

COMMUNITY COMMISSION for PUBLIC SAFETY and  
ACCOUNTABILITY  
PUBLIC MEETING  
Thursday, June 26, 2025, 6:30 p.m.  
Copernicus Center  
5216 West Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

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APPEARANCES:

President Anthony Driver  
Vice President Remel Terry  
Commissioner Aaron Gottlieb  
Commissioner Sandra Wortham  
Commissioner Abierre Minor  
Commissioner Rubi Navarijo  
Commissioner Gina Piemonte  
Executive Director Adam Gross

1           PRESIDENT DRIVER: We apologize for the  
2 delay. The June 26th meeting of the Community  
3 Commission of Public Safety and Accountability is  
4 called to order at 6:45 p.m. We will begin by  
5 calling the roll to establish a quorum.

6           Commissioner Gottlieb.

7           COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Present.

8           PRESIDENT DRIVER: Commissioner Driver is  
9 present. Commissioner Minor.

10          COMMISSIONER MINOR: Present.

11          PRESIDENT DRIVER: Commissioner Piemonte.  
12 Commission Rubi Navarijo.

13          COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Present.

14          PRESIDENT DRIVER: Commissioner Terry.  
15 Commissioner Wortham.

16                       With 4 out of 7 members of the  
17 Community Commission of Public Safety and  
18 Accountability present, we have a quorum and can  
19 conduct the Commission's business.

20                      The next item of business is public  
21 comment. If you would like to share something  
22 related to the Commission's work on public safety  
23 and accountability, you have a few options. You  
24 can speak at a public meeting. You can also

1 submit public comment in writing by emailing it  
2 to CommunityCommissionPublicComment.org, or you  
3 can bring a copy of your comments to one of the  
4 public meetings and give it to someone on the  
5 Commission or someone on the Commission staff.

6 People who wanted to speak on  
7 public comment tonight were asked to submit their  
8 names in writing earlier. Names have been drawn  
9 at random by members of the Commission staff.  
10 Speakers will be called in the order in which  
11 their names were drawn. If your name is called  
12 to offer public comment, we ask you approach the  
13 microphone and line up in the order in which your  
14 name is called. When it is your turn to speak,  
15 say your name and spell your name for the record  
16 and offer comments.

17 Each speaker will have two minutes.  
18 We have allotted a total of 20 minutes for public  
19 comment.

20 Our first speaker is Sully  
21 Peterson-Quinn. Who will be -- I don't want to  
22 butcher your name. S. Gronkiewicz-Doran. And  
23 the third, and I believe maybe final speaker, is  
24 Mike Pavilon.

1           MR. PETERSON-QUINN: Good evening,  
2           Commissioners. My name is Sully Peterson-Quinn.  
3           I'm a resident of Chicago's west side, and I'm  
4           with the Grass Roots Alliance for Police  
5           Accountability for the GAPA Coalition.

6                       The GAPA Coalition is a diverse  
7           Chicago-based coalition unit made by common  
8           demand for safer neighborhoods through equitable  
9           and just policing practices.

10                      We were formed in 2021 and worked  
11           as part of the ETS Coalition to draft the  
12           language with the ordinance that created the  
13           Creative Planning Commission.

14                      In addition to the policy  
15           objectives that the CCPSA Commission has already  
16           expressed support for reforming in regards to  
17           low-level non-public safety-related traffic  
18           violations and vehicle consent searches, the GAPA  
19           Coalition believes it is essential to include a  
20           ban on pretextual -- on pretext as an excuse for  
21           traffic stops as part of the CCPSA's negotiating  
22           position with Consent Decree partners.

23                      A ban on pretextual traffic stops  
24           needs to be clearly outlined in any proposal that

1 intends to meaningfully address the concerns of  
2 our community partners.

3           Pretextual traffic stops are racist  
4 and damage trust between the police and  
5 community.

6           They are expensive, inefficient,  
7 and study after study have demonstrated they do  
8 not meaningful improve public safety, but they do  
9 impact emergency response times to real public  
10 safety threats by diverting CPD's finite  
11 resources towards low-level traffic enforcement.

12           The CCPSA has the opportunity to  
13 lead these negotiations in the strongest possible  
14 starting position.

15           We hope to work with you in the  
16 months ahead as partners in our advocacy for a  
17 better system of policing in the City, one that  
18 strengthens trust and protects our neighbors.

19           Thank you for your time and thank  
20 you for your service to the City.

21           PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you.

22           MS. GRONKIEWICZ-DORAN: Hi. My name is S.  
23 Gronkiewicz-Doran. You got it perfectly. I live  
24 two blocks from here, and I'm addressing my

1       remarks to Chief Novalez and also to Commander  
2       Hanrahan. And I do want to start by saying that  
3       I know there are a lot of people in the City who  
4       are in pain right now and grieving, and that  
5       there is specific grief in this room for the loss  
6       of Officer Kristal Rivera who is a neighbor of  
7       this neighborhood. My condolences go out to you  
8       and to everyone grieving her.

9                       But the goal of my remarks tonight  
10       is about a different cause of grief, which is  
11       that I want to make a request to all of you to  
12       stand with us and with your neighbors and the  
13       members of the communities against the federal  
14       law enforcement officers who are coming here to  
15       kidnap our people.

16                      And I understand that you're going  
17       to view these agents as your colleagues in law  
18       enforcement and give them the benefit of the  
19       doubt, but they have been sent here to Chicago on  
20       an evil mission, to capture as many people as  
21       they can without regard to our laws or our  
22       safety.

23                      In the first six months of this  
24       administration, they have been kidnapping U.S.

1 citizens. They kidnapped fathers and mothers and  
2 innocent people trying to build a life.

3 I understand that the CPD is bound  
4 by the Sanctuary City law and will not help, but  
5 we need more than that.

6 We need for you to do more than not  
7 stop these people, as they are coming into our  
8 communities in masks, in unmarked vans and taking  
9 our people away.

10 Some day, Trump will no longer be  
11 the president. This regime will be over, and  
12 there will be people who have lives in Chicago  
13 who have been ripped away, and it is -- I'm not  
14 asking an easy thing. I am asking all of you to  
15 think about what you will feel on that day and  
16 which side of that fight you want to be. And I  
17 ask you all to choose all of us and your  
18 neighbors here in Chicago and help us protect our  
19 people. Thank you.

20 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you. Mike.

21 MR. PAVILON: My name is Mike Pavilon. P, as  
22 in Paul, A-V, as in Victor, I-L-O-N.

23 Mike Pavilon. I've been covering  
24 the 17th, the 19th, and the 20th Police Councils

1     for about 18 months, and one thing has jumped out  
2     at me among others. Who best communicates with  
3     communities? Is it the police officer who tries  
4     to build trust, or is it the community members  
5     who already live there, and they have the guts to  
6     go out from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., or whatever  
7     they choose, in order to get to know the  
8     community better, and they are sometimes called  
9     peace givers. Sometimes they're called violence  
10    stoppers, and sometimes called just mentors who  
11    happen to be on the street.

12                 There's a lot of evidence out there  
13    that I found in the last 18 months where the  
14    University of Chicago crime lab, PVS, on Channel  
15    11 did a documentary that was excellent  
16    approximately three months ago. And the  
17    Sun-Times did a full front page, third page, expo  
18    of how well it was going with the mentors and the  
19    community members, as opposed to the police who  
20    it's more difficult to gain trust because of  
21    their uniforms, because they're cops, period.

22                 So that seems to be an issue that is  
23    going to have to be worked out after the  
24    allocation.



1           There's a lot of evidence regarding  
2     that. And the police officers or cops are better  
3     used if they don't know the community already to  
4     go to parks, to go to schools, to go to  
5     recreation spots, to go to churches like with  
6     Father Pfleger, who's always asking for some kind  
7     of help, and that's where it's best for them to  
8     start.

9           I don't know if that's going to  
10    create a conflict. I hope not. Or if it's going  
11    to be settled somehow that the community has the  
12    strength and the trust already at a higher degree  
13    than your average police officer.

14          Parks are an issue also. And I've  
15    got to add on the second -- 30 seconds. Winnemac  
16    Park. Winnemac Park is on the north side, and I  
17    figured, you know, there's a big celebration on  
18    July 4th, and there was last year where over 2000  
19    people came to it. No fireworks. No fireworks  
20    there. That's the first I've heard in the City  
21    of Chicago; however, I thought what's going to be  
22    relevant for this particular meeting. So I did  
23    some artificial intelligence research. There  
24    have been no -- there have been no violent -- we

1 call them an entity or call it a violent -- what  
2 do you call when you assault somebody, and they  
3 get hurt or there's a gunshot, there have been no  
4 events like that in ten years in Winnemac Park  
5 that have been reported. No incidents like that  
6 in ten years. That's pretty damn good for a  
7 park.

8 That's July 4th, and it's happening  
9 again this year, and you are certainly invited to  
10 see that particular, very unique park. And I  
11 made it.

12 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you. This concludes  
13 our public comment period. We're grateful to all  
14 the speakers who offered their comments today.

15 Commissioners Terry and Wortham are  
16 now present for purposes of quorum. The next  
17 order of business is approval of the minutes.

18 Before today's meeting, draft  
19 minutes of the Commission's regular meeting held  
20 on May 29 were shared with all Commissioners.

21 Are there any corrections to the  
22 draft minutes that have been circulated? Hearing  
23 none, I now move to approve the minutes. Do I  
24 have a second?

1           VICE PRESIDENT TERRY:   So moved.

2           PRESIDENT TERRY:   I moved, and it's been  
3           seconded by Commissioner Terry that the minutes  
4           from the May 29 meeting be approved.   Is there  
5           any debate on the motion?   Hearing none, we will  
6           now move to a vote.   Those in favor, signify by  
7           saying aye.

8                               (CHORUS OF AYES.)

9           PRESIDENT DRIVER:   Any opposed?

10                              (NO RESPONSE.)

11          PRESIDENT DRIVER:   The ayes have it, and the  
12          motion carries.

13                              Commissioner Wortham is abstaining.  
14          The ayes have it, and the motion passes.

15                              The minutes of the May 29 meeting  
16          are now approved.

17                              The next order of new business.  
18          The next item is the approval of a series of  
19          closed meetings.

20                              Section 2(C)(3) of the Illinois  
21          Open Meetings Act allows the Commission to meet  
22          in closed session to consider the following  
23          subject.   The selection of a person to fill a  
24          public office as defined in this act, including

1 the vacancy of a public office when the public  
2 body is given the power to appoint under lawful  
3 ordinance or the discipline, performance, or  
4 removal of the occupant of public office when the  
5 public body is given the power to remove the  
6 occupant under law or ordinance.

7 Section 2(A) of the Act authorizes  
8 the Commission to take a vote or hold a series of  
9 meetings over a course of not more than three  
10 months from today and only for the purpose cited  
11 under Section 2(C) (3) .

12 Over the next few months, the  
13 Commission may need to meet in closed session for  
14 reasons that are allowed under the Open Meetings  
15 Act, including discussions about appointments to  
16 fill the vacancy.

17 I now move to hold a series of  
18 closed meetings to take place for the maximum  
19 period allowable as authorized under Section  
20 2(C) (3) of the Open Meetings Act. Is there a  
21 second?

22 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Second.

23 PRESIDENT DRIVER: I've moved, and it's been  
24 seconded by Commissioner Terry, to hold a series

1 of closed meetings to take place for the maximum  
2 period allowable as authorized by Section 2(C) (3)  
3 of the Open Meetings Act.

4 Is there any debate on the motion?  
5 Hearing none, we will move to a vote. Those in  
6 favor, signify by saying aye.

7 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

8 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Any nays?

9 (NO RESPONSE.)

10 PRESIDENT DRIVER: The ayes have it, and the  
11 motion carries.

12 The Commission is now authorized to  
13 hold a series of closed meetings to take place  
14 for the maximum time period allowable as  
15 authorized by Section 2(C) (3) of the Open  
16 Meetings Act.

17 As we enter the summer, it is  
18 important that the City knows what, if any, plans  
19 the Department and the Mayor have for keeping  
20 Chicago safe.

21 CCPSA was made aware of a summer  
22 safety plan that the Department and Mayor's  
23 Office have developed, and they are here today  
24 to present this plan. To present, I'd like to

1 call on -- sorry. We're going to actually switch  
2 the order. The person who was here to present  
3 from the Mayor's Office is actually running late.  
4 So we're going to move on to a presentation from  
5 the Chicago Police Department regarding their  
6 First Amendment policies and their policies  
7 related to federal immigration and custom  
8 enforcement activities in Chicago.

9 To present that, I'd like to call on  
10 Chief Angel Novalez.

11 CHIEF NOVALEZ: Before I start, I want to  
12 thank the Commission for giving me the  
13 opportunity to come and -- come here and be with  
14 you guys today and talk this very important  
15 policy.

16 I also want to acknowledge that we  
17 have our immigrant and refugee liaison here  
18 today. We have a table out in front which has  
19 information on this policy. It's in multiple  
20 languages, and we will continue to make sure that  
21 we share that with the public. So thank you very  
22 much, Commissioners, for being here.

23 So my name is Angel Novalez. I am  
24 a chief with the Chicago Police Department

1     formerly working on the Consent Decree, now  
2     working on our CAPS project.

3                 So what I wanted to do today is  
4     first start, and rightfully so after the last  
5     comment, to begin by acknowledging concern that  
6     our community members have when it comes to  
7     immigration enforcement.

8                 I want to start by saying --  
9     strongly saying that Chicago's Police Department  
10    has and will always comply with the City of  
11    Chicago's Welcoming City Ordinance.

12                The Chicago Police Department, and  
13    I say this strongly, does not work with,  
14    collaborate, or enforce immigration laws.

15                Community safety and building  
16    community trust is our priority. And the reason  
17    I say that is because participation between  
18    communities and the police is very important.

19                So participation, collaboration,  
20    once again I'm going to say it again, is  
21    incredibly important.

22                We've worked very hard to build and  
23    improve those relationships with our communities.

24                We do not want to see those

1 relationships erode. We don't want our  
2 communities to be afraid to report crimes, to  
3 come forward as witnesses, and to continue to  
4 participate in community engagements.

5 Community participation and  
6 information sharing between communities and the  
7 Chicago Police Department are key factors in  
8 decreasing crime and removing violent offenders,  
9 dangerous drugs, and guns off the street.

10 It's that collaboration between  
11 community and police participation, and because  
12 of it we have been able to make the communities  
13 safer, and we benefit from this cooperation by  
14 decreasing homicides 32.3 percent, shootings 39.6  
15 percent. Shooting victims have decreased 41.1.2  
16 percent. Robberies 33.6 percent. Motor vehicle  
17 thefts 28.7 percent, and vehicular hijackings by  
18 50.22 percent.

19 This is why community engagement,  
20 community involvement is important to us as a  
21 department.

22 So what I wanted to do is show the  
23 slide that's up there with that QR code. If you  
24 click on that QR code, it will take you to the



1 immigrant, migrant, and refugee community's  
2 website where you can find our policies and  
3 related information as it relates to Chicago's  
4 involvement and resources that may be available  
5 for folks that are in this position.

6 So to better inform our public,  
7 what I wanted to share with you today is, one, a  
8 strong committed to adhering to Welcoming City  
9 Ordinance and provide a high-level overview on  
10 our policy.

11 Our policy was drafted in line and  
12 in support of a welcoming City ordinance, as well  
13 as related laws.

14 So for the sake of time, what I'm  
15 going to do and to make it easier and make it  
16 more digestible, I'm going to break it down into  
17 do's and don'ts within our Department. With that  
18 I begin with the do's, what the Department will  
19 do in these instances. One, Department members  
20 will provide police service to all people in the  
21 City of Chicago, regardless of their citizenship  
22 or immigration status.

23 The Department will cooperate with  
24 those who report crimes, regardless of whether

1 such report is made by a witness or a victim, and  
2 regardless of the citizenship or nation of origin  
3 of that reporter.

4 When presenting an -- when  
5 presentation of an Illinois driver's license or  
6 identification card is acceptable, adequate  
7 evidence of identity, presentation of a photo  
8 identification document issued by a person's  
9 nation of origin, such as a driver's license,  
10 passport, matricola will be accepted, and the  
11 subject will not be subject to higher levels of  
12 scrutiny or different treatment.

13 Upon receiving a request -- and this  
14 is incredibly important, and I talk about this  
15 because it goes back to that participation with  
16 police. Upon receiving a request for completion  
17 of law enforcement certification form statement  
18 required by federal immigration law that  
19 certifies that a person is a victim of criminal  
20 activity, the Department members will follow the  
21 procedures delineated in our policy on T Visas  
22 and U Visas. And that is at the request of the  
23 individual that wants us to complete that  
24 certification form, and that's so they reap the

1       benefits of those U Visas and T Visas. We do not  
2       want to hinder them.

3                       Now I am going to move on to the  
4       don'ts. Those are the things that are very  
5       important to the folks out here and folks in the  
6       community.

7                       Department members will not utilize  
8       threats of deportation or engage in any verbal  
9       abuse of any person based upon the person's or  
10      the person's family members' actual or perceived  
11      citizenship or immigration status.

12                      Department members will not  
13      participate in any civil immigration enforcement  
14      operation or assist the civil enforcement of  
15      federal immigration laws. We will not enforce  
16      immigration laws. The only exception to this is  
17      this does not preclude Department members from  
18      responding and taking police action should a  
19      contemporaneous public safety concern arises. If  
20      there is a hazard that is created, if there is a  
21      demonstration, and there are folks out in the  
22      street, we will conduct traffic control because  
23      we do not want to see anybody participating get  
24      injured.

1           An example of that I'm going to  
2     reference the news report when an individual  
3     drove through a crowd of protestors downtown. We  
4     do not want to see that happen.

5           Further, the Department will not  
6     enter into any agreement under Subsection 1357(G)  
7     of Title VIII of the United States Code or any  
8     provision of federal law that permits state or  
9     local government entities to enforce federal  
10    civil immigration law.

11          The Department will not enter or  
12    renew any agreement providing direct access to  
13    any electronic database or database-sharing  
14    platform maintained by the Department or  
15    otherwise provide direct access to such database  
16    to any federal agencies if the Department  
17    determines that it's being used for the purpose  
18    of enforcement of civil immigration law.

19          Department members will not stop,  
20    arrest, or continue to detain a person solely on  
21    the belief that that person has committed a civil  
22    immigration violation or is not legally present  
23    in the United States.

24          We do not enforce immigration law.

1     Based upon an administrative warrant or based on  
2     an immigration retainer, we will not detain those  
3     individuals, and we will not detain them further.  
4     We will not prolong a detainment because of that.

5             Department members will not permit  
6     immigration agents access to persons detained by  
7     or in custody the Department or the Department  
8     members, including by telephone.

9             We will not permit immigration  
10    agencies to use our facilities for investigative  
11    interviews or other investigative purposes.

12            We will not spend time responding to  
13    any immigration agencies' inquiries or  
14    communication with -- or communication with an  
15    immigration agency regarding an individual's time  
16    in custody, release date, or contact information.

17            Once again, the only time that we  
18    would release anything like that is at the  
19    request of the individual for the purpose of the  
20    form so they are eligible for a T or U Visa.

21            Our Department will not transfer any  
22    person into the custody of ICE for the sole  
23    purpose of civil immigration enforcement.

24            We will not request, maintain, or

1     share citizen or immigration status of any person  
2     unless that disclosure comes authorized in  
3     writing from that individual. And, once again,  
4     that's for the purpose of T and U Visas.

5                 So the Department will not set  
6     traffic perimeters. They will not provide  
7     on-site support to citizen immigration  
8     enforcement in any immigration enforcement  
9     operation.

10                Once again, it does not preclude  
11     Department members from responding and taking  
12     police action during contemporaneous public  
13     safety concerns.

14                Once again, I refer back to the  
15     initial statement of what happened on -- during  
16     the protest when the individual drove through the  
17     protest.

18                Now one of the things I wanted to  
19     touch on, and I know it is incredibly confusing  
20     for the community members because we all wear  
21     uniforms. Right? I can't comment on what the  
22     policy is that the federal government has put in  
23     place in regards to individuals not being  
24     identifiable or wearing masks, but what I can

1 tell you is that the Chicago Police Department  
2 requires our officers to have their name tags  
3 affixed to their uniforms, their police star  
4 visible, their star number unobstructed and not  
5 wearing a mask. Also, while on field duties, our  
6 officers are required to have a body-worn camera.

7 We are proud of our Department's  
8 relationship with our communities, and I am going  
9 to say this again, we do not want to erode that.

10 So, as always, if you have an  
11 encounter with the Chicago Police Department  
12 where you feel that it was a violation of this or  
13 any other policy, the avenue is to file a  
14 complaint through the Civilian Office of Police  
15 Accountability, or COPA, or request a supervisor  
16 to respond on the scene to generate that  
17 complaint log.

18 Also, you can lodge a complaint  
19 online.

20 The question that I get a lot is  
21 complaints pertaining to federal agencies should  
22 be directed to the encountered agency or reach  
23 out to your local corresponding consulate office  
24 that would help you navigate through that

1 process.

2 I want to end my saying this. The  
3 Chicago Police Department -- and I'm going to say  
4 this again -- will always comply with the City of  
5 Chicago's Welcome City ordinances. The Chicago  
6 Police Department does not work with,  
7 collaborate, or enforce immigration laws.

8 Thank you very much, and if the  
9 group has any questions.

10 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, Chief. Are  
11 there any questions from Commissioners?

12 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: I have a  
13 question.

14 Hello, Chief. It's a pleasure to  
15 meet you, and thank you for coming here today to  
16 clarify the Department's responsibility and role  
17 in maintaining public safety in Chicago.

18 You mentioned a couple of incidents  
19 where public safety came of mind.

20 I wanted to ask you about the  
21 incident involving ICE agents and a couple of  
22 members of City Council, as well a crowd outside  
23 of a south loop office.

24 You mentioned that CPD does not



1     assist with perimeters or barricades or anything  
2     like that for ICE enforcement activities. Did I  
3     hear that correctly?

4             CHIEF NOVALEZ: That is correct. The only  
5     caveat, there is a contemporaneous public safety  
6     issue.

7                     What you're talking about is the  
8     incident that occurred in the 2200 block of South  
9     Michigan. There were two calls for assist a  
10    fellow officer which initiated that response.  
11    And officers arrived without knowledge of  
12    immigration enforcement occurring at that  
13    location.

14                    Immigration does not share with us  
15    where they're operating, where they're conducting  
16    their investigations or where they're going to  
17    collect folks.

18                    So we were unaware that's what they  
19    were responding to.

20                    CPD was on-site to ensure that all  
21    the folks that were there, that there was safety  
22    involved. And as that demonstration poured onto  
23    the street, we felt it important for the safety  
24    of everybody involved that we block traffic.

1                   It was raining out. We wanted to  
2                   make sure that no one was hurt, but we were not  
3                   there to assist or enforce any kind of  
4                   immigration law.

5                   COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you for  
6                   clarifying that.

7                   I have a couple more questions. In  
8                   regards to -- I seen in Philadelphia somebody  
9                   impersonated a federal enforcement agent, and  
10                  that's deeply troubling.

11                  If and when a complaint ever comes  
12                  to the CPD about people impersonating a law  
13                  enforcement concerning the immigration, who at  
14                  CPD would investigate something like that?

15                  CHIEF NOVALEZ: Well, at any time where a law  
16                  enforcement officer shows up at you house, and  
17                  you are unable to identify who that individual  
18                  is, you call CPD to respond to attempt to verify  
19                  the identification of that individual.

20                  Once again, we are not there to  
21                  enforce if they are a legitimate agency, to  
22                  assist them in enforcing that.

23                  We understand people out there are  
24                  afraid and they are unsure. And if it would help

1 calling us to go out there to verify, the best  
2 that we possibly can, that they are a legitimate  
3 agency, they can call us.

4 As far as filing a complaint, if  
5 there is a determination what that is, or if you  
6 believe it might have been a police impersonator,  
7 when it comes to a police impersonator, please  
8 lodge a complaint with COPA, and COPA will  
9 investigate that.

10 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: In terms of data  
11 sharing, I was also reading in different  
12 municipalities, county and states about data  
13 sharing with licence plate readers. Have we  
14 heard that concern with the Chicago Police  
15 Department sharing license reader data? Can you  
16 just clarify again and repeat again what the data  
17 sharing aspect looks like?

18 CHIEF NOVALEZ: Yes. I'll refer back to my  
19 initial statement. I'm unaware of any instances  
20 where sharing license plate information. So that  
21 is something that I can give you a response --  
22 submit a response to the Commission for.

23 But like I said earlier, that we do  
24 not share the use of our databases, access to our

1 databases, to federal agencies for the purpose of  
2 enforcing immigration law.

3 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you, Chief  
4 Novalez. I have a lot more questions, but I want  
5 to yield some time to my other Commissioners.

6 I want to thank your team for being  
7 readily available when we needed information to  
8 share that with stakeholders across the City  
9 about CPD policy.

10 So I'm going to thank you on that,  
11 and I sincerely hope the entire office is doing  
12 its work. I think it's three officers. I spoke  
13 with two officers.

14 CHIEF NOVALEZ: Yes. We have three officers  
15 in the main office, but every district office has  
16 an Affinity Officer whose job it is to work with  
17 marginalized communities to help increase the  
18 participation with the Chicago Police Department,  
19 as well as any information that they may need,  
20 our liaisons at the headquarters to get out to  
21 members of the community.

22 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Any there other questions  
23 from any other Commissioners?

24 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: So, Chief Novalez,

1     thank you so much for being here. I really  
2     appreciate it.

3                     I know there are people who are  
4     concerned about kind of these issues. I think  
5     it's really great. Thank you to help provide  
6     some clarification.

7                     I had a question about -- I think  
8     about two weeks ago, there was an article in the  
9     Chicago Sun-Times that mentioned there were at  
10    least some instances where records had been  
11    shared with federal enforcement -- or with ICE.  
12    So I was just curious about like what  
13    circumstances are you able to -- will you -- does  
14    CPD share records and like what are those  
15    parameters?

16                    CHIEF NOVALEZ: When it comes to immigration  
17    enforcement, we do not share records.

18                    COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: So I'm not -- okay.  
19    Nothing about immigration enforcement, but are  
20    there -- okay. I guess the way it was worded was  
21    that there were like some -- some records that  
22    were shared. Maybe not specific to immigration  
23    but they were specific to immigrants. So I guess  
24    I'm just curious. So just if it's an issue

1 specific to immigration, you won't share the  
2 records, but if it is an issue to something else,  
3 CPD might share the records?

4 CHIEF NOVALEZ: So, actually, if I can get  
5 back to you with a response, I can send it to the  
6 Commission, because I guess I'm not familiar with  
7 that. It's not something I would know offhand.

8 I know that when it comes to  
9 immigration enforcement, we do not share  
10 information. Now the Chicago Police Department  
11 does have a federal joint task forces, and they  
12 are scoped specifically.

13 For example, if the -- our Bureau  
14 of Counterterrorism is working with the DEA, they  
15 will -- the focus will be strictly on narcotics.  
16 They are working with ATF, it is strictly on  
17 illegal guns. It is not for immigration  
18 enforcement. And even if we believed that it was  
19 immigration enforcement, we would not share.

20 COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Thank you for that  
21 clarification.

22 COMMISSIONER MINOR: I also would love to  
23 learn more about the Affinity Officers. Can you  
24 tell us about the scope of work and how can

1 community members learn more about them?

2 CHIEF NOVALEZ: Absolutely. One, I'll answer  
3 the first -- I'll break it up into two, but I'll  
4 answer the latter first.

5 So our Affinity Officers -- at any  
6 time you want any information on the Affinity  
7 Office, feel free to call our office. I will  
8 give you my contact information and our deputy  
9 director. They will be more than happy to walk  
10 you through what that program was.

11 Now the Affinity Officer was a  
12 position that was created. It is in the Consent  
13 Decree.

14 The idea behind the Affinity Office  
15 was to have someone in districts to seek out  
16 communities that are in the fringes; that don't  
17 necessarily have a good relationship with the  
18 police, or they're forgotten communities, let's  
19 say, for lack of a better term, and those folks  
20 deserve the same kind of law enforcement service  
21 that everybody else does, whether it's to build  
22 relationships with them, to bring them into the  
23 fold, to ensure that they are provided police  
24 service, whether they are to be provided

1 resources to help them out. We wanted to have  
2 someone in every district tasked with that.

3 Now, the reason we put them in  
4 every district is because every district is  
5 unique, and the needs for every district are  
6 different.

7 They are guided by the main office,  
8 and we will have other liaisons, LGBTQ liaison,  
9 unhoused liaisons, immigrant and refugee liaisons  
10 to provide that knowledge and support whatever it  
11 is that they're dealing within the districts.

12 COMMISSIONER MINOR: And what level of  
13 collaboration does the Affinity Officers have  
14 with the Victim Services Office?

15 CHIEF NOVALEZ: They have very, very close  
16 relationships with them.

17 So now we have our crime victims  
18 advocates. We have our domestic violence  
19 advocates. And depending on what is the need of  
20 the individuals encountered by those Affinity  
21 Officers, they will reach back and collaborate to  
22 attempt to address that issue based on those  
23 scopes, whether it's domestic violence or crime  
24 victims advocates, whether it's need for help



1 with the unhoused, they will reach back, and they  
2 will collaborate.

3 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Thank you so much. And  
4 I really thank you for your commitment and the  
5 Department's commitment to continuing to enforce  
6 the ordinance. Thank you.

7 CHIEF NOVALEZ: Thank you.

8 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, Chief.  
9 Appreciate you.

10 So now we will go back to the  
11 Mayor's Office. As we enter the summer, it's  
12 important that the City knows what, if any, plans  
13 the Department and Mayor have to keep the City of  
14 Chicago safe.

15 CCPSA was made aware of a summer  
16 safety plan that the Department and the Mayor's  
17 Office have developed, and they are here today to  
18 present this plan.

19 To present on this, I'd like to  
20 call Manuel Whitfield who I was told is here now.

21 MR. WHITFIELD: How is everyone doing today?

22 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Sorry, I didn't hear you.  
23 I apologize. We're good to go. We're waiting on  
24 you.

1           MR. WHITFIELD: Are we supposed to answer  
2 questions?

3           PRESIDENT DRIVER: There was a presentation.  
4 Is there no presentation? You don't have a  
5 presentation?

6           MR. WHITFIELD: No, we don't.

7           PRESIDENT DRIVER: Can you tell us a little  
8 bit about the Summer Safety Plan?

9           MR. WHITFIELD: We can just go through  
10 questions. We can roll them off, and we can  
11 answer those.

12                         Sorry for the delay. A lot of  
13 traffic for us getting over here, coming from  
14 downtown.

15                         My name is Manuel Whitfield. You  
16 can call me Manny. I'm the Director of Community  
17 Safety for the Mayor's Office of Community  
18 Safety.

19           MR. SANFORD: Hi, everybody. Jason Sanford.  
20 Also, I'm First Deputy of the Mayor's Office of  
21 Community Safety. Nice to meet you.

22           MR. WHITFIELD: So our summer safety strategy  
23 is -- the foundation of it is the People's Plan  
24 for Community Safety.

1                   For those who are looking to  
2 actually view this People's Plan for Community  
3 Safety, you can go to Google and type in People's  
4 Plan for Community Safety, City of Chicago, and  
5 it will come right up.

6                   It is designed and based off a  
7 quality-of-life plan that many neighborhoods have  
8 created. We model it after that. So it's 9  
9 pillars and 18 initiatives. Those 9 pillars are  
10 essentially the foundation to how we are trying  
11 to address some of the root causes of violence.

12                  I will say, looking at the People's  
13 Plan for Community Safety, it is a plan that  
14 addresses operational barriers that have  
15 prohibited individuals in the City of Chicago  
16 from accessing different City services and  
17 resources. The real purpose of the goal is  
18 to kind of navigate and remove a lot of those  
19 barriers. Violence is an interdisciplinary  
20 topic, so you can't talk about violence without  
21 talking about things like education, housing,  
22 adults of highest promise, youths of highest  
23 promise. Also food insecurity, all of these  
24 different elements.

1                   So, essentially, our strategy at  
2                   the foundation of it is based off of that.

3                   We do understand that this is a  
4                   layering approach. So in addition to the  
5                   People's Plan for Community Safety, we meet with  
6                   the Mayor's Office Academy once a month. For  
7                   those of you who don't know what the Mayor's  
8                   Office Academy is, the Mayor's Office Academy is  
9                   a combination of all departments and agency heads  
10                  that come to the Mayor's Office, and what we do  
11                  is we essentially discuss different strategies  
12                  and implementation that happens across the City.

13                  One thing that we had our differing  
14                  department agencies do last year, and we continue  
15                  that this year, was we developed summer safety  
16                  tool kits. So we essentially set them up with a  
17                  template that broke down what their preventive  
18                  strategies was and what their rapid-response  
19                  strategy was.

20                  This was essentially with the  
21                  intent of figuring out how we can figure out how  
22                  each of our departments and agencies essentially  
23                  focus on safety.

24                  In addition to that, we rolled out

1 a series of other initiatives, for example, Take  
2 Back the Block. Many of you may have seen media  
3 around that. Essentially, what we do is we  
4 partner with departments and agencies, and we go  
5 to some of our blocks that are of highest  
6 promise. When I'm using the language highest  
7 promise, it's because we try to be really  
8 intentional to not call neighborhoods and people  
9 at risk. We want to make sure we're recognizing  
10 people as assets and not liabilities.

11 So Take Back the Block, we did six  
12 of those activations last year in which we  
13 brought the full force of government to these  
14 blocks. It is essentially a huge block party  
15 where individuals from that block get to interact  
16 and ask questions of different departments that  
17 agencies have access to services.

18 We have had video game trucks there.  
19 We had bouncy houses. We really want it to be a  
20 fun theme for people to engage in, but also an  
21 opportunity for us to survey that area and figure  
22 out what different infrastructure needs have not  
23 been addressed, have been long-standing, and we  
24 are happy to address those needs, particularly in

1     that time.

2                     When we do any of our Take Black  
3     the Blocks, we partner with the community-based  
4     organizations that's within the area to get the  
5     word out. We also partner with aldermanic  
6     offices. Anybody that wants to work with us, we  
7     are always open and willing.

8                     The next initiative that we just  
9     recently rolled out what is called Late Night  
10    Basketball, and this is from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00  
11    a.m. We are focusing this summer on the four  
12    major holidays that we see historical high rates  
13    of violence happen. So that's Memorial Day. We  
14    kicked it off -- Father's Day was the next one.  
15    July 4th weekend, and the last one will be on  
16    Labor Day. And we first started this -- Memorial  
17    Day. Excuse me. We launched it in two  
18    locations, so Malcolm X College and Washington  
19    Park. And this is a collaboration, again,  
20    between the Mayor's Office of Community Safety,  
21    City Colleges and Parks and the CPD. We also --  
22    this current July 4th that's coming up as well as  
23    Labor Day, we're expanding to two more additional  
24    locations, so it will be Truman College and

1     then -- I'm blanking on the other one. It is a  
2     park district in Englewood. We just made some  
3     changes and modifications recently. Lindbloom  
4     Park.

5                     So we'll have essentially four  
6     sites running, again from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.  
7     It's 18 and older. Again, really focusing on  
8     those youth and adults of highest promise.  
9     Making sure that we activate on both Friday and  
10    Saturday, so folks have the opportunity to come,  
11    and we partner with community-based organizations  
12    that have historical knowledge on doing  
13    late-night basketball.

14                    Another initiative that we've been  
15    rolling out and been doing is called Gun Safety  
16    Awareness workshops. We're doing those all  
17    across the City. That's a partnership again with  
18    different community-based organizations as well  
19    as libraries, to basically talk about gun safety  
20    awareness, as well as Lurie Children's Hospital.  
21    And what happens here is we are providing people  
22    with gun safety awareness. So we're giving them  
23    gun safety locks but also talking about Stop the  
24    Bleed, hands-on CPR, and Narcan training.

24 I can make sure that you have the



1     dates for the Next Take Back the Blocks.  
2     Actually, I will tell you right now, July 11,  
3     July 18, and then August 29. Locations have not  
4     been determined yet because we kind of set that  
5     based off of data. We kind of look at which one  
6     of our community areas needs a little bit more  
7     attention and that's City wide. Right?

8                     Obviously, we tend to do a lot of  
9     our Take Back the Blocks on the south and west  
10    side because those communities have experienced  
11    historically disinvestment, and we are seeing  
12    higher rates of crime happening in those  
13    communities, at least over the years; however,  
14    promise down, you all did not know, we definitely  
15    had a phenomenal year. We are trending down  
16    faster than New York and L.A. right now. So I'll  
17    share some of those numbers a little later with  
18    you all.

19                    COMMISSIONER GOTTLIEB: Thank you.

20                    COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: I have a  
21    question. Two actually. The first question is  
22    about working with District Councilors.

23                    So I think they bring a lot of  
24    value to try to alleviate some public safety

1 issues, and I feel like there's a lot of good  
2 information that the City has and resources that  
3 can be coordinated better with District  
4 Councilors.

5 Has that ever been evaluated or  
6 looked at on how resources can be shared,  
7 information can be shared with District  
8 Councilors who do hold monthly meetings and  
9 people attend them and people like going to the  
10 meetings? I've been to many. So I know it's  
11 new, and there's a lot of things that you need to  
12 figure out. In what ways can we collaborate with  
13 District Councilors? And what ways have we  
14 collaborated with District Councilors?

15 MR. WHITFIELD: Good question. Again, I want  
16 to reemphasize the fact that we are open to work  
17 with anybody. We do our best.

18 The City struggles with the  
19 dissemination of information. I'll be the first  
20 to say that. We are constantly trying to think  
21 about ways we can get information out. We're not  
22 able to always pick up the phone directly and  
23 call each single person to give them an  
24 individual invite, which I think sometimes, you

1 know, folks would appreciate. But we definitely  
2 do our best to send out email correspondence and  
3 then definitely communicate with you all as much  
4 as possible if we can. But our person on the  
5 Mayor's Office for Community Safety team that  
6 works directly, Alexandra Goodwin as well as  
7 Mallory Harrity. And the reason why we have two  
8 people is because within the people's plan for  
9 community safety, one of our initiatives is  
10 policing, and a lot of those initiatives Mallory  
11 oversees and does interact with CCPSA and the  
12 District Councilors.

13 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you. My  
14 second question's around the resources.

15 I know that last year resources was  
16 a concern in order to have enough officers to  
17 staff all the special events in the City and  
18 patrol the streets of the City. I don't know if  
19 this is a department question, but in what way  
20 has the Mayor's Office tried to alleviate those  
21 concerns of having enough police officers to  
22 cover the entire City and the plethora of special  
23 events?

24 MR. WHITFIELD: Good question. One thing

1     that I can say is, you know, I operate off of the  
2     three Cs, communication, coordination, and  
3     collaboration.

4                     We have seen a significant amount  
5     of coordination, communication, and collaboration  
6     with all of our departments and agencies,  
7     specifically our police department.

8                     They do not hesitate to say when  
9     they need assistance or support. Combined with  
10    street outreach and supports from community-based  
11    organizations. We are doing our best, which is  
12    why we're seeing some of the numbers we're  
13    seeing. It is a collective effort. It's a  
14    layering. So it's not just one the Police  
15    Department.

16                    So we do recognize though you have  
17    qualitative and quantitative, right? So although  
18    numbers say that we're going down, how do people  
19    feel, right? And we're working our best to make  
20    sure that feelings catch up with what the data is  
21    actually saying.

22                    COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you.

23                    VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. So my  
24    question is centered around the City department

1 coordination and sort of what that looks like,  
2 but on top of that, how is it accessible to  
3 communities? Because when I think about this  
4 conversation of public safety and when you look  
5 at some of the most impacted communities on the  
6 west and south sides, the big issue is overgrown  
7 lots and things of that nature which cause a lot  
8 of issues. So how are these resources being  
9 coordinated with the Department and how can  
10 communities get some immediate action with things  
11 like overgrown lots? Because I think that should  
12 be pretty simple to resolve because it does not  
13 require our department, but it is a big public  
14 safety issue in these neighborhoods.

15 MR. WHITFIELD: Great question. The People's  
16 Plan For Community Safety, one of the pillars is  
17 called Community Environment. And that pillar is  
18 broke down into three initiatives, vacant lots,  
19 311, and safe space access.

20 The 311 portion particularly has  
21 brought all of our infrastructure departments  
22 together in which they meet once a month to  
23 actually discuss outstanding issues and requests,  
24 and the purpose and intent behind this is to make

1     sure we're actually communicating to the general  
2     public through our platform, through our  
3     application, what lead times are going to look  
4     like, and making sure in our areas where we know  
5     we have some of the most vacant lots in, we're  
6     paying additional special attention to that.

7                     We also rolled out an RFP called  
8     Community Convenience RFP in which it focused on  
9     four community areas, and those particular four  
10    community areas is East Garfield, Austin,  
11    Englewood, and South Lawndale, also known as  
12    Little Village.

13                    We focus on those particular  
14    community areas because we looked at the data.  
15    Those community areas have some of the highest  
16    rates of violence, has some of the highest rates  
17    of unemployment, also has some of the lowest  
18    rates of graduation from college, and then the  
19    median income obviously.

20                    So we started our plan focusing on  
21    some of the areas in the City that needed more  
22    special attention. And what we did with the RFP  
23    was say we understand that we can't be in every  
24    single area all the time, so we need a

1 community-based organization that's deeply rooted  
2 in that community that has access and can help us  
3 navigate to ensure that when we're not there,  
4 they're still funneling information up so we can  
5 direct resources and services that our  
6 departments and agencies have to offer to those  
7 communities most in need.

8           So the community convenor for  
9 Englewood is Teamwork Englewood. The community  
10 convenor for East Garfield is Youth Guidance.  
11 The community convenor for South Lawndale is  
12 Beyond the Ball. Then community convenor for  
13 Austin is West Side NAACP.

14           VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: So for the particular  
15 issue -- because this lot thing is really a big  
16 deal for me. How are you coordinating with the  
17 departments that are at the able to have some  
18 accountability to report that? Because what I  
19 see happen often, you have ticketing happening,  
20 right, for street cleaning. You have the  
21 Department probably driving through some of these  
22 neighborhoods that may not be a part of your  
23 targeted areas but are still significantly  
24 impacted by and plagued by public safety issues.

1     So how are they participating in this beyond  
2     someone calling about something? Because at this  
3     point, the different departments that engage in  
4     the community are also seeing, you know, these  
5     vacant lots, these overran weeds and trash and  
6     all of the things. So how are they at the table  
7     engaging in sharing that these things are being  
8     addressed beyond the community calling 311?

9           MR. WHITFIELD: A thousand percent. So one  
10    thing I'll tell you is that prior to us launching  
11    People's Plan for Community Safety, our  
12    infrastructure department never ran collectively  
13    as a unit. They now meet collectively as a unit  
14    to actually discuss, because I think that  
15    sometimes people don't realize that one thing  
16    that happens to one department -- for example, if  
17    CDOT has to go into the ground, right, that also  
18    impacts the Water Department. So they have to  
19    communicate. Right? It is not that they weren't  
20    communicating before, but they weren't  
21    intentionally communicating in the space that  
22    allowed us to talk about lead times and how long  
23    it's going to take for people to resolve  
24    different issues.



1                   I mean tomorrow we can have ten  
2 people retire, right, which means that that might  
3 slow down our ability as a City to address  
4 certain concerns. For example, at Streets and  
5 Sanitation. I'm not saying that's about to  
6 happen, but you just never know, right? People  
7 are joining the City and people are leaving the  
8 City and retiring from working from the City for  
9 years.

10                  So we are working our hardest to  
11 make sure that we are getting to these requests,  
12 particularly in areas that we know have went  
13 unaddressed for years.

14                  And I've seen progress.

15                  I've been in government,  
16 particularly in the Mayor's Office since 2019, so  
17 I've seen the intentional investment.

18                  I think we're very blessed as a  
19 City to have had two mayors back-to-back that has  
20 understood the importance of investing in the  
21 people, particularly on the south and west side,  
22 and I believe we're starting to see some of our  
23 return on investment which is why we see  
24 significant decreases.

1           But what I will say in addition to that  
2   is, each alderman has a ward superintendent, and  
3   that ward superintendent technically works for  
4   Streets and Sanitation. And that ward  
5   superintendent should be moving around the  
6   community and pointing out and addressing and  
7   uplifting to the infrastructure departments what  
8   needs to be addressed.

9           So, again, it's layering. It's not  
10   just on a community resident, even though they  
11   should understand how to call 311, how to utilize  
12   the web platform -- which I encourage everybody  
13   to do. If you haven't, please download the 311  
14   app, create an account. Call in is great. You  
15   can call for certain things. But when you create  
16   an account, they send you an SR number, which is  
17   a service request number, that allows you to  
18   track the request that you put, which is  
19   extremely important. When we talk about  
20   accountability, you want to be able to have that  
21   service request number. You want to be able to  
22   say, Well, I put this request in, right? That  
23   request doesn't get resolved in a timely manner,  
24   then it comes to the elevation, right? In

1     theory, you should be able to elevate that to  
2     your aldermanic office or to the ward  
3     superintendent, depending if you know who your  
4     alderman or your ward superintendent is.

5                     So it is a layered of approach. It  
6     is our job to be proactive. But it is also -- we  
7     also have to put other things in place to ensure  
8     that the work doesn't stop.

9             PRESIDENT DRIVER: For the purposes of a  
10    quorum, all seven Commissioners are now present.

11            COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Good evening. Thank  
12    you for being here. So could -- and I probably  
13    missed it, but the gun program that you spoke  
14    of --

15            MR. WHITFIELD: Gun safety Awareness Program.

16            COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Gun safety what?

17            MR. WHITFIELD: Awareness Workshop. Excuse  
18    me. It's the Gun Safety Awareness Workshop.

19            COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: That was my first  
20    question, the name of it.

21                     Can you just tell us -- so I  
22    understand what you're saying, like trying to  
23    acknowledge that people have guns.

24                     How does it work? Like who's

1 teaching the gun safety? And I'll just ask them  
2 altogether. Who is teaching it? How is it  
3 promoted? How if in any way are the attendees  
4 vetted? And is there any information in the  
5 program kind of about like, you know, not having  
6 a gun if you are not supposed to.

7 MR. WHITFIELD: A thousand percent. A  
8 thousand percent. I want to be very clear.  
9 We're not promoting for people to have guns.  
10 Right? But we also don't want to be naive and  
11 think that people -- we know that people have  
12 them. So we are -- we're partnering with Lurie  
13 Children's Hospital, as well as community-based  
14 organizations that are helping to facilitate and  
15 bringing individuals from the community area to  
16 actually participate in these programs.

17 We're not taking any like  
18 information to like tracking these people,  
19 because ultimately at the end of the day, we're  
20 talking about behavior change. Right? A lot of  
21 individuals -- some of the questions that people  
22 are asking may be common sense to us, but it is  
23 not common sense to them. So just bringing them  
24 in a space and talking about like firearm safety

1     and the risk of not having your guns stored  
2     properly, if you do have a gun in the house, and  
3     what it can do to you, but also what it can do to  
4     your family members or even, unfortunately,  
5     children. And, you know, we provide, you know,  
6     trauma warning that we can show videos and stuff  
7     like that.

8                     But we have a partnership with the  
9     State because they also provide the gun locks for  
10    us to distribute. And, again, CDPH, we work with  
11    them. They provide the Narcan because we do Stop  
12    the Bleed training.

13                    We want people to understand that  
14    anything can happen at any given point in time.

15                    It is not just about somebody being  
16    shot. Somebody could be stabbed. I could pass  
17    out here and hit my head and start bleeding,  
18    right? How can we make sure that a lot of --  
19    everybody in here knows how to help me stay alive  
20    and survive until I can get the assistance and  
21    support that I need.

22                    So this is more of an educational  
23    thing, not a promotion for guns in any regard.

24                    COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: No, I wasn't

1 suggesting you were promoting it at all.

2 MR. WHITFIELD: No, I didn't think so. I  
3 just wanted to double down.

4 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: I got you. I guess  
5 it's like -- and you answered it. You can do  
6 both, right? Like acknowledging that maybe  
7 people have guns, you know, but also -- yeah.

8 And second question, the gun lock  
9 thing. When we have shootings where it is like  
10 an unstored gun, I know the Department does  
11 this -- I don't know, but I know a lot of times  
12 the community-based organizations will go around  
13 that neighborhood with the gun lock. Do you guys  
14 kind of center sometimes the promotion of the  
15 program -- promotion is the wrong word, but the  
16 awareness of the program when maybe particular  
17 incidents happen like that, too, if we know  
18 locally in terms of neighborhoods?

19 MR. WHITFIELD: So that's a good question,  
20 and here's what I will say. I have a way more  
21 in-depth answer. That's just not about the Gun  
22 Safety Awareness program.

23 Yes, CPD has their response, right?  
24 Then we also have street outreach that responds,

1 as well as victim service advocates to provide  
2 support for the victims and survivors, the family  
3 members, to help them not reach a sense of  
4 normalcy, because after you experience something  
5 traumatic, you can never return to normalcy, but  
6 at least experience some level of comfortablity.

7 Then we have a response  
8 protocol, and that was rolled out last year. And  
9 what that is is that's another layering approach  
10 to ensure that when certain incidents happen, so  
11 a tender-age shooting, so if an individual is,  
12 unfortunately, fatally killed, and they're under  
13 the age of 18, we activate incident response  
14 protocol.

15 If there is a mass shooting, four  
16 or more, we activate the incident response  
17 protocol. If there is a police-involved shooting  
18 or a high-profile shooting, we activate the  
19 incident response protocol. And we do that all  
20 in conjunction with community-based partners,  
21 with CPD.

22 And essentially what we do is we  
23 center all resources and services to the area  
24 that the incident has happened in.

1                   Now, the huge important thing is  
2     that speaking to the community about how to roll  
3     out those resources and services. We don't want  
4     to just throw them down there just to say, Hey,  
5     we did this, just check off the box. But it's  
6     actually having intentional conversations about  
7     what it looks like to roll out these resources,  
8     how do we help the community feel more  
9     comfortable, how do we realize this as an  
10    opportunity to help people understand what's  
11    accessible to them.

12                  Unfortunately, sometimes  
13    intervention has to happen before prevention  
14    methods to happen.

15                  And incident response protocol has  
16    yielded a lot of positivity for us.

17                  We coordinate with the  
18    alderperson's office to make sure they have a  
19    list of things that we do.

20                  So to your question, gun safety  
21    awareness is formed into that overall coordinated  
22    response. It just depends on the circumstances  
23    of the particular incident and how we promote and  
24    push that.



1 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Great. Thank you.

2 COMMISSIONER MINOR: I want to ask a question  
3 to the point of youth programming.

4 So I really love that you all are  
5 doing late-night basketball, and I've seen a few  
6 other organizations also jumping in and providing  
7 service.

8 I'm wondering a few things as it  
9 relates to youth and youth safety, one, do you  
10 have any a youth advisory board?

11 MR. WHITFIELD: Yep, we have the Mayor's  
12 Youth Commission.

13 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Huh?

14 MR. WHITFIELD: The Youth Commission.

15 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Okay. Two, I want to  
16 know what does late-night programming look like  
17 for young girls?

18 I notice when there are late-night  
19 basketball, sometimes the young girls come just  
20 to like hang out with their peers because there's  
21 not a lot for them to do.

22 So I'm wondering what engagement  
23 looks look for them.

24 MR. WHITFIELD: So what I will tell you is

1     that we don't -- we haven't tailored our program  
2     to a specific gender at all, but we are focusing  
3     on the 18 and older crowd for a reason, because  
4     it is starting at 9:00 p.m. We don't want to  
5     encourage you to be out past a time that you  
6     shouldn't be. Even though we do acknowledge  
7     youth is up to the age of 24, but 17 and under  
8     actually puts them more at risk being out during  
9     those times.

10                     So I will say, though, we have had  
11     a lot of women participation come to our  
12     late-night basketball, and we have a lot of  
13     volunteers that are there. Like we feed folks.  
14     We have -- CPD partners with us. CPD is actually  
15     rolling out an actual team that's participating  
16     in a way to engage and build community.

17                     A lot of these individuals only see  
18     police officers in uniform, so how do we show  
19     them that they human beings just like you, they  
20     play basketball, they enjoy the same things, they  
21     enjoy the same food as you. So they will be  
22     participating in that.

23                     But it is a thought to think about,  
24     right? Like how do we begin to think about

1 different programming for specific affinity  
2 groups.

3 COMMISSIONER MINOR: And I also kind of  
4 wanted to learn more about the community  
5 convenors. One, I want to know if they rotate  
6 out. Two, if an organization wanted to be a part  
7 of the convenor program, what does that look  
8 like? What steps do you need to take? And while  
9 we have the current community, what does  
10 collaboration and sponsorship look like for  
11 organizations outside of those community  
12 convenors but still want to be involved with the  
13 Mayor's Office and do the work?

14 MR. WHITFIELD: This is our first time doing  
15 an RFP like this. So they won't rotate it out,  
16 right? We had it this year. Obviously, like the  
17 success of this, we want to get this back into  
18 budget so we can do it next year, because it is  
19 important work, having an anchor organization  
20 that community partners are familiar with. The  
21 community convenors are called community  
22 convenors because it is their job to convene the  
23 people within the community. That is their sole  
24 job. And it is us as a City, right, to help

1     empower them, to have access to the resources and  
2     services that they need, to ensure that they are  
3     getting information to the community.

4                 So none of our community  
5     convenors -- the moment you take money from the  
6     City, you have to work with everybody, everybody.

7                 And we have cross collaboration  
8     with some of our communities, so which you will  
9     see sometimes is youth guidance in the west side,  
10    and NAACP will collaborate together because those  
11    communities are very close together.

12                So anybody can access those  
13    community convenors, and I can get you all  
14    information on who those points of contact are so  
15    that you all have that information accessible to  
16    you.

17            COMMISSIONER MINOR: Yeah, and I'm also kind  
18    of wondering, what does the channel look like if  
19    a community member wanted to see some kind of  
20    programming in their community, and they go to a  
21    community convenor, can they then like have that  
22    autonomy with them to kind of workshop  
23    programming? Or what does the proper training  
24    look like?

1           MR. WHITFIELD: That is essentially what they  
2 should be doing. Right?

3                       Obviously, like if an organization  
4 comes and says, Hey, can you pay for? The  
5 community convenor may not have the ability to  
6 pay for it. But what we're trying to help the  
7 community do is establish an ecosystem where  
8 they're working collectively with one another on  
9 a regular basis. How they're developing their  
10 own safety strategies. Right?

11                      It's the City's job to support  
12 communities' needs, right, which I think I speak  
13 highly of quality-of-life plans, because it  
14 really is an outlier to what that particular  
15 community needs. And as a City, we should be  
16 working closely with those quality-of-life plan  
17 anchor organizations to make that assessment on  
18 how the City best plugs into that. Right?

19                      Many of these plans sometimes have  
20 not been built with lens on what is in government  
21 affairs. How do you fuse government? Like it's  
22 these big bold ideas, which I think is amazing,  
23 but there is a point we have to operationalize  
24 those things. We have to think about the

1 sustainability of those things, which right now I  
2 will say that when our community convenes, we're  
3 navigating that process. Right? We want folks  
4 to have autonomy.

5                   Even after past this  
6 administration, folks should understand how to  
7 access civil services and resources. They should  
8 understand what the Department of Streets and  
9 Sanitation does. They should understand what the  
10 Office of Emergency Management and Communication  
11 does. Right? They should understand what the  
12 Department of Buildings does.

13                   So we get questions on a variety of  
14 things, and if our community convenor doesn't  
15 have the answer, they have us as a resource to  
16 communicate and interact.

17                   We also have an element that we  
18 utilize as our operational arm in the Mayor's  
19 Office of Safety called Community Safety  
20 Coordination, also known as CSC, which is housed  
21 in the Department of Public Health. They have  
22 been around since the life of the administration.

23                   We have now -- excuse me. We have  
24 now continued that work on and even built more on

1 top of it. Right?

2 So the Community Safety  
3 Coordination has supported a numerous amount of  
4 organizations across the City with activations,  
5 right? Understanding how to apply for permits,  
6 right? Figuring out ways in which they may not  
7 have the money, but we may know partners that do  
8 have the money.

9 And we also have been able to  
10 leverage some of the ARPA dollars before it runs  
11 out to actually support with certain things like  
12 table, chairs, and tents to alleviate some of the  
13 cost.

14 It is obviously a lot more  
15 challenging to pay for food when you're talking  
16 about City money, but if you can pay for some of  
17 those other expenses, it does free up funds for  
18 people to access and be able to do better  
19 programming.

20 COMMISSIONER MINOR: The last question --

21 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Before you go. We are  
22 getting tight on time. If we can make the  
23 question brief and make your responses brief  
24 also.

1 MR. WHITFIELD I'm doing my best. My bad.

2 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Absolutely. I just  
3 wanted to know about the mechanism of  
4 accountability. Like what does tracking look  
5 like? And what are the engagement expectations  
6 for the community convenors? That's all. Thank  
7 you.

8 MR. WHITFIELD: So we meet with all of our  
9 community convenors every other week. They have  
10 direct access to me.

11 Think about me as the front-office  
12 portion, so I'm helping them think through  
13 strategy and on-the-ground stuff. And then CDPH,  
14 which this RFP came out of, because the Mayor's  
15 Office doesn't have procurement authority, they  
16 are the back-office, so they handle all the admin  
17 things, making sure that the community convenors  
18 follow the scope of work.

19 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Thank you.

20 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you. We appreciate  
21 you answering our questions and presenting  
22 tonight.

23 MR. WHITFIELD: Thank you. Sorry we didn't  
24 have a presentation.



1                   We'll get some information over for  
2     you, and we will also make sure that we put a  
3     short presentation together that highlights some  
4     of this information because we actually do have  
5     one. We will get it over to you at least before  
6     mid week. Thank you. Appreciate it.

7           PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you.

8                   Next order of business will be  
9     reports and updates. We will begin by discussing  
10    working group updates. First will be an update  
11    by Commissioner Terry of the COPA search working  
12    group.

13           VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: So if you're new here,  
14    you are aware that the Commission is currently in  
15    the process of gathering input to inform our  
16    search process for the COPA chief administrator.

17                   The Civilian Office of Police  
18    Accountability, or COPA, is one of Chicago's  
19    oversight agencies that has a substantial  
20    mandate.

21                   COPA is responsible for many  
22    things, including conducting certain  
23    investigations related to the actions of the  
24    Chicago Police Department, including complaints

1 regarding domestic violence and sexual assaults,  
2 some incidents where police officers use a  
3 weapon, all officer-involved deaths, incidents  
4 where individuals die in police custody, patterns  
5 and practice of police misconduct, amongst other  
6 important functions.

7 The person who runs the agency is  
8 the Chief Administrator. And the Chief  
9 Administrator of COPA resigned back in February,  
10 and so we are on the search for a replacement.

11 This replacement will be with the  
12 advice and consent of the City Council.

13 The Chief Administrator is  
14 responsible for managing a professional staff of  
15 around 140 employees, including investigators,  
16 supervisors, lawyers, et cetera.

17 The law lays out the minimum  
18 requirements that the COPA chief must meet to  
19 qualify for appointment. The minimum  
20 requirements are: An attorney with substantial  
21 experience in criminal, civil rights, and/or  
22 labor law, or corporate and/or governmental  
23 investigations, or an individual with substantial  
24 experience in law enforcement oversight or

1 investigating employee or other wrongdoing;  
2 knowledgeable enforcement, particularly of  
3 internal investigations of wrongdoing in use of  
4 force; a commitment to and knowledge of the need  
5 for and responsibilities of law enforcement, as  
6 well as the need to protect basic constitutional  
7 rights for the affected parties; demonstrate  
8 integrity, professionalism, sound judgment,  
9 leadership, and the ability to work with diverse  
10 groups and individuals.

11 The Commission is seeking public  
12 input on the qualifications that you would like  
13 for the COPA chief to have beyond the minimums.

14 The Commission will be using this  
15 input along with input from the subject matter  
16 experts, community organizations, COPA employees,  
17 CPD members, and other sources to develop the  
18 application, interview questions, and to inform  
19 the selection of the COPA chief.

20 Today, the Commission has conducted  
21 four public listening sessions which occurred in  
22 all parts of the City as well as virtually.

23 As you entered the meeting today,  
24 you were given the information about this

1 particular search, and we do implore you to  
2 participate in the survey, share with a few of  
3 your friends and family members as we want to  
4 hear from them.

5 As part of our engagement process,  
6 the Commission is also required to retain a  
7 search firm to assist with the national search  
8 for the COPA Chief Administrator.

9 We're in the process of vetting  
10 firms and will provide more information as it  
11 becomes available. Once we finalize the search  
12 firm, we will have a clear timeline to share.

13 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, Commissioner  
14 Terry.

15 Next we will move on to hear from  
16 Commissioner Wortham with an update related to  
17 traffic stops.

18 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you. Thank you.  
19 Good evening again, everyone.

20 So on April 21st, the City of  
21 Chicago submitted two versions of a draft traffic  
22 stop policy to the Attorney General -- the  
23 Illinois Attorney General and the Independent  
24 Monitor of the Consent Decree between the City of

1 Chicago and State of Illinois.

2 One version was from the Chicago  
3 Police Department, one version was from this  
4 Commission.

5 The two versions are similar in a  
6 lot of ways and different in two major ways, with  
7 language on two major issues for which the  
8 majority, not all, of Commissioners support  
9 differing language in that which is in -- in the  
10 Commission version than that which is in the  
11 Department's version.

12 And, again, both of those documents  
13 are available online for the public's review and  
14 feedback, so please do if you are not already, go  
15 look and give your feedback.

16 These policies -- so as many of you  
17 may know, the Independent Monitor of the Consent  
18 Decree has recommended to the judge overseeing  
19 the Consent Decree that traffic stops by the  
20 Chicago Police Department be added into the  
21 Consent Decree. Doing so would mean that changes  
22 to CPD's traffic stop policy would be made  
23 through the procedures already established in the  
24 Consent Decree, and they would be overseen by the

1 Independent Monitor and the federal judge in the  
2 case overseeing the Consent Decree.

3 The Commission intends to continue  
4 to work with CPD, the Illinois Attorney General's  
5 Office, and the Independent Monitor to try to  
6 come up with an agreement about a traffic stop  
7 policy.

8 As is currently, this Commission has  
9 policy-making authority for traffic stop policies  
10 with the Chicago Police Department.

11 So as we continue to work with the  
12 Chicago Police Department and the City's  
13 Department of Law, we are trying to ensure if  
14 traffic stops are added to the Consent Decree,  
15 that we would maintain the authority and the  
16 ability to participate meaningfully in the work  
17 of creating a traffic stop policy for the  
18 Department.

19 Earlier this month, the Commission  
20 held a webinar on traffic stops. That's  
21 available online for your review if you'd like to  
22 go review it. It will have additional  
23 information. Thank you.

24 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, Commissioner

1       Wortham. Are there any questions on this topic?

2                       Hearing none and there being no  
3 further business before the Commission, the  
4 Commission's next regularly scheduled meeting  
5 will be will Thursday, July 31st, 2025, at 6:30  
6 p.m. at the JLM Abundant Life Community Center.

7                       I'd like to thank you all for  
8 joining us tonight. We hope to see you on July  
9 31st.

10                      Please follow the Commission on all  
11 our social media platforms.

12                      There being no further business  
13 before this Commission, this meeting is  
14 adjourned. Thank you, everyone.

15                               (WHEREUPON, the proceedings  
16                               were adjourned at 7:58 p.m.)

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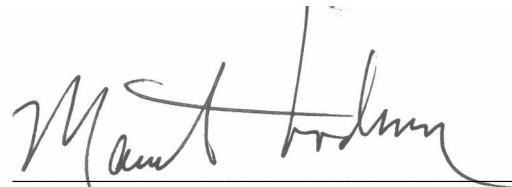
## REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

Re: Community Commission for Public Safety and  
Accountability  
June 26, 2025

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 7 day  
of July 2025.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Maureen A. Woodman', written over a horizontal line.

MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, CSR  
License No. 084.002740