PRESENT:

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

DEMETRIUS E. CARNEY
WILLIAM F. CONLON
GHIAN FOREMAN
RITA A. FRY
SUSAN L. McKEEVER
ELISA RODRIGUEZ

ALSO PRESENT:

SCOTT ANDO, First Deputy Chief Administrator of the Independent Police Review Authority
WILLIAM BAZAREK, First Assistant General Counsel to the Superintendent
ALFONZA WYSINGER, First Deputy Superintendent of Police
MAX CAPRONI, Police Board Executive Director
MR. CARNEY: We're calling the Police Board meeting of January 16, 2014 to order. I will start the meeting by saying happy new year.

The first item of business is approval of the minutes of the public meeting of December 12. Is there a motion to approve?

MS. FRY: So moved.

MR. CARNEY: All those in favor?

(A chorus of ayes)

MR. CARNEY: The schedule of the Board's regular monthly meetings for 2014 is made available on the website and also in the blue books on the table. Just kind of remember that the Board meets every third Thursday of the month. We meet at 7:30. The only exception is in the month of December when we meet on the second Thursday and we meet at 6:30. So just remember third Thursday, 7:30. Generally the meetings are here at 35th and Michigan. If we move the meeting, which we have from time to time to go out to the communities and various districts, we will certainly give you ample notice.

Our next public meeting will be held here at 35th and Michigan on February 20, and the time is 7:30 of course.
I will now ask for a motion to close a series of executive sessions for the purposes of considering the cases as authorized by the Open Meetings Act.

MS. FRY: So moved.

MR. CARNEY: All in favor?

(A chorus of ayes)

MR. CARNEY: A report of disciplinary actions taken by the Board in the past year has been made available at this evening's meeting. This report and the Board's written findings and decisions are again posted on our website. Anything you want to know, you can find it on our website. I think we're very transparent in terms of the decisions of the Board and any actions that we take.

Copies of orders issued by the Superintendent during the previous month are listed in the blue books on the back table, so feel free to take one, and also on the police department's website as well.

The next item is the superintendent's report. At this time I will ask for a motion to waive the oral report and present it to the Board in writing. Is there such a motion?

MS. FRY: So moved.
MR. CARNEY: All in favor?

(A chorus of ayes)

MR. CARNEY: At this time now I call upon those members of the public who have signed up to speak in advance. When your name is called, please step up to the microphone. We ask you to limit your comments to two minutes.

Andrea Reed from the Greater Roseland Chamber of Commerce. Do you have public safety concerns from your community? Please step up, and welcome.

MS. REED: Thank you. I'm going to let these two gentlemen speak.

MR. CARNEY: Okay. That's fine. Good evening, gentlemen.

MR. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good evening. Thank you very much. We would like to first thank you all for giving us the opportunity to address you and to hear our concerns from the Roseland area.

I was born in Chicago, educated in Chicago, been in Chicago all my life. And it was my understanding that there is one, Chicago but in recent months the I'm hearing there are two Chicagos, one that's begins at 59th and goes north and one that begins at 59th and goes south.
What we have done as a committee is kind of perused the city to see what kind of services are being availed to certain areas. If you go down on North Michigan Avenue, there are two, three policemen standing on the corner, patrolling, observing and making sure that the citizens are safe. When you come to the south side of the city and particularly in my community, all of the policemen are in vehicles driving up and down the streets, and I assume that they are observing. I don't see any apprehensions. I don't see any changes in behavior in certain individuals.

In particular, when you start on Michigan Avenue south at 121st and go to 103rd, you find on any given period of time, on any given period of time, there is solicitation all up and down the street. It's rampant. What I mean solicitation, I mean there are ladies soliciting you for services. You can't even get out of your car that there's somebody there saying can I do something for you, and it's gotten to the point where the policemen might be driving by and they're still doing these same negative behaviors. They're selling drugs on the streets. They're selling loose cigarettes on the streets, and it's all up and down the corridor.
Occasionally I will go in to talk to some of the merchants just to get a feel for how they're coping with this type of behavior, and they're saying it's adversely affecting their retail. They have a certain market and clientele, and they're asking us how do we get the people out of those -- statistically there are 22 millionaires in the ninth ward, and I would venture to say not one of them shop up on that North Michigan -- not North Michigan. They do shop on North Michigan. They don't shop on South Michigan Avenue. You just can't go into -- you get out of your cars and somebody is walking up to you, do you want to buy something.

There's one store that I personally went into called Urban Legend T-Shirts. The address is 11206 South Michigan Avenue, and I went into the store to talk about some of the things that the Chamber of Commerce is doing, how we're interacting in the community, what we would like to see coming out of his store. I walked into the store. He has a stack of CDs. So I asked him are those bootleg CDs, and he said yeah. And I guess I gave him a look, and he said are you going to report me? I said yeah. We can't have that kind of behavior. It's just loose and rampant in that community.
There are other stores -- Mr. Lawson is going to talk about a couple of stores I believe, but we need to get policemen out of the cars, on the streets questioning people, why are they standing -- if the bus passes a bus stop five times and the same person is standing on the corner, it's obvious that they're doing something other than waiting for a bus. And I think it's only appropriate, if you don't approach them, at least watch them to see what kind of activities are going on. We don't see that. And the citizens, the people who would like to shop, interact in that community are getting tired and they're saying, you know, we don't know what to do anymore. The policemen are supposed to be out here. We shouldn't be out here patrolling this community.

We would like to see something happen, and so we're asking you, this Board, if there is anything that you could do to help us.

MR. CARNEY: Okay. I'm too am from Chicago, and I remember Roseland back in the day. It was a very nice shopping area, very nice district. Have you been in contact with your alderman as well? You're going to have to fight this on a number of levels.

MR. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We've been in
contact with the alderman.

MR. CARNEY: What is the response coming out the alderman's office?

MR. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, the alderman feels that he can only --

MS. REED: We have a business task force and so we have called in quite a few people of authority, and fines have been administered to these businesses to the tune of almost 100,000 collectively of all the businesses that we have alerted them about. And, you know, it's like when you're rich, you pay your fines, and then we're left with the nuisance business. That's what we're calling them.

And it really is insulting because in order for us to have a business district, as a chamber we want to attract new retailers. We want a thriving business district. As you said, Roseland was known as the jewel of the south side, and now it's just -- it's ridiculous. Once people -- in the circles that I travel in, when I say Roseland, I was the executive director the Greater Roseland Chamber, people look at me with sympathy, like oh okay, you know. It's Roseland and nobody cares.

And so we want to change that. There
are people there that do care, but the problem is, as
the Board member said here, people are discouraged, and
so we travel outside of our community. We're building
up other economic areas while our supplies lay waste,
and I think with the police, a lot of the store owners
are saying if they call the police, they have footage --
we've encouraged them to have cameras. They show the
police the footage, and nothing is done. Some of them
know who these guys are, and they do absolutely nothing.

One store owner had seven hours of
footage of someone in his store. The robber climbed up
on the roof, cut a hole out and went into the store. To
his detriment, though, he has I call them garage doors
in the front. So he's in there robbing them blind, in
and out of there. Show the footage to the police, and
nothing was done. So a lot of the businesses are
discouraged. They feel they want to leave also, and
their businesses are suffering.

MR. LAWSON: I would like to address that
also. Here is a tale of two cities, the north side and
the south side. It's alarming when I get ready to go to
bed on a Monday night -- I don't know if you guys watch
CBS. They did a little exposé on -- their investigative
reporter, Pam Zekman, did a profile on the fifth
district police officers, tac officers and uniformed and 
non-uniformed officers having an extended lunch break in 
Merrionette Park. My community -- I live in Roseland. 
I'm a lifelong resident of the south side, a lifelong 
resident of the ninth ward, pay my taxes, a property 
owner and pay all my debts. When I see my resources, my 
assets deployed on a lunch break outside the district, 
my community is on life support. If they had to 
respond, if they had to, quote unquote, deploy their 
assets to my neighborhood, I'm terminal. Would they get 
there in time? I doubt that. I doubt that. 

The perception is there is two Chicagos, 
north of 59th Street and south of 59th Street. And I 
think the French Embassy and the German Embassy agree 
with that because they actually were saying the Tribune 
and New York Times about do not venture past 59th 
Street. My son graduated from Columbia College 
downtown. There's students who say you travel lightly 
when you get past 12th Street. 

We need fair and equitable disbursement 
of law enforcement resources. I think we can move 
forward if we get all the support and all the 
understanding that we pay our fair taxes for. And I 
appreciate the opportunity to talk to you.
MR. CARNEY: The question I have is that --
you know, we have to do these in stages and priority,
especially if you get the department involved. So
what's the priority? Is it priority because of the
prostitution services? What's your priority?

MR. LAWSON: Prostitution, loose cigarettes
and the drugs.

MR. CARNEY: So your priority is to clean up
Michigan Avenue from 121st to 103rd. That's your
priority --

MR. LAWSON: That's the beginning.

MR. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: In addition to the
one I did provide, there is a store called Stop & Shop.
It's 11101 South Michigan Avenue.

Now, we -- Mr. Lawson and I went in
there. They're using Link cards to buy cigarettes.
It's whatever you want to buy in that store with a Link
card. You can charge your battery on your phone and do
all that good stuff. He's selling loose cigarettes.
He's not carding people coming in there buying whatever
to buy cigarettes. A young kid came in there and bought
some cigarettes. He didn't card the kid. He just sold
him cigarettes.

And then there's the signage. We don't
understand how is it possible to open a store overnight and put all this advertisement all over the windows. You can't see in. They can't see out.

MR. LAWSON: If I was a police officer responding to that location, I would not venture in because I cannot see inside. I think there's a thing called a mobile gang headquarters that's inside these facilities. By blanking out of the -- there's no visual inside looking in. As a police officer responding, I would be hesitant to go in.

MR. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And as a consumer I'm hesitant to go in there. You don't know what's on the other side all of those signs.

MR. LAWSON: I think there's a city ordinance that only applies to certain ZIP codes, 60601, 02 and 03, but our side of town it's standard business model, cover your windows up and letting anything go on inside.

MS. REED: This is considered a grocery store, and so I don't even know why they got a license to even open up a retail store.

MR. CARNEY: Well, I think you have to take a two-prong approach to this, especially on the building violations cases -- not cases, but alleged building violations. You really have to push harder with your
alderman. But I think as to let's just say starting
cleaning up 121 to 103 Michigan, we've got to come up
with a strategy to do that. I think maybe we could
start with -- Mr. Deputy Superintendent, are you
available after the meeting? Who is the commander in
the 11th district?

MR. WYSINGER: That's the fifth district.
Commander Larry Watts. He's been there maybe about a
month and a half.

MR. CARNEY: Have you ever sought out the
commander?

MS. REED: We haven't had a chance to meet
with him yet.

MR. LAWSON: We had a relationship with Pat
Walsh.

MR. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She was the
commander, doing a fantastic job, I mean really a
fantastic job. She was visible. The policemen were
visible. We could talk to her. The community could
talk to her, and she gets promoted.

MR. CARNEY: She's a nice lady. I remember
her.

MR. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And that's one of
the concerns we also have. If somebody is doing a great
job, I think it's fantastic, get promoted, move on to
the next level. However, why can't the next level be in
the Roseland area? Just put an office up and continue
doing what you're doing. But I guess that...

MR. CARNEY: I think you need to meet with the
Superintendent. Deputy Superintendent, can you respond
to that? I think it starts with the commander.

MR. WYSINGER: It does. But in agreement with
what they just said, Commander Walsh did do a great job,
which is why she was promoted to deputy chief. She's
actually the deputy chief for that entire area, so she
has the fifth district as well as four other districts
out there and her office is actually still out at 111th
Street. She's been moved across the hall, that's all.
So she's still there. She has more resources to give
you now than she had before.

MR. LAWSON: One question if you could answer.
I'm also a member of the Roseland Community Association
and we have a meeting next Tuesday, and they expected me
to ask how come our resources are at -- outside the
district taking an extended lunch break when, like I
said, our community is on life support and if there's an
emergency response that requires police support, we're
up -- we become terminal. If you could address that.
MS. REED: It takes a long time for police to respond.

MR. WYSINGER: If you could take back to the people at this upcoming meeting that the people that were depicted in that video have been disciplined and it was dealt with very, very quickly and hopefully that will curtail it, but that incident had been under investigation. We've come to a fruition, and those guys and some of the young ladies have been disciplined.

MS. REED: Well, we will continue --

THE WITNESS: I've got one more store I want to talk about, and it's called Ziggy's and their address 11958 South Michigan. There's loitering, extensive loitering, prostitution, and they're selling loose cigarettes out of that facility as well.

MS. REED: Well, I talked to him yesterday. They're actually selling loose cigarettes outside of the store. Someone is selling loose cigarettes on his property. It's not him, but someone solicits his customers. So that needs to be addressed.

We're going to continue to be here, so don't be shocked when you see us again.

MR. CARNEY: I think what has to happen is you're going to meet with the Deputy Superintendent.
He's going to set up a meeting with you and the commander. And then you have to keep coming to tell us what the progress is. This is going to be a process. So you have to keep coming and make us aware of the process. If you don't come, we will not know.

MR. REED: We will, and we thank you for your time.

MR. CARNEY: Thank you for coming out. Marisa Baker from the 11th district, and John Perryman. Is Mr. Perryman here as well from the 11th district? You guys might as well come up together.

MS. BAKER: Hello. Happy new year.

MR. CARNEY: We're trying.

MS. BAKER: So I have come to give the update. The last time we were here was last month, and right before we came there was an arrest made at Francisco and Madison where there had been drug dealing on that corner. Since that arrest the corner has been quiet. The main drug dealer, Marquis, who was working that corner, who is my neighbor who lives at 2922, has been released from prison and is dealing drugs out of 2922 West Monroe, the same building he's been dealing drugs out of for the last two years.

So as I said before, one step forward,
two steps back. Now, remarkably, things seem to happen right before we come to this meeting. So yesterday John received a call from someone who said that the building would be on the trouble buildings list and it would be investigated. So that is good news indeed. It's been two years that we've been waiting for this. So we will -- we remain skeptical.

I think the main issue is that we also spoke with the law department or the legal -- whatever the law department of the CPD is. And we spoke with Lindsey Baker and she said that between January of 2013 and November 2013 there were only four calls listed -- 911 calls listed for narcotics at 2922 West Monroe, which I know is incorrect because I have called on that address so many times reporting drug dealing out of the front door, out of the back door so many times. So that number that OEMC is reporting is incorrect. Unfortunately, that's the official record, and it's very frustrating.

I know that OEMC and CPD are two different departments. Apparently they do not speak to each other because the only thing that I've ever heard from CAPS in the 11th district is -- well, I've heard two things, one is we can't help you. The other thing
is call 911, call 911, we need 911 calls, and then you
talk to this woman in the law department who says, well,
there's only been four narcotics calls on this address
in this 11-month period, which is ridiculous. It's
completely ridiculous.

Again, I know OEMC is not the same as
CPD, but I think what's happening is that these
departments aren't communicating. I filed an Inspector
General report about this problem with the 911 calls.
But I think the main problem is that the 11th district,
particularly with CAPS, anyone I've ever spoken to in
the CAPS in the 11th district, Sergeant Ward, Sergeant
Allen, call 911, call 911, we need to log these calls.
And it just seems like the police are putting up these
road blocks where they are giving us things to do that
basically amount to spinning our wheels. After years
and years and years we're getting information. They're
not making arrests. They're dragging their feet, and
it's been really frustrating. We got the call yesterday
that something is supposed to happen. Again, I'm
skeptical. I'm deeply skeptical.

MR. CARNEY: Correct me if I'm wrong. You
were at a meeting a couple months ago and you gave us
some -- you reported to the Board that there had been
some progress made as to the drug deals on your block.

So there was progress.

MS. BAKER: There was one arrest that was made that stopped the drug dealing on that corner.

MR. CARNEY: So the drug dealing, is it still stopped on that corner?

MS. BAKER: On that corner, I do believe that the police can take some credit for the -- you know what I'm saying, the kind of slow activity on that corner. The individual that was arrested has not been on that corner working. I have seen other people who are associated with him and also live them at 2922 on that corner. I think with the weather and with that arrest, it's definitely slowed them down. But what I'm saying is they're still dealing actually out of 2922 West Monroe out of the front door as they have been for the past two years, and it is the same people who are working on Madison and Francisco.

MR. CARNEY: So your next priority -- I think we have to deal in priorities. Your next priority in terms of a community is to stop the drug dealing at 2922 West Monroe, correct?

MS. BAKER: Yes.

MR. CARNEY: John?
MR. PERRYMAN: I will try to keep it short.

You know, we've seen some success from coming to these meetings, and we thank you for that. The problem is --

MR. CARNEY: That's why we're here.

MR. PERRYMAN: Yes, thank you.

The problem is we don't want to have to come to these meetings anymore, but I feel if we don't come, everything is going to back slide. It's starts off we call -- if there's a problem, we call 911. When that doesn't work, we go to CAPS. When that doesn't work, we try and talk to the commander. When that doesn't work, we talk to the tactical. We talk to whoever we can. We talked to our alderman, and now we're here.

I would like to know -- obviously the system is broken, at least in the 11th it's broken. Can you please tell me specifically some strategies that we can use so we don't have to come here? When we give information, we're saying there's drugs coming out of this house at this time with this person, we know their name often, wearing these clothes, the same clothes every day, the same time every day for months and, the police kind of give me a hmm, we'll put a blue and white on it, which is the worst strategy because as soon as
the blue and white leave, they start right back up. I want to know what are we going to do?

Just before you answer, the things that I have seen work, undercover buys work. They work. I don't know why we had to wait five months to get someone to get out there to do a buy, but it worked. The narcotics, it works. And when the police come quickly on 911, that works. But if it's 45 minutes, don't even bother. It doesn't work. And it's very frustrating to call 911 just to get the numbers up so that we can be taken seriously.

So I would like to know -- I'm just going to put this out there. I want to know specifically what has been going on? We've been talking about this for months. I want to know specifically what's going on so that we can start -- when the community comes with good information, so the police will actually take meaningful action on.

MR. CARNEY: What I would like to recommend is let's start with a strategy for 2922. I think that's a good start I think in terms of working with the department in terms of what you would like to see. I think you would just like the drug dealing to stop --

MR. PERRYMAN: I'm also speaking about future
problems. I didn't bring up 2922. I'm asking a
specific question.

MR. CARNEY: But I think you've got to take it
every example by example because when you say globally, I
don't know if we can do it globally.

MS. BAKER: This is the thing is that --

MR. CARNEY: Because honestly police can't be
everywhere.

MS. BAKER: No, I understand that. I want to
give you an example. This guy Marquis, who was arrested
and is still dealing out of 2922, four years ago he was
dealing out of 2950 West Monroe. Two years ago he was
dealing by the liquor store on the other side of
Sacramento and then he was Madison and Francisco and in
the past year he's been dealing out of where he lives,
2922 West Monroe. This guy has caused $2,600 of damage
on my car. He's threatened us, and he walks around the
block and says this is my block. He says this to
people. He says this to old ladies. And this is why --
he gets arrested and then two weeks later he's dealing
drugs out of that building because there is no threat of
apprehension. There's no credible threat that the
police are posing to anyone dealing drugs in my
neighborhood.
MR. CARNEY: So there's a drug problem, and then there's intimidation of the community.

MS. BAKER: Oh, yeah, totally. Oh, yes.

MR. CARNEY: Deputy Superintendent, can you respond to that? I think which we need to start with a strategy.

MR. WYSINGER: It sounds like we have to first make a strategy already in place, and that's by them getting this thing on the radar with the trouble buildings unit. I think it has been cited. I will give this to the narcotics section. They can start an operation in and around the particular location. That will be someone --

MR. CARNEY: Can they meet with someone in narcotics to develop a strategy? Because they keep coming back, and I would like for the Board to be able to say -- at least to say we have progress here. It may not be big, but this here, this here, this here. This is going to take a while.

MR. WYSINGER: I can actually have a narcotics sergeant that's assigned to that district contact you guys tomorrow to start putting a plan in place to try to get this problem eradicated.

MR. CARNEY: When you to contact, where would
he meet with them? Can he meet with them here?

Sometimes I think the people come and they need to get out of their community to meet with the police officers. So if they can meet at 35th and Michigan, this gives them a safe haven.

MS. BAKER: We always have police at our house, in front of our house. We don't care. They can come in the front door.

MR. WYSINGER: After I give you the contact person, they can decide exactly where you want to meet, something that is comfortable for them and would be comfortable for the supervisor also. So you guys can actually determine location. If you don't want them to come to the house, you can meet someplace nearby.

MR. CARNEY: Or you can meet here.

MS. BAKER: I would request that that phone call actually happen sooner rather than the day before the meeting. Do you know what I mean?

MR. CARNEY: Can you make it tomorrow?

MR. WYSINGER: He or she will call you tomorrow.

MR. CARNEY: Make sure you get together and exchange numbers, so you can follow up so we can make it happen. Thanks, folks. Just keep coming. I know --
people from Roseland, they started and we've made some 
progress, but it's going to take a while. So unless you 
come and talk to us, we will never know.

Crista Noel? Robert More?

I would like to say that the meeting 
this evening was a very positive meeting because I think 
that's why we're here, to help citizens in the various 
communities. It seems we've made a little progress in 
the 11th district, and we certainty would like to see 
you make some progress as well in the Roseland district. 
So thank you for coming.

At this time there's no other person 
signed up to speak. Is there a motion to adjourn the 
meeting?

MS. FRY: So moved.

MR. CARNEY: We will see you folks next month. 

Thank you.

(Meeting adjourned)
I, Verla A. Todd, a Certified Shorthand Reporter doing business in the City of Chicago, County of Cook, and State of Illinois, do hereby certify that I reported in shorthand the proceedings of said hearing as appears from my stenographic notes so taken and transcribed under my direction and control.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand at Chicago, Illinois, this day of , A.D. .

Certified Shorthand Reporter
Illinois CSR License 084-003498