

City of Chicago
DISTRICT COUNCIL # 017
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE: ☐ Regular x Special ☐ Closed

MEETING DATE: July 28, 2025

MEETING LOCATION & ADDRESS: Kosciuszko (Thadeuz) Park, 2732 N Avers

MEETING START TIME: 6:05 PM

Attendance & Quorum

OMA Meeting cannot take place without 2 out of 3 members present in-person.

District Council Member Name	Attendance		
Chair: Luis Bermudez	Present: x	Remote: <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent: <input type="checkbox"/>
Nominator: Elizabeth Rochford	Present: x	Remote: <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent: <input type="checkbox"/>
Community Engagement: Anthony Tamez	Present: X	Remote: <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent: <input type="checkbox"/>

Quorum (2 out of 3 Members): Yes: x

Public Comment

1. John H: Shared a personal account involving wrongful conviction tied to police misconduct in 2002. Expressed lack of trust in Detective John Foster
2. Amanda P: Raised concerns about CPD's ability to investigate sexual assault impartially under Foster's leadership. Highlighted coercion tactics used in past cases and expressed support for survivors.
3. Public Comment 3: Voiced disbelief that someone with Foster's record could still be employed, citing settlements and complaints as evidence of unfitness for duty.
4. Grace P: Shared her experience of being sexually harassed by CPD and a more recent incident she chose not to report due to mistrust. Thanked the district council for providing a safe space to speak.
5. Jackson S: Recounted the story of Kevin J. and criticized CPD's systemic failures. Described coerced confessions and a pattern of abusive interrogation tactics.
6. Virginia C: Recalled the case of Gregory L., another alleged victim of false confession under Foster and Forberg. Highlighted the city's financial burden due to wrongful convictions.
7. Mark C: Directly questioned how victims could receive justice from a system that previously tortured and coerced individuals. Demanded accountability from Commander Foster.
8. Sally H: Expressed frustration over delayed sexual assault investigations and lack of information. Called for review and accountability from district officials.

Discussions

- Victim Services
- Processing and Investigation of Sexual Assault Cases
 - CSA Nurse Examination and Evidence Collection
 - Consent and Tracking
 - Chain of Evidence
 - Children and Special Cases
- Challenges in the Forensic Process
 - Lab Delays
 - Case Volume
- CPD Investigation Practices
 - Detective Assignment and Workflow
 - Evidence Handling
- Charging and Release of Suspects:
 - Often unable to process forensic evidence quickly enough to hold arrested suspects, resulting in their release.
 - Charging decisions ultimately made by State's Attorney; CPD's inability to act independently was emphasized

Announcement of Next District Council Meeting

NEXT MEETING DATE: Saturday, August 2, 2025

NEXT MEETING LOCATION: Humboldt Park Library, 1605 W Troy

District Council ended the meeting at: 7:30PM
