



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



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**MAYOR LIGHTFOOT INTRODUCES ORDINANCE TO ALLOW CERTAIN
INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORTS TO BE RELEASED**

*Corporation Counsel Authorized to Release OIG Reports that are of a Compelling
Public Interest*

CHICAGO—Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot today introduced an ordinance to the City Council that would allow the release of reports from the Office of the Inspector General when the conduct investigated is associated with a death or a felony, generating high interest from the public. While the Inspector General issues quarterly reports on its investigations, the municipal code prohibits the release of detailed reports.

“During my campaign, I committed to holding my administration to the highest levels of transparency, and this ordinance provides the public with an opportunity to fully examine the Inspector General’s findings on the most high-profile and consequential investigations in our city,” said Mayor Lightfoot. “People have a right to question the decisions made by their government officials and to hold them accountable. Withholding all OIG reports only generates mistrust at a time when city government should be focusing its efforts on rebuilding trust and restoring the public’s faith.”

The proposed ordinance gives the Corporation Counsel the authority to release reports if the report contains sustained findings regarding conduct that either is associated with a death or is, or may be, a felony as defined in the Illinois Criminal Code and is of a compelling public interest.

Prior to releasing any reports, the Corporation Counsel will consult with the Inspector General to determine such a release would not constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; interfere with due process in an ongoing or contemplated City employment or disciplinary process; impede an ongoing or contemplated administrative, civil or criminal investigation or proceeding; compromise law enforcement or investigative operations; reveal the identity of confidential sources, including protected witnesses; endanger the life or safety of



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any person or cause a threat to security; or contravene applicable law, court order, or collective bargaining agreement.

The ordinance introduced today follows on a series of reforms by the Lightfoot Administration that are designed to enhance transparency and accountability in city government, including: signing of an executive order to end aldermanic prerogative, reforms to the management of the workers' compensation program, and the introduction and passage of ethics reforms which apply to city employees. The Mayor and her administration are committed to working with the City Council to make city government more responsive and to ensure fair and efficient services for residents and businesses in every community.

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