EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2023-17
EXECUTIVE ORDER ON COMMUNITY SAFETY

WHEREAS, equitable and just public safety for all is of the highest priority for the City of Chicago (the “City”); and

WHEREAS, every community deserves real public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City directly supervises the Police Superintendent and must communicate directly, not through intermediary, with CPD leadership on the overall strategy, performance, morale and accountability of the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, public safety encompasses more than law enforcement and carceral interventions and requires a holistic, trauma-informed, and healing-centered response; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that public safety is effective when co-created with communities to develop long term plans with clear measures of success along the way, and particularly with communities of color that have historically experienced over policing and disinvestment while disproportionately carrying the trauma of sustained exposure to violence; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that public safety requires coordinated strategies across numerous City agencies including law enforcement agencies and community based organizations; and
WHEREAS, almost half of all individuals returning from Illinois prisons come home to Chicago; of those, about half return to the historically disinvested neighborhoods on the City’s West and South side, which often lack the resources required to support people’s transition from prison to their home communities; and

WHEREAS, community partnerships and meaningful engagement with community members is of paramount importance to building and creating a public safety strategy; and

WHEREAS, a public safety strategy cannot be complete without significant investments in young people; and

WHEREAS, there is need for coordinating the City’s existing resources across multiple agencies to pursue a coordinated public safety strategy that considers a holistic and equitable approach to community development while developing strategies to support young people; and

WHEREAS, the City finds it necessary and appropriate to create a position within the executive department to lead the City’s efforts for such a coordinated public safety strategy through a community lens; now, therefore,

I, Brandon Johnson, Mayor of the City of Chicago, do hereby order as follows:

Section 1. The above “WHEREAS” clauses are incorporated into and made an integral part of this Order.

Section 2. A Deputy Mayor for Community Safety is established in the Mayor’s Office and this Deputy Mayor will have such staff as are necessary for the effective functioning of this Office.

Section 3. The Deputy Mayor for Community Safety is responsible for coordination and communication between all applicable City departments and officials related to the City’s efforts to eradicate the root causes of crime, violence, and harm, and to advance a holistic and comprehensive approach to community safety. All City Department Heads are directed to undertake whatever efforts are feasible pursuant to their powers and duties, and to direct their
employees accordingly, to work with the Deputy Mayor for Community Safety consistent with the purposes of this Order.

Section 4. The Deputy Mayor will provide recommendations to me, with urgency, with proposals for inclusion in the City’s Fiscal Year 2024 budget on programs, policies, and expenditures to support safe and peaceful communities.

Section 5. This Order will take effect upon its execution and filing with the City Clerk.

1. Effective Date
This order shall take effect upon its execution and filing with the City Clerk.

Received and filed May 15, 2023

City Clerk