



Chicago Police Department 2026 Goals

Goal Topic #1: Strengthening Investigations – Public Awareness, Process, and Outcomes

Background

In October 2019, the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) released a report containing 89 recommendations to enhance the Department’s homicide investigation process. Since then, the Department has made progress in strengthening the Bureau of Detectives (BOD), including the re-opening of Areas 4 and 5, the redevelopment of the homicide team structure, the launch of the Family Liaison Office (FLO) Program, the creation of enhanced case management tools, and substantial investments in both digital forensics at the Area Technology Centers and physical forensics within the Department’s laboratories. The Department will continue to strengthen its investigations in 2026 through two objectives.

Objective #1A

In 2026, the Department will focus on expanding public awareness and understanding of the investigative process and on identifying clear, actionable ways for community members to actively support and assist in ongoing investigations.

Goal Topic #1	Strengthening Investigations – Public Awareness, Process, and Outcomes	
Objective #1A	Increase public awareness of the investigative process and create clear, accessible pathways for community to assist in solving cases and reporting crimes	
Inputs	Outputs	Outcomes
Develop and Publicize a Clearance Rates Dashboard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach Plan • Number of clicks on dashboard 	Public is more informed about how CPD captures, reports, and analyzes clearance rate data.
Provide clarity to the public on how clearance rate data is captured, reported, and calculated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to CPD’s Accountability Dashboard, include pop-up boxes, definitions, and descriptions explaining how clearance rate data is captured and 	

	calculated per the FBI's standard on the public dashboard.	
Continue the Crime Scene Investigator (CSI) series. <i>(CSI Series is an Area community engagement series hosted by BOD that shares information about how investigations work.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach Plan • Number of CSI sessions • Number of attendees at CSI 	Public is more informed about how investigations work.
Update the CPD's BOD webpage to include overview on investigative process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach Plan • Number of clicks on website 	
Update and improve CPD's website to provide clear ways in which the community can help with investigations and including ways in which a member of the public can report a crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status report on CPD's work to update and improve its current online reporting system • Outreach Plan • Updated web pages with increased number of clicks • Increased number of camera registrations • Increased number of tips submitted • Video watching increased 	<p>Public is more informed about how to assist in a case.</p> <p>Victims are better informed on how and where to report crimes.</p>
Develop collateral (e.g. palm cards, public information campaign, QR codes) with ways to assist with a case.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach Plan • Collateral Defined and Developed 	
Quarterly Milestones for Clearance Rates Dashboard and Data Reporting	Quarter 1	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide update on dashboard development. 	
	Quarter 2	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No deliverables this quarter 	

	<p>Quarter 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present beta dashboard to Commission.
	<p>Quarter 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish Dashboard.
<p>Quarterly Milestones for Continue the CSI Series</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop 2026 Plan for CSI Series.
	<p>Quarter 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execute CSI Series in Summer 2026.
	<p>Quarter 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execute CSI Series in Summer 2026.
	<p>Quarter 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No deliverables this quarter
<p>Quarterly Milestones for CPD website updates and improvements</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess current Bureau of Detectives webpage.
	<p>Quarter 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide status update on Bureau of Detectives webpage update and improvements.
	<p>Quarter 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make changes to Bureau of Detectives webpage, including an overview of the investigative process, ways the community can help with investigations, and ways the public can report a crime. • Inform the public of the changes and how to use the updated website.
	<p>Quarter 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No deliverables this quarter
<p>Quarterly Milestones for</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p>

Collateral Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess collateral needed.
	Quarter 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop collateral.
	Quarter 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribute collateral to Department and Community.
	Quarter 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No deliverables this quarter

Objective #1B

Forensic science plays a critical role in supporting investigations, prosecutions, and the pursuit of justice by providing objective, evidence-based analysis that ensures conclusions are grounded in factual, scientific findings.

Physical forensics is vital for analyzing tangible evidence—such as fingerprints and ballistics—to establish links between suspects, victims, and crime scenes, while digital forensics is increasingly critical for uncovering evidence from cellphones and videos that reveal patterns and timelines. To maintain the highest standards of reliability and accountability, the Department has submitted its application for forensic laboratory accreditation. Continued investment in both physical and digital forensics is essential to advancing investigative capabilities and ensuring that justice is supported by the most accurate and reliable scientific evidence available.

Goal Topic #1	Strengthening Investigations – Public Awareness, Process, and Outcomes	
Objective #1B	Strengthen forensic evidence collection, analysis, and storage	
Inputs	Outputs	Outcomes
Re-establish criminalist position.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create Criminalist I, II, III job title code. Post Criminalist title codes for hiring. 	Increased laboratory capacity.
Begin space assessment for collection, analysis, and storage of space.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scope and start space assessment. 	Established comprehensive space needs for next 5-10 years.



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<p><i>Note: Assessment to include forensics laboratories, evidence storage, and vehicle processing space.</i></p>		
<p>Increase Digital Forensics Capacity (Digital Forensics Training Center).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase digital forensics training. • Procure additional equipment. 	<p>Enhanced ability to recover, analyze, and interpret digital evidence.</p>
<p>Begin process to replace Electronic Recording of Interviews (ERI) system.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding and vendor established. • Equipment procured. 	<p>Better quality of audio and visual for recorded interviews.</p>
<p>Assess current laboratory processing times</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete baseline of laboratory processing times. 	<p>Ensure evidence is processed in a timely manner.</p>
<p>Quarterly Milestones for Re-establish criminalist position</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present proposal for criminalist position to key city stakeholders. 	
	<p>Quarter 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop job descriptions with Department of Human Resources (DHR). 	
	<p>Quarter 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure additional positions in the 2027 budget. 	
	<p>Quarter 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post for criminalist role and hire. 	
<p>Quarterly Milestones for Space Assessment</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write needs assessment memo. 	
	<p>Quarter 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure funding for assessment. 	
	<p>Quarter 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin assessment. 	



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	<p>Quarter 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete assessment.
<p>Quarterly Milestones for Digital Forensics Capacity</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure funding for additional training and equipment.
	<p>Quarter 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin procurement process for new equipment.
	<p>Quarter 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin additional training courses.
	<p>Quarter 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No deliverables this quarter
<p>Quarterly Milestones for Replacing Old Electronic Recording of Interviews (ERI) System</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft memo on Electronic Recording of Interviews (ERI) needs.
	<p>Quarter 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share memo with key stakeholders.
	<p>Quarter 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure funding.
	<p>Quarter 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin procurement process.
<p>Quarterly Milestones for Laboratory Processing Times Assessment</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No deliverables this quarter
	<p>Quarter 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess current laboratory processing times.
	<p>Quarter 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop report on processing times.
	<p>Quarter 4</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No deliverables this quarter
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Goal Topic #2: Community Policing - Building Community Trust

Background

In the 2024 Superintendent Goals, the Department undertook a review of community policing. This goal seeks two broad outcomes (1) a cultural shift to a more expansive approach to community policing for all police officers and (2) to develop a community policing plan. The Department engaged the Civic Consulting Alliance, CCA, to execute this assessment. The assessment involved multiple rounds of engagement and stages. This assessment and a series of recommendations will be published in Q1 2026.

A preview of the Community policing report recommendations include the following:

- ...a philosophy of policing – the way the Department does all its work with a particular focus on Patrol.
- ...a commitment to meet community where they are, engaging community members thoughtfully and strategically, and ensuring continuous feedback loops.
- ...an acknowledgement that we must build trust from the inside out. We must support our members so that they can support their communities
- ...in line with consent decree requirements, building on and doubling down on much that is underway by thinking of transformation work as interdependent and mutually reinforcing.

Some recommendations depend on the ongoing workforce allocation project. However, other recommendations are independent, and the Department will begin implementing them immediately.

Goal Topic #2	Community Policing - Building Community Trust	
Objective	Complete the community policing assessment and begin implementing model. Define and implement structures to ensure efficient coordination between CPD community policing and CCPSA.	
Inputs	Outputs	Outcomes
Establish a Working Group made up of CPD representatives from the Office of Community Policing, District Council Representatives, and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent working group meetings between CPD, the Commission, and the District Councilors. • Analysis of Community Policing Assessment 	CPD and CCPSA define and engage in effective collaboration in community policing.

<p>Commission Representatives.</p>	<p>and recommendations to ensure effective coordination with the Commission and the District Councilors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation plan to ensure effective community policing coordination with CCPSA. 	
<p>Quarterly Milestones</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPD identifies representatives for Working Group. • Establish the Working Group and determine the cadence of meetings for the rest of the year. 	
	<p>Quarter 2 Working Group meets at least [2] times to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the CPD, District Council, and Commission recommendations for collaboration with the Department’s community policing efforts. 	
	<p>Quarter 3 Working Group meets at least [2] times to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue discussing the recommendations from the Community Policing Assessment and identify which recommendations are priorities for collaboration. • Begin developing an implementation plan for the collaboration between community policing efforts, Commission and District Councilors. 	
	<p>Quarter 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue developing implementation plan for collaboration between community policing efforts, Commission, and District Councilors. • If ready, present and publish the recommendations and implementation plan for District Council and 	



	<p>Commission collaboration in CPD's community policing efforts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Begin developing co-trainings between District Councils and CPD Staff to implement collaboration between community policing structures and CCPSA.
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Goal Topic #3: Community Policing – Supporting CARE Implementation

Background

Many 911 calls, including some involving mental health crises, homelessness, or low-level disputes, do not require law enforcement officers and may be more effectively handled by specialized, non-violent, and community-based professionals. Cities around the country, including Chicago, are exploring and advancing ways that people other than police can respond as effectively.

Currently, Chicago is piloting a Crisis Assistance Response and Engagement Program (CARE). The CARE team works to ensure that Chicagoans experiencing a mental health crisis are assisted on-site by teams of behavioral health professionals and are offered resources to address additional unmet health and social needs. CARE is made up of Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) Mental Health Crisis Clinicians and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT). CDPH partners with the Office of Emergency Management and Communications to integrate behavioral health professionals into the City’s 911 response system.

CARE resources are focused on Chicago neighborhoods with the highest need for mental health resources in Police Districts 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 12, and 19. CPD remains a vital partner in the successful implementation of the CARE Program citywide.

Goal Topic #3	Community Policing – Supporting CARE Implementation	
Objective	CPD actively participates in the City's Crisis Assistance Response and Engagement (CARE) working groups and relevant meetings to ensure efficient collaboration.	
Inputs	Outputs	Outcomes
Consistent CPD staff participate in CARE and alternative-response discussions with City of Chicago departments and agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPD regularly attends relevant meetings • CPD provides necessary support and information to CARE program operations, based on interagency discussion and collaborative agreement. • CPD provides updated information to 	CPD supports CARE processes in conjunction with interagency partners to provide continuity, dedicated capacity, and full-system understanding.

	<p>department members on how and when to access CARE.</p>	
<p>Quarterly Milestones</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify CPD staff designated to participate in CARE discussions with City of Chicago departments and agencies. • CPD attendance and staffing at CARE meetings. 	
	<p>Quarter 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPD attendance and staffing at CARE meetings. 	
	<p>Quarter 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPD attendance and staffing at CARE meetings. • Meeting between Work Group Commissioners and CPD CARE Attendees to discuss successes and challenges of the CARE Program. 	
	<p>Quarter 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPD attendance and staffing at CARE meetings. • End of year summary identifying recommendations for improved collaboration in 2027. 	



Goal Topic #4: Understanding and Addressing Use of Force and Firearm Pointing Increases

Background:

At a November 2025 hearing on the City’s progress complying with the consent decree, the Office of the Attorney General stated that the use of deadly force has increased from 2022 to 2024 and that CPD is pointing firearms at community members more often. In the Tactical Review and Evaluation Division’s (TRED) 2025 Mid-Year Report, the Department noted a 12% increase in the number of reports completed by officers for use of force incidents completed in the first half of 2025 and an increase in firearm pointing incident reports completed during that same time.

The OAG’s office further stated that the third community survey conducted by the Independent Monitoring team on the City’s consent decree progress found the number of Chicagoans who said CPD officers were doing a good job de-escalating tense situations dropped 10% between 2022 and 2024.

Community members, stakeholders, and the Coalition have all voiced concerns and questions about what has caused the increase in use of force and firearm reporting found in CPD’s dashboards and public reports. Part of the Police Department’s consent decree obligation is to review its data on use of force and identify and address trends in that data by recommending changes to policy, training, tactics, equipment, or Department practice.

As CPD continues its consent decree work and publicly reports on the data, it is imperative that CPD provide community members with an understanding and explanation of why these increases have been occurring and what, if anything, the Department is doing to identify and address any trends. This transparency and education are vital to improve the community’s understanding of CPD officers’ use of force and, therefore, essential to improving community trust in policing.

Goal Topic #4	Understanding and Addressing Use of Force and Firearm Pointing Increases	
Objective	CPD will analyze and publicly report on the factors contributing to the increase in reported uses of force and firearm pointing incidents.	
Inputs	Outputs	Outcomes

<p>Conduct an analysis of Use of Force and Firearm Pointing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish a report on the analysis of Use of Force and Firearm Pointing. 	<p>The Department and public have a clear understanding of the reasons underlying increases in uses of force and firearm pointing.</p> <p>Increased transparency and public awareness about use of force and firearm pointing.</p>
<p>Quarterly Milestones for Analysis of reasons for increases in reported use of force and firearm pointing</p>	<p>Quarter 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide update on methods of analysis. 	
	<p>Quarter 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide update on analysis. 	
	<p>Quarter 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide update on analysis. 	
	<p>Quarter 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete analysis and publish publicly. 	