

19th

POLICE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Maurilio Garcia
Jenny Schaffer
Sam Schoenburg**

**Monthly Meeting - Wednesday, April 23rd
Athenaeum Center**



19TH DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY



Moment of Silence



Officer Torres, 18th District
Kevin Patel, Lincoln Park Resident

Agenda

- Roll Call & Quorum Determination
- Votes
- District Council Member Updates
- Discussion:
 - **Avondale Restorative Justice Court**
 - **Cook County State's Attorney Office**
- Public Announcements & Comment
- Reminders & Calls to Action
- Announcement of Next Meeting(s)

Votes

District Council Member Updates

Parking Enforcement Alternative Response

- We've gained coverage of our initiative and progress by a few city publications: [Block Club Chicago](#), [Chicago Tribune Op-Ed](#), [South Side Weekly](#)
- Our Subject Matter Hearing is tentatively rescheduled for June 25, 2025
- In the meantime, we're holding individual meetings with CPD, Office of Emergency Management & Communications (OEMC), and Department of Finance
- We'll also be requesting joint meeting with these departments to confirm details, hear feedback, and simply have all stakeholders in the same room
- Our goal is to develop and present to City Council a proposal for alternative response to parking enforcement

Parking Enforcement Alternative Response

We're seeking clarity surrounding the Mayor's Office [People's Plan for Community Safety](#), and how it may be affecting our work. Several City departments seem to conflate a 911 Calls for Service analysis with alternative response overall. While overlapping, they serve can very different purposes.

Both the [CPD Workforce Allocation Study](#) and our alternative response to parking enforcement initiative have faced barriers because the working assumption is that the City is conducting both.

However, the mayor's office [cites UChicago's](#) HealthLab & CrimeLab as partners in conducting a "911 Alternate Response". However, we have heard from UChicago that this has not included a 911 Calls for Service analysis (the university has not been involved since late last year).



POLICING

Build trust between community and law enforcement by prioritizing reform, accountability & transparency.

- Foster oversight & accountability in CPD's workforce allocation process ➔
- Develop holistic youth deflection & diversion strategies that set youth up for long-term success
- ➔ • Conduct 911 call analysis & review options for additional alternative response
- Reshape community policing alongside community members & oversight organizations

Source: [People's Plan for Community Safety](#)

CCPSA Vacancy Filled

Gina Piemonte has been confirmed as the latest Commissioner on the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability (CCPSA).

The vacancy required candidates who live on the West Side of Chicago and have 10+ years experience as an attorney.

Gina Piemonte has served 30+ years in Cook County Public Defender's Office. City Council unanimously confirmed her appointment



CPD Workforce Allocation Study Update



Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability
Monthly Public Meeting

 **Thursday**
April 24, 2025 / 6:30 PM
Pui Tak Center (2216 S Wentworth Avenue)

<https://shorturl.at/ilVq2>

 President
Anthony Driver Jr.
 Vice-President
Remel Terry
 Commissioner
Aaron Gottlieb
 Commissioner
Abiera Minot
 Commissioner
Angel Rubi Navarro
 Commissioner
Sandra Wortham

Discussion and Agenda:

1. Update on CPD Workforce Allocation from Executive Director of Constitutional Policing and Reform, Allyson Clark-Henson
2. Traffic Stops Policy Update
3. COPA Search Update
4. 2025 Q1 Goals Update



CCPSA
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR
PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

www.chicago.gov/communitycommission
communitycommissionpubliccomment@cityofchicago.org



Foundation: Project Planning & Interviews

January 2025 - February 2025

Current State Assessment: CPD Staffing Profile and Analysis Framework

February 2025 - April 2025

Staffing Analysis: Patrol and Non-Patrol

April 2025 - August 2025

Staffing Allocation Model Development

May 2025 - October 2025

Design Implementation Plan

October 2025 - December 2025

Final Report and Presentations

December 2025 - January 2026

CPD Workforce Allocation Study Update - Community Engagement

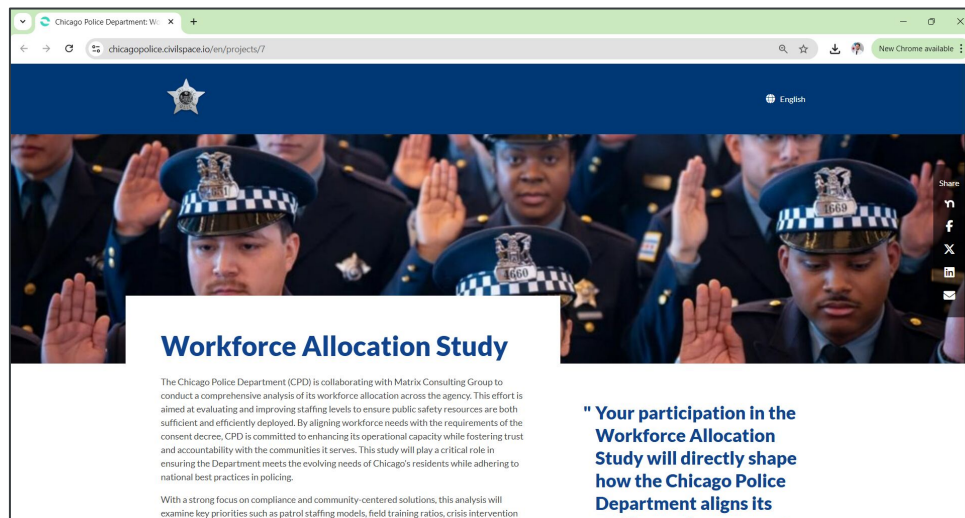
CPD will be releasing reports to the public in May about their winter Engagement Sessions. Topics included alternative response and community policing.

District Councils have been invited to lead citywide engagement sessions this summer. Stay tuned!!

Engage CPD about Its Workforce Allocation Study!

CPD has launched a [status page to provide the public with latest updates on the Workforce Allocation Study](#)

It also gives community members the opportunity to directly engage with CPD about the Workforce Allocation Study. [Ask your questions here.](#)



Community Partnership Plan: Monthly Update



Summary of Progress



[Link to
CPP Found
here](#)

	Last Month	This Month	Delta
In Progress	15	14	-1
Ongoing	5	5	0
Completed	20	22	2
Total In Progress/ Ongoing/ Completed	40	41	1
Total Goals	50	50	0
	% In Progress/ Ongoing/ Completed	82%	

19th Police District Council: Perspective on Restorative Justice

Our Understanding Today

Prisons often lead to recidivism and recurring crime. Restorative justice is one alternative that can increase accountability to victims, repair harms already committed, and prevent future harm.

Our Responsibilities as a District Council

Part of District Councils' responsibility is to “[w]ork to **develop and expand restorative justice** and similar programs in the District.” MCC 2-80-070(e)(5)

Restorative Justice Efforts on the North Side

The Restorative Justice Community Court (RJCC) is an effort of the Circuit Court of Cook County currently working to implement restorative justice.

Shout out to our friends and colleagues in the 17th, 20th, and 24th Police Districts who are working to bring an RJCC further North

19th Police District Council

Part of District Councils' responsibility is to "[w]ork to **develop and expand restorative justice** and similar programs in the District." MCC 2-80-070(e)(5)

The Cook County Restorative Justice Community Court (RJCC) is one effort on the North Side currently working to implement restorative justice.

Prisons often lead to recidivism and recurring crime. Restorative justice is one alternative that can increase accountability to victims, repair harms already committed, and prevent future harm. We're interested in exploring alternative methods of accountability, especially those focused on rehabilitative measures that provide the structure and support necessary to repair harm committed and prevent future harm.

Shout out efforts by neighboring DCs to expand RJCCs



STATE OF ILLINOIS

Circuit Court of Cook County

HONORABLE TIMOTHY C. EVANS, CHIEF JUDGE

RJCC Presentation

Restorative
Justice
Community
Courts

**Restoring justice in the neighborhoods:
Restorative Justice Community Courts in Cook County**

Speaker: Margaret Kulujian, PhD

Timothy Evans, Chief Judge

Restorative
Justice
Community
Courts

“The Restorative Justice Community Court is the place where healing is the goal rather than punishment, and the quest for justice becomes a collective effort”



Restorative Justice Community Court

- Restorative Justice Community Courts are community-based criminal courts that resolve non-violent cases committed by young individuals.
- Restorative Justice Community Courts are the first courts of their kind in Cook County to adopt peace circles as the resolution process for criminal cases for adults.
- In addition to resolving cases, Restorative Justice Courts are committed to helping their participants with finding jobs, education, transportation, and other needs that they might have to succeed in life and avoid falling back into the court system.
- Four court locations: North Lawndale (October 2017), Avondale (August 2020), Englewood (September 2020), Sauk Village (July 2024)
- Key principles: healing, accountability and community engagement

Traditional Justice vs Restorative Justice

- What laws have been broken?
- Who did it?
- What does the offender deserve?
- What happened?
- Who was hurt?
- What can be done to heal and repair the harm?

Eligibility

- Must be 18 to 26 years old
- Have been charged with a nonviolent felony or misdemeanor
- Live, work, or worship in one of the neighborhoods which has a community court
- Have a non-violent criminal history
- Accept responsibility for the harm caused



The Process in Restorative Justice Community Courts

- Referral
- Initial hearing and agreement to participate in RJCC
- Peace Circle Process
- Repair of Harm Agreement
- Completing goals
- Case dismissal
- Record expungement



Court Structure

Staff meeting once a week
followed by court session
open to the public

- Judge
- Assistant State's Attorney
- Public Defender
- Court Clerk
- Social service worker
- Interpreter
- Deputies

RJCC team works weekly
with participants,
community members, and
conduct peace circles

- Court coordinator
- Case managers
- Peace Circle Keepers

Restorative Approach

- Creates a culture of belonging
- Focuses on root causes
- Transforms mistakes into learning
- Restoration over punishment
- Focuses on met and unmet needs of a person harmed and a person who harmed
- Changing participants' behavior, life approach, and mindset



RJCC in Research and Study

RJCC Evaluation

- A total of 218 individuals were admitted to RJCCs between 2020 and 2022.
- Among those who have been in the community for at least one year after release, 13.1% of RJCC participants were charged with a new offense versus 65.2% of a matched control group.

Qualitative research

- Interviews with RJCC participants and community members
- Findings:
 - RJCC can initiate the process of personal change.
 - The image of RJCC is very different than traditional criminal court and is seen as a positive asset in the neighborhoods

Testimonials

Restorative Justice Community Courts

“My experience with RJCC was a big awakening. It gave me a different perspective of my life and my future. It helped me understand my past and I realized why I am who I am now. It helped me grow a lot. I never planned to go to college. This month I finished my first semester in college.”

“They encouraged me to do better and now I have two jobs and I am thinking about opening my own company.”

“This court gives you the opportunity to improve your life. They are taking other things under consideration, not only your crime.”

“I was rushing in life. I was rushing to grow up. This is why I was arrested. In RJCC I realized that there is no rush. I have a lot of time to complete my goals in life and everything is possible.”

“During the program I went to college. I thought I would never go to college, because no one in my family did. My relations with my family improved when I realized that I need to apologize to my parents.”



© Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois

Benefits of Restorative Justice Community Courts

- Empowerment and participation
- Promotes accountability and healing (high program completion rate)
- Reduces recidivism
- Cost effectiveness
- Flexible and tailored solutions
- Prevents future harm
- Community involvement, engagement, and trust
- With continued success, restorative justice community courts can serve as a model for justice reform nationwide.

National Impact and Expansion

Influence on other Jurisdictions:

The success of Restorative Justice Community Courts in Cook County has led to the implementation of similar programs in other areas across the U.S.

Growing interest:

Increasing recognition of restorative justice practices as an effective model for reducing incarceration rates.



Questions, Comments & Reflections

Restorative
Justice
Community
Courts

Margaret Kulujian, PhD – Margaret.Kulujian@cookcountyiil.gov

Thank you!

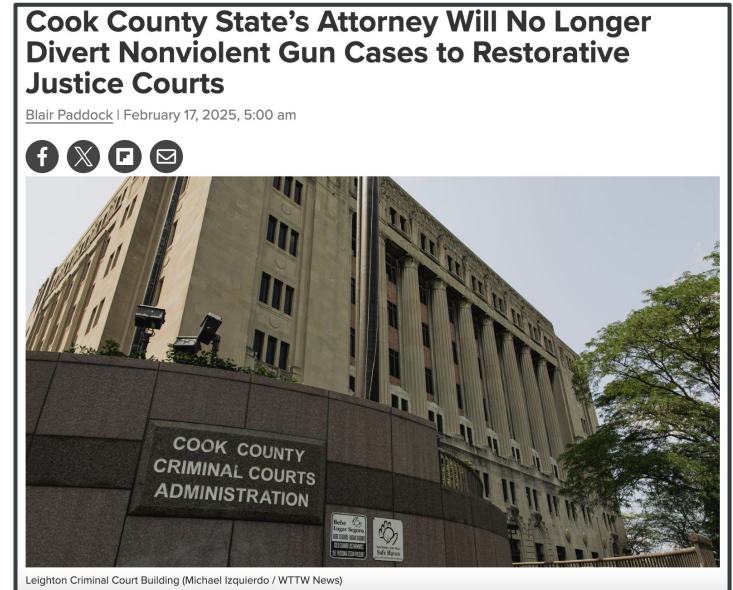


© Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois

RJCC/SAO in the News

- New Cook County State's Attorney Eileen O'Neill Burke has instructed her office to move qualifying gun cases from the RJCCs to the First Time Weapons Offender Diversion Program
- 82.8% of cases in the RJCC were for nonviolent gun related charges*
- Some advocates are concerned about the future of the RJCCs
- Important for Community to Understand:
 - Rationale for removing gun cases
 - Overview of First Time Weapons Offender Program
 - Future Use of RJCCs

*According to the [Chicago Appleseed Center for Fair Courts Report](#)



[WTTW News Article](#)

Cook County State's Attorney's Office – Strategic Initiatives

**Cook County State's
Attorney's Office**



Speaker: Ethan Holland,
Director of Strategic Initiatives

Cook County State's Attorney's Office: Upholding Justice and Public Safety

The CCSAO is dedicated to upholding public safety through the fair and efficient administration of justice. This includes prosecuting criminal offenses, representing Cook County in civil matters, and providing extensive services to victims and witnesses.

Scope and Structure

- **Second-Largest Prosecutor's Office in the U.S.:** Serving over 5 million residents of Cook County

Staffing: Over 1,200 employees, including more than 600 attorneys, 115 investigators, and 390 administrative staff

Organizational Structure: Comprised of six bureaus and four independent units to handle a diverse range of legal matters

Cook County State's Attorney's Office: Upholding Justice and Public Safety

Core Responsibilities

- **Criminal Prosecution:** Handling all misdemeanor and felony crimes committed in Cook County
- **Civil Representation:** Serving as legal counsel for Cook County government, its officeholders, and employees
- **Juvenile and Child Protection Cases:** Managing cases involving juveniles and civil actions against parents or guardians in instances of abuse or neglect

Leadership

- Judge Eileen O'Neill Burke assumed office as the Cook County State's Attorney on December 1, 2024, bringing a renewed focus on transparency, accountability, and community engagement

Restorative Justice Community Courts (RJCC)

- 4 Courts: Avondale, Englewood, North Lawndale, Sauk Village
- Participants: 18-26, non-violent charges, community connection, accept responsibility
- Eligible gun cases already addressed through First Time Weapon Offense Program
- CCSAO Support for FOID reform legislation (SB 1899 / HB 3496)
- Continued diversion for non-violent offenses: Retail Theft, Criminal Damage to Property, Forgery, etc.



Felony Review Bypass Pilot Program

- Districts: 7th (Englewood), 5th (Calumet)
- Goal: Prioritize violent crimes and victim-centered review
- Eligible charges: UUW, UUW/F, Agg. UUW
- Excluded charges: Armed Violence, Habitual Criminal, etc.

WHAT CHARGES ARE INCLUDED

GUN OFFENSES

- Aggravated Unlawful Possession of a Weapon
- Unlawful Possession of Weapons Excluding Machine Guns
- Unlawful Possession of Weapons by Felons

WHAT CHARGES ARE NOT INCLUDED

OFFENSES

- Armed Habitual Criminal
- Armed Violence
- Unlawful Possession of Weapons Machine Gun
- Guns recovered from the execution of a Search Warrant
- Other Weapon Offenses

Operational Details

- CPD officers trained and supervised
- Cases supported by BWC reviewed by ASA before hearing
- Englewood selected due to highest volume of service calls

USE YOUR BWC

- Capture reason for the traffic stop or ticket.
- Capture location of evidence
- Clearly document witness and offender's statements

BE VERBAL

- Indicate what you have observed
- Do not speak over offenders or witnesses.

INVENTORY EVIDENCE

- If relevant – inventory personal property as evidence in the case.

TICKET

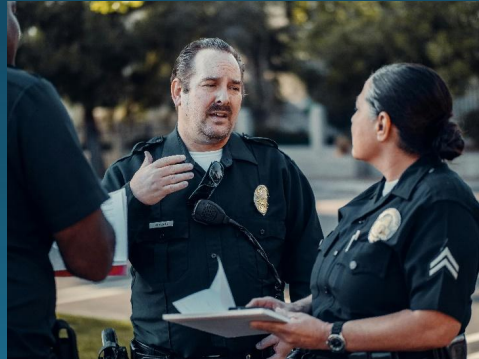
- Write the appropriate ticket.

VEHICLE IMPOUND

- If being searched pursuant to being impounded, vehicle **MUST** be impounded.
- If person present that can legally drive the vehicle **OR** if the vehicle is legally parked – vehicle may not be able to be impounded.

Program Results & Evaluation

- 50 cases filed, 37 reached prelim or GJ – all held for trial
- Increased efficiency, quicker officer redeployment
- Ongoing review with CPD to track effectiveness



Enhancing FOID Access for First-Time Nonviolent Gun Offenders

- Background: Illinois law mandates a Firearm Owner's Identification (FOID) card for legal firearm possession. Currently, individuals in diversion programs must wait until charges are dismissed before applying for a FOID card, often leaving them without legal means to possess a firearm post-program.
- **Proposed Legislation:**
- Introduced by State Senator Elgie R. Sims Jr. and State Representative Justin Slaughter.
- Allows eligible first-time, nonviolent offenders charged with Class 4 felony gun violations to apply for a FOID card while enrolled in a diversion program.
- FOID cards would be issued upon successful completion of the program.
- All existing legal requirements for FOID eligibility remain; the Illinois State Police retains authority to deny applications if criteria are not met

Enhancing FOID Access for First-Time Nonviolent Gun Offenders

Objectives: Prevent repeat offenses by facilitating legal firearm ownership for rehabilitated individuals.

- Reduce the cycle of gun charges stemming from lack of legal avenues to obtain a FOID card post-diversion.
- Maintain public safety by ensuring only eligible individuals receive FOID cards.

Support: Cook County State's Attorney Eileen O'Neill Burke advocates for this change to promote responsible gun ownership and reduce recidivism.

Next Steps:

- Awaiting legislative approval in the Illinois General Assembly.
- If passed, implementation would involve coordination between diversion programs and the Illinois State Police to process FOID applications

Questions or Problems?

Contact:
ethan.holland@cookcountysao.org

QUESTIONS?

Ethan.holland@cookcountysao.org

Cook County State's Attorney's Office



Public Announcements



Welcoming Community Groups

- If you are a part of a community group in the 19th District, please let us know:
 - Who you are, your position within the group
 - About any events coming up
 - How can neighbors reach you



Public Comment



Public Comment - Rules & Follow Up

Rules of Engagement

- 2 min/speaker = ~10 speakers (typically 20 minutes total)
- Request to make public comment must be submitted within 30-minutes of start of meeting
- Order of speakers randomly selected
- No disruption of speakers
- No harassment or disrespect will be tolerated (zero tolerance policy)

Follow Up

- District Councilors and staff will take official minutes of public comments made
- District Councilors may address comments in real time or may follow up with community member at a later time

2-Minutes per Speaker



Reminders & Calls to Action

Join Us at Avondale Restorative Justice Community Court

What is the Restorative Justice Court?

- Cook County is home to three Restorative Justice Community Courts (RJCC), geared toward young adults ages 18-26 charged with non-violent felony or misdemeanor crimes.
- RJCCs aim to reduce recidivism, prevent future harm, and resolve conflict through restorative conferences and peace circles.
- The court involves participation by victims, family members, friends, others affected by the crime, and the community.

When

April 25, 2025

**Court starts
around 10:30am**

3647 W. George

**Learn More
bit.ly/4cCX1Gp**



Please let us know you will be coming at:
19thDistrictCouncil@gmail.com

RSVP STRONGLY ENCOURAGED

Help Advocate to Fund and Expand CARE!

Scan Here!!



Email Mayor/Aldersperson



Scan Here!!



Email CCPSA

Help Advocate to Fund and Expand CARE!

Share the Slide Deck

**Expanding Mental
Health Mobile Crisis
Response in Chicago**

CARE Team

19TH DISTRICT COUNCIL
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY



Distribute this One Pager

**CHICAGO
CARE TEAM**
For Emergency Mental Health
Crisis Response

LEARN ADVOCATE

MISSION
CARE teams respond to individuals experiencing a nonviolent mental health crisis with behavioral health teams equipped to address their unmet health and social needs. Teams consist of a mental health clinician and a paramedic. Dispatched through 911.

**BENEFITS
COMMUNITY**
During a mental health crisis, individuals deserve responders who are specially trained and equipped with the right tools to stabilize the situation, provide effective support, and wrap around care.

**PROMOTES
SAFETY**
Police officers often lack specialized training for mental health emergencies, leading to less effective outcomes in these situations. Their time and resources are better spent addressing serious and violent crimes and building trust within the community.

**Coverage Area
and Hours**
CARE Teams Respond to Calls Monday - Friday, 10 am - 4 pm
6 CARE Teams operating in the following Police Districts:
1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 12, and 19
(19th and 4th district share one team)

**HELP FUND AND
EXPAND CARE**
Funding for CARE runs out at the end of the year. Ask the Mayor and City Council to fund and continue to expand this Important program for years to come.

It costs only \$4M annually to maintain current CARE teams. An estimated \$650K to expand a CARE team to a new District.

HELP HERE

19TH DISTRICT COUNCIL
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Scan Here!!



bit.ly/3QaFZ9m

19th

POLICE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Maurilio Garcia
Jenny Schaffer
Sam Schoenburg



Tell Us What You Think

19th District Council – Office Hours

Office Hours

The 19th District Council wants to talk with you about building a policing and public safety system that is more holistic, effective, data-driven, and responsive to our community's needs! We reserve the following monthly times to meet with residents and are also happy to arrange alternate times if these don't work for you. To sign up, simply email us at 19thDistrictCouncil@gmail.com. We will work to find a convenient location or set up a virtual space to meet.

**1st Wednesday;
12-1pm**

**2nd Tuesday;
7:30-8:30pm**

**3rd Monday;
9am-10am**

**4th Thursday;
2:30-3:30**

Sign Up For Our Newsletters, Contact Us, Get Involved



www.19thDistrictCouncil.com



19thDistrictCouncil@gmail.com

Thank you to our hosts!

Next Meeting:

19th

POLICE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Maurilio Garcia
Jenny Schaffer
Sam Schoenburg**

**Wednesday, May 28th, 2025 @ 6:30pm
Uptown Church**

Adjourn - Thank you!
