

City of Chicago
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE	Regular Meeting
MEETING DATE	Thursday, May 29, 2025
MEETING LOCATION	South Shore International College Prep
TIME CALLED TO ORDER	6:30 PM

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner Name	Present or Absent / In-Person or Remote
Aaron Gottlieb	Present, In-Person
Abierre Minor	Present, In-Person
Angel Rubi Navarajo	Present, In-Person
Anthony Driver, Jr. – President, Chair	Present, In-Person
Gina Piemonte	Present, In-Person
Remel Terry – Vice President	Present, In-Person
Sandra Wortham	Present, In-Person

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes.

Acronyms:

CCPSA = Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability

COPA = Civilian Office of Police Accountability

CPD = Chicago Police Department

IMT = Independent Monitoring Team

PB = Police Board

OAG = Office of Attorney General

OIG = Office of Inspector General

- I. President Driver called the meeting to order.
- II. President Driver called the roll and established the quorum.
- III. The Commission held a public comment session. Four (4) speakers offered comments. Public comment may be viewed at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page:
www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa.
- IV. **Approval of the Minutes**

President Driver called for a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meetings held on April 24th. Commissioner Piemonte seconded the motion. There was no debate on the matter and the motion passed 5-0 with one (1) abstention.

V. New Business

Traffic Stops Discussion – Consent Searches

President Driver introduced the next order of business: a discussion on traffic stops policy provisions. On April 21, the City of Chicago submitted two versions of a draft traffic stops policy to the Illinois Attorney General and the Independent Monitor in the Consent Decree between the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois. One version of the policy is from CPD and one is from the Commission.

The policies were submitted to the OAG and the IMT because the Monitor advised the judge overseeing the Consent Decree that traffic stops should be included in the Consent Decree. If the traffic stops policy is included in the consent decree, then changes to CPD's policy would be made through the procedures laid out in the Consent Decree and the policy would be overseen by the IMT and federal judge. Currently, the Commission has the legal authority to set traffic stop policy for CPD and if the policy moves into the consent decree, the Commission will continue to play a major role.

President Driver then stated that over the next few public meetings, the Commission would be talking about key provisions in the proposed traffic stops policy where there are important differences between CPD and the Commission's version and where there may not be agreement among the majority of the Commissioners about what the alternative policy should be.

The meeting proceeded with a discussion on Commissioners' positions on consent searches in the traffic stop policy. The full transcript and recording can be found on the CCPSA website and viewed at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page: www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa.

VI. Reports and Updates

COPA Chief Administrator Search

President Driver provided an update on the COPA Chief Administrator search. The Commission will be hosting its last public listening session on June 12th.

The Commission is also seeking input from community members about what qualities the Commission should be looking for in a COPA Chief Administrator. The Commission will be using all of the input gathered during the search process from subject matter experts, community organizations, COPA employees, and CPD members to develop the application, interview questions, and to inform the selection of the next COPA Chief Administrator.

The Commission is also required to retain a search firm to assist us with a national search for the next COPA Chief Administrator. The Commission is in the process of vetting firms and will provide information as it becomes available.

For more information on the Commission's COPA Chief Administrator search and the Community Feedback survey, please visit the Commission's website:
https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/ccpsa/supp_info/COPASearch0.html.

Mayor's Extremism in Law Enforcement Task Force

Vice President Terry provided an update on her and Commissioner Minor's involvement with the Mayor's Extremism in Law Enforcement Task Force.

Why did OIG recommend a task force in the first place?

- In its April 2024, the Office of Inspector General issued an advisory report on CPD members' alleged anti-government and extremist group affiliation. OIG recommended that the City, not CPD alone, take a "definitive and unequivocal position against extremism within its police ranks"
- Inspector General Deborah Witzburg and Deputy Inspector General Tobar Richardson have stated publicly that a mayoral-led task force would be best equipped and best positioned to direct and coordinate multiple departments and policymakers to implement changes citywide to combat extremism and anti-government associations within CPD and the larger city workforce.

What is the Commission's connection to the OIG's task force recommendation?

- Since last summer, some Commissioners have expressed concerns about specific CPD investigations of allegations that CPD members had ties to extremist or anti-government groups, and have emphasized the need to ensure that those with ties to extremism or anti-government groups are removed from CPD.
- The Commission has addressed this issue in a few ways, including updating CPD's policy prohibiting associations with criminal and bias-based organizations, holding CPD and BIA accountable for the implementation of that policy through the Commission's 2025 Superintendent goals, and participating in a town hall on extremism in CPD's ranks.
- The task force was another way to address our concerns with hate group affiliations within CPD.

How did Commissioners Terry and Minor become involved with the task force

- Since July 2024, the Commission has heard from many District Councilors and community members who were troubled by BIA's decision to not reopen its investigation into eight CPD members alleged to be part of the Oath Keepers. Public comments at our meetings and published news media stories on the investigation's fallout continued through Fall 2024 with no active response from the Mayor's Office.
- Commissioner Minor and I wanted to know what work the Mayor's Office was doing on this issue and why they had still not convened a task force. We first met with Deputy Mayor for Public Safety, Garien Gatewood, in October 2024 to ask about the work being done and to inform him about the concerns we had heard at our public meetings. We met with Deputy Mayor Gatewood and his staff once more in November and were informed that work was being done to create a task force and that CCPSA would have a place on the task force once it was convened.

What is the Commission's role as it relates to the task force?

- CCPSA is one of several city departments included on the task force. The Task Force is co-chaired by the Mayor's Office for Community Safety and the Office of Equity and Racial Justice.
- Other included departments are CPD's Bureau of Internal Affairs, the Office of Public Safety Administration, the Department of Human Resources, and the Department of Law.
- Since the Task Force convened in January, Commissioner Minor has represented the Commission at the task force's meetings.

What do we expect to see from the task force?

- We would like to see the task force identify and address all of the concerns that the Office of Inspector General has raised in reports about BIA's investigations of CPD members' ties to groups like the Oath Keepers, the Proud Boys, and the Three Percenters. That includes answering questions like what problems did BIA encounter while conducting the investigation? Were the problems specific to this investigation or part of a larger problem with BIA investigations? And whether and to what extent BIA is limited by its lack of subpoena power.
- We would also like to see some public reporting from the task force on all of the work that it has done thus far in developing possible solutions on this issue and any detailed recommendations or guidance that will be coming from the Mayor's Office at the conclusion of the task force.
- Finally, we hope the task force is utilizing the task force to not only address and prevent extremism in CPD's ranks but across the City's workforce as a whole.

President Driver asked if Vice President Terry knew why OIG was not included in the task force. Vice President Terry stated she did not know and that was a question for the City to answer. Commissioner Minor responded that because OIG is an independent body, the agency cannot sit and participate in task forces.

CPD Goals Working Group

Commissioner Minor shared an update on the CPD Goals Working Group. In May, Commissioner Minor had two follow-up meetings related to CPD's Quarter One goal deliverables. Her first meeting was with Deputy Director Mike Milstein of CPD's Office of Equity and Engagement and Office of Victim Services. The meeting spoke on CPD's quarter one progress on its victim services goal which included the Office's progress to greatly increase the number of victim advocates hired through the end of the year and the office's current work to ensure victims of domestic violence and non-violent crimes receive support and services.

Commissioner Minor's second meeting was with Lieutenant Jack Kenter for quarter one updates on CPD's early intervention support system project. The meeting focused on CPD's consent decree work to deliver proactive, risk management, and officer support for its members with a data-driven early warning tool. In the meeting, Lt. Kenter shared the history of CPD's early intervention work dating back to 2020 with the creation of CPD's Officer Support System pilot with the University of Chicago's Crime Lab through to the Department's current partnership with Benchmark Analytics to overhaul CPD's entire performance management system and create the new early intervention support program.

Commissioner Rubi Navarajo asked if CPD had discussed any work around mental health and officer wellness resources for officers about to retire or who had left the force. Commissioner

Minor responded that the early intervention support system was only one of CPD's tools for risk management and mental health support.

Noncitizen Advisory Council Working Group

Commissioner Rubi Navarajo provided an update on the Noncitizen Advisory Council. The Commission has requested feedback from the NAC on the COPA Chief Administrator search and on the current draft of the traffic stops policy.

Commissioner Rubi Navarajo has also requested the NAC's feedback on the updated policy language in CPD's currently enacted U- and T-Visa policy and how CPD has shared these updates with community members and other stakeholder groups. This policy covers CPD's revised procedures for completing and processing request for T- and U-Visas, which are granted to noncitizens who are victims of specific qualifying crimes including human trafficking and serious felonies, who actively participate in the investigation of the crime. While U- and T-Visas are granted at the federal level, a victim can only apply for one of these visas if the law enforcement agency who investigates the crime certifies the victim's eligibility, so CPD needs to play a key role in the process.

Community Engagement Update

Commissioner Minor provided an update on her personal advocacy work for youth engagement. She co-organized a barbeque for young people in Pilsen to solicit their feedback on youth mass gatherings and youth violence prevention. Commissioner Minor also shared that she is in the process of organizing a panel for Youth Justice Ministries that is working on violence prevention work. This panel will be a discussion with Pastor Sims at St. Michael's Church on the west side. Commissioner Minor also noted that four Commissioners went on record in opposition of the Snap Curfew Ordinance.

National Police Week

Commissioner Wortham provided a statement on the observation of National Police Week, which is a week where fallen police officers and law enforcement members who have died or been killed in the line of duty are honored both in Washington, D.C. and across the country in various districts and municipalities. Commissioner Wortham shared that the information of fallen Chicago police officers is publicly available online and asked the public to read through their stories.

VII. Announcement of the Next Meeting

President Driver announced that the next meeting will be Thursday, June 26, 2025 at the Copernicus Center.

VIII. Close

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM