community
21 feedback or a variety of other factors.

22 In our work, we have recently been
23 meeting with CPD to try and be responsive to
24 things we have learned in this process and

1 continue to work towards a resolution.

2 We have an upcoming meeting next
3 week, and we will continue to do that and
4 continue to come back to you with updates.

5 I think the most important thing, I
6 think I say this every month, please continue to
7 give us feedback on traffic stops. And I say
8 this from every perspective. Whatever your
9 perspective on traffic stops is, we want to hear
10 you because our job is to be responsive to the
11 community, and so we hope that whatever the final
12 product is here will be responsive to the
13 community in the interest of public safety and
14 all of our responsibilities. That is the update
15 on that.

16 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, Commissioner
17 Wortham.

18 Now, I would like to ask
19 Commissioner Piemonte to give an update on agency
20 2026 goals and 2025 evaluations.

21 COMMISSIONER PIEMONTE: Thank you. As part
22 of its duties under the ordinance, the Commission
23 sets annual goals and conducts yearly performance
24 evaluations for the Superintendent of the Chicago

1 Police Department, Chief Administrator of COPA,
2 and the President of the Chicago Police Board.

3 At its last meeting, the Commission
4 voted to adopt the 2026 goals for each agency.
5 You can now find those goals on the Commission's
6 website.

7 This year for the first time, the
8 Commission will also be publishing the annual
9 performance evaluations for each agency.

10 We hope to have these posted on the
11 website at the end of the next month.

12 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, Commissioner
13 Piemonte.

14 Now I would like to turn it over to
15 Vice President Rubi Navarijo to give an update on
16 District Councils.

17 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you,
18 President Terry.

19 I just want to take moment to thank
20 our District Councilors and District Council
21 staff for all the work that's been going into
22 producing monthly reports. I read them, so thank
23 you.

24 These reports help identify the top

1 policing and public safety concerns in each
2 district.

3 I encourage everyone to get
4 involved with their local District Councils. If
5 you want to learn about your District Council,
6 you can visit the CCPSA website. We will repeat
7 everything in the end.

8 If you don't know what
9 district you live in, you can find out on the
10 website, you see who your counselors are and when
11 are your District Council meetings. You can also
12 get information about what happened at past
13 meetings of your District Council.

14 The monthly meetings provide
15 community members with opportunity to raise and
16 address concerns about policing, public safety.
17 The information from these meetings help guide
18 the Commission's work. By participating in your
19 local meeting, you can have a voice in public
20 safety.

21 Thank you, again, to our District
22 Councilors for all of your work that you do.

23 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, Vice President
24 Rubi Navarajo.

1 Vice President Rubi Navarijo will
2 also provide an update on the Noncitizen Advisory
3 Council.

4 VICE PRESIDENT RUBI NAVARIJO: Yeah, so we've
5 been meeting with the Noncitizen Advisory Council
6 pretty frequently, about every month, and we're
7 just hearing the concerns about what they're
8 hearing.

9 A lot of the folks on the
10 Noncitizen Advisory Council work in the community
11 or work for a community-based organization, so
12 they provide valuable insight on what questions
13 we can ask, what information we should be looking
14 for, and you actually can join the Noncitizen
15 Advisory Council if you would like.

16 It is a group comprised of
17 noncitizens and who work with the noncitizen
18 community to represent those voices.

19 That information is also on our
20 website, but right now, we're continuing to have
21 discussions frequently about how the Commission
22 can move forward on this work.

23 PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, Vice President
24 Rubi Navarijo. I'll now share an update on CPD

1 workforce allocation.

2 CPD is working with Matrix
3 Consulting Group on a comprehensive analysis of
4 CPD workforce allocation.

5 I serve on the Workforce Allocation
6 Series Committee on behalf of the Commission that
7 provides input on the study. The study will have
8 significant impact on the number of Commission's
9 goals for 2026 -- on a number of the Commission's
10 goals for 2026, so I'd like to share information
11 about recent progress on the study.

12 The study is looking at police
13 department staffing at every level across the
14 City and assessing whether there are enough CPD
15 staff where we need them the most.

16 CPD and Matrix are considering how
17 to allocate resources in order to improve
18 response times across the City, ensure
19 appropriate ratios of police officers to
20 supervisors and lay the foundation for a
21 successful community policing model.

22 Matrix is working to complete the
23 full report, but recently issued an executive
24 summary of the workforce allocation setting.

1 It's publicly available on CPD's
2 website. Here are some of the key findings in
3 the executive summary.

4 CPD faces significant staffing
5 pressures. There are inconsistent service levels
6 across the City, with too few supervisors in some
7 places and little opportunity for officers in
8 some communities to spend time building
9 relationships that can result in improved public
10 safety.

11 CPD has a much smaller percentage
12 of civilian employees on staff and could benefit
13 from increasing the number of civilian employees
14 who do the important jobs that do not require the
15 same training as a police officer.

16 CPD should increase the number of
17 sworn and civilian positions.

18 We will provide more information
19 about the Workforce Allocation Study when the
20 full report is released, and we will give updates
21 on goals that are connected by the study.

22 We will now move to adjournment,
23 but I do want to -- before we close out
24 adjournment, Commissioner Minor did want to

1 highlight that there is going to be a City
2 Council meeting on March 10, and that if you are
3 interested in learning more, you can connect with
4 her afterwards.

5 To connect with the Commission
6 via social media, you can find us at Facebook
7 Chicago CCPSA or search Community Commission for
8 Public Safety and Accountability. On Instagram
9 and Twitter, we're CCPSA_Chicago. At YouTube,
10 we're at Chicago CCPSA.

11 The next Commission's --
12 Commission's next regular meeting will be
13 Thursday, March 26, at 6:30 p.m. at George
14 Washington High School, 3535 East 114th Street.

15 I thank you all for joining us
16 tonight, and we hope to see you on March 26th,
17 and we hope you will stay engaged and encourage
18 people you know to join this work.

19 Thank you, all. Have a great
20 evening.

21 (Proceedings adjourned at
22 7:56.)

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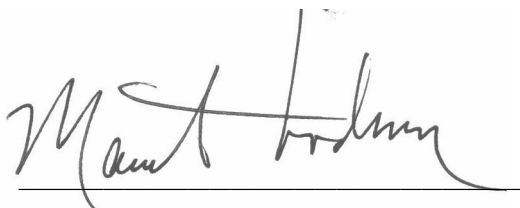
REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

Re: COMMUNITY COMMISSION for PUBLIC SAFETY and
Accountability
February 26, 2026

I, MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, C.S.R., do hereby
certify that the foregoing Report of Proceedings
was recorded stenographically by me and was
reduced to computerized transcript under my
direction, and that the said transcript
constitutes a true record.

I further certify that I am not a
relative or employee or attorney or counsel of
any of the parties, or a relative or employee of
such attorney or counsel, or financially
interested directly or indirectly in this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand of office at Chicago, Illinois this 17
day of March 2026.



MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, CSR
License No. 084.002740