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# City of Chicago

## District Council 018

### Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability

#### Meeting Minutes

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#### Meeting Details

- **Meeting Type:** ☒ Regular ☐ Special ☐ Closed
  - **Date:** May 27, 2025
  - **Location:** 18th District Police Station
  - **Start Time:** 6:04 PM
  - **Adjourned:** 7:12 PM
  - **Attendance:** In-person attendees and Zoom participants
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#### Roll Call

##### District Council Members Present:

- Bob Johnson
- Karen Kane
- Brad Kessler

**Quorum Achieved:** Yes (More than two members present)

##### Acknowledgments:

- Sgt. Schenk – Room setup
  - 18th District Police – Event hosting
  - Captain Koenig – Attendance later in the meeting
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#### Leadership Updates

##### Acting Commander Update:

- **Mike Neckermann** is no longer serving as Acting Commander.
- Returned to his previous support role in the 18th and 1st Districts.

### **New Commander Appointment:**

- **Name:** Chris Bielfeldt
  - **Start Date:** The Week before the meeting
  - **Availability:** Absent due to pre-planned vacation
  - **Background:**
    - 26 years with CPD
    - Former Captain of 17th & 18th Districts
    - Oversaw Midway Airport operations
    - Served in multiple detective divisions
  - **Education:**
    - Master's in criminal justice – Lewis University
    - Bachelor's in criminal justice – Illinois State University
    - Graduate – Northwestern School of Police Staff and Command
  - **Official Welcome:** Scheduled for next month's meeting
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### **Moment of Silence & Mental Health Awareness**

- **Tribute to:** Melissa Torres (CAPS Officer) – Deceased by suicide on April 10
  - **Mention:** Over two dozen suicides within CPD in recent years
  - **Call to Action:** Renewed focus on suicide prevention and mental health resources; appeal to elected officials for prioritization
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### **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

- **April Minutes:** Approved unanimously
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### **Public Comments (20 Minutes Allocated, 3 Minutes Per Speaker)**

1. **Mel Jones – Retail Theft & Recidivism**
  - Cited concerns about inconsistent implementation of geographical restrictions, discussed with BACP and Walgreens
  - Requested:
    - Police report district-specific restriction instances
    - Encourage Walgreens and the State's Attorney's Office to collaborate
2. **Caroline Sachet – Illegal Fireworks**
  - Addressed increasing nighttime fireworks incidents beyond July 4th

- Cited public safety and fire hazard concerns
  - Requested stronger enforcement and prevention measures
  - 3. **Other Public Concerns**
    - Rooftop fireworks noise
    - Pedestrian safety during protests
    - Business disruptions caused by demonstrations
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## **CPD's New Strategy for Organizational Excellence**

**Presented by:** Karen Kane

### **Four Strategic Pillars:**

1. **Workforce Development:** Focus on morale, safety, and professional growth
2. **Community Trust:** Engage all community sectors to foster mutual respect
3. **Neighborhood Safety:** Localized safety strategies per zip code with community policing emphasis
4. **Organizational Infrastructure:** Enhance operational strength across all CPD roles

**Current Focus:** Revising traffic stop policies to address constitutional concerns

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## **Traffic Stop Policy Discussion**

### **Issues:**

- Community concern over unconstitutional stops

### **Stakeholders:**

- **Superintendent Snelling:** Supports enhanced constitutional training
- **CCPSA:** Proposes additional prohibitions for minor infractions

### **Survey Insights:**

- **Total Responses:** 1,308
- **Opposition to New Prohibitions:** 68%
- **18th District Share:** 73% of total responses

### **Proposed Prohibitions (CCPSA):**

- Non-moving violations, including:
  - Improper/missing license plates

- Expired registration (within one year)
- Improperly secured/illuminated plates
- Broken vehicle lights
- Excessively loud sound systems

#### **Council's Position:**

- Oppose limiting lawful traffic stops
- Advocates for maintaining officer discretion while improving training

#### **Next Steps:**

- Distribute the updated survey via QR code
  - Encourage participation in the May 29 CCPSA meeting
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### **Captain's Report**

#### **Crime Trends:**

- Decline in shootings, robberies, burglaries, and thefts

#### **Summer Readiness:**

- Increased deployment at beach areas (North Avenue, Oak Street)
- Bag checks at park district properties

#### **Incident Highlights:**

- **State Street Stabbing:** Arrests made with video surveillance aid
- Emphasis on real-time policing tools

#### **Curfew Enforcement:**

- Minors detained post-curfew will not receive criminal records unless associated with other offenses
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### **Technology & Policing Tools**

- **CTA Surveillance:** ~30,000 cameras assist in monitoring and investigation
- **Zero Eyes System:** Advanced visual tracking for identifying offenders
- **SDSC Room:** Integration point for real-time response

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## **Additional Community Concerns**

- **Noise Complaints:** Ongoing issues with fireworks and modified vehicles
- **Protest Impacts:** Concerns over safety and economic disruption; enforcement challenges

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**Upcoming Speaker:** Commissioner Sandra Wortham to share CCPSA perspectives

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## **Adjournment**

- **Motion to Adjourn:** Approved unanimously
  - **Final Remarks:** Appreciation for community attendance and dedication to public safety
  - **Next Meeting:** June 28 (Location & time to be announced)
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