



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MAYOR LIGHTFOOT ANNOUNCES MAMADOU DIAKHATE TO SERVE AS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHICAGO ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL**

**CHICAGO** – Mayor Lori. E Lightfoot today announced that Mamadou Diakhate will serve as Executive Director for Chicago Animal Care and Control (CACC). Diakhate has been serving as Interim Executive Director since February 2020 following the departure of former Executive Director Kelley Gandurski. Previously, he served as Deputy Director for CACC.

"Mamadou has played an incredibly critical role in navigating CACC through a number of challenges this past year," said Mayor Lightfoot. "Not only did he lead the department through a successful transition to modified services during the pandemic, but he also helped to ensure that animals could continue to be transferred to partners, returned to their owners, and adopted into new homes. I'm proud to work with Mamadou as he permanently steps into the role of Executive Director and I am confident that he will continue to advance CACC's mission of providing quality care to our animals and ensuring public safety."

Diakhate has more than two decades of senior management and veterinarian experience in animal care and control, and he has been with CACC since 2004 when he began as a supervisor. Before coming to CACC and the City of Chicago, he served as a Veterinarian and General Manager at Liberty Vet Farm in Senegal. During his tenure as Interim Executive Director, he helped the Department achieve a record high live outcome of 93%.

"I'm honored to continue my work with Chicago Animal Care and Control to maintain and improve our operations in everything from care and adoptions to public safety," said Diakhate. "Working with animals has been my lifelong vocation, and I look forward to executing CACC's services with humanity, care, and passion."

Diakhate received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M) degree from the Inter-States School of Veterinary Medicine in Senegal, and he has a Small Business Management Certificate from Veterinarians Without Borders.



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