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COMMUNITY COMMISSION for PUBLIC SAFETY and  
ACCOUNTABILITY

TRAFFIC STOP LISTENING SESSION  
Thursday, January 24, 2025, 6:30 p.m.  
Salvation Army, Chicago

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APPEARANCES:

Commissioner Remel Terry  
Commissioner Sandra Wortham

1           VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: I'm Remel Terry. I'm  
2 one of the commissioners for the Community  
3 Commission for Public Safety and Accountability.  
4 I also serve as the vice president, and I am  
5 joined here by my lovely colleague. Do you want  
6 to go ahead and introduce yourself?

7           COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Good evening,  
8 everyone. I'm Sandra Wortham for the Community  
9 Commission for Public Safety and Accountability  
10 and have the good fortune of serving on the CPD  
11 Policy Committee.

12          VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Great. So I want to  
13 welcome you all to our second community meeting.  
14 I want to also thank before we get started the  
15 Salvation Army for hosting tonight's event.

16                       Are there any of my other fellow  
17 commissioners? I didn't see anyone. So I guess  
18 it's just the two of us here. And I also would  
19 like to acknowledge any of our District  
20 Councilors. I did see Sierra. Oh, Dion. Anyone  
21 else here? Okay. Well, thank you all for being  
22 here and for your attendance.

23                       The Community Commission for Public  
24 Safety and Accountability is hosting a series of

1 these listening sessions across the City of  
2 Chicago to gather community input on traffic  
3 stops. So within this, the Commission is seeking  
4 to create policy, and we have policymaking  
5 authority in working with the Chicago Police  
6 Department in developing policy that will govern  
7 traffic stops.

8           And so we're really looking for  
9 community input to share their experiences with  
10 traffic stops and provide feedback on potential  
11 changes to any of the practices within the  
12 Department and what could be included in the  
13 policy that we'll be collaboratively drafting.

14           In 2021, the Chicago City Council  
15 voted to create the Commission to oversee the  
16 Chicago Police Department, the Civilian Office of  
17 Police Accountability and the Chicago Police  
18 Board.

19           As part of its authority, the  
20 Commission has the power to enact CPD general  
21 orders. The goal is to create better policy that  
22 reflects meaningful community input. And if  
23 you've been involved in some of our earlier work,  
24 you are aware that we are true to the input of

1 having community at the table.

2 So the goal is to create better  
3 policy that reflects input, as I stated. And the  
4 only effective way to build legitimacy and public  
5 support for the policies is to engage the public  
6 throughout the policy development process, which  
7 is why we're hosting listening sessions.

8 The Commission is focusing on  
9 traffic stops because they are one of the most  
10 common ways in which police interact with  
11 community members.

12 Chicago police officers conduct  
13 about a thousand of -- conduct thousands of  
14 traffic stops every day. While CPD currently has  
15 and is pursuing new policies that cover a wide  
16 range of police encounters, CPD traffic stops are  
17 specifically governed by several policies that  
18 mainly focus on data collection.

19 And the policy we are collaborating  
20 with CPD on is the new policy that will govern  
21 how CPD conducts traffic stops.

22 The way traffic stops are conducted,  
23 impacts the community and police. While there  
24 have been community conversations about traffic

1 stops, the Commission wants to ensure that all  
2 voices are represented in this policy.

3 Over the next several months, the  
4 Commission is engaging in a holistic and  
5 comprehensive community engagement approach that  
6 includes listening sessions like this and focus  
7 groups with targeted constituents. This includes  
8 members of law enforcement.

9 I will now turn it over to  
10 Commissioner Wortham.

11 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you,  
12 Commissioner Terry.

13 So we're going to just shortly open  
14 it up to the main purpose of this meeting, which  
15 is for public comment. But we did want to  
16 offer -- so, of course, we want you to say  
17 whatever you'd like to say regarding traffic  
18 stops tonight, but we wanted to offer a little  
19 bit of not guidance but some pinpoints of things  
20 we're specifically looking for that might be  
21 helpful as we work with the Chicago Police  
22 Department on any policy that might come out of  
23 this.

24 So, of course, a general question

1 being, what is your experience with traffic stops  
2 in the City of Chicago? What are your public  
3 safety concerns? What types of training and  
4 guidance -- so let me couch this different. So  
5 we, of course, know, as Commissioner Terry said  
6 in her introductory remarks, there are existing  
7 policies within the Police Department that relate  
8 to police/resident encounters. So we want to  
9 know if there are other types of training  
10 guidance that police should receive before going  
11 into the field and conducting traffic stops.

12                   Similarly, as we all know, there are  
13 existing Chicago Police Department policies that,  
14 again, relate to police interactions with  
15 residents. There are also, of course, laws of  
16 the land that relate to your rights, all of our  
17 rights as it relates to police encounters. Are  
18 there other types of accountability measures that  
19 you might be interested in seeing as it relates  
20 to the conducting of traffic stops? And then,  
21 finally, do you think there should be any  
22 limitations to the types of stops, or do you  
23 think there should not be limitations to the  
24 types of stops? And if you are interested in

1 either of those perspectives, we're happy to hear  
2 you elaborate, of course, on what types of  
3 limitations or why you think there might not be a  
4 benefit to having limitations, whatever your  
5 perspective on that issue might be.

6 So, again, those are just some  
7 points to offer. You're, of course, welcome to  
8 craft your comments however you'd like. We  
9 really just want to hear what you have to say.

10 Okay. In addition to these public  
11 comment listening sessions, we also have a survey  
12 where you're able to share your feedback. I  
13 think it's been online for a month or so. So you  
14 can find the survey through the QR code on the  
15 handout you will receive or have received  
16 tonight, and it's also posted on our website.

17 So we will now call up our first  
18 three speakers.

19 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Yes. So our first  
20 three speakers are La'Keisha Gray-Sewell, Girls  
21 Like Me Project. Darnel Cook. And Troy Gaston.

22 MS. GRAY-SEWELL: Good evening, ladies and  
23 everyone in the audience. I'm speaking as a  
24 resident here in Englewood. Sorry. And also as

1 a girls advocate in the City of Chicago.

2                   There are so very many layered  
3 issues with police stops and police traffic in  
4 general.

5                   And since I know this is targeted  
6 specifically to stops, I want to make a note of  
7 just an issue that I see in this community with  
8 police driving. The speeding at extreme levels  
9 with no sirens and no lights on, which even if  
10 they're not stopping, they could cause an  
11 accident or could hit a pedestrian, particularly  
12 children. That's the first thing.

13                   Secondly is, this area, 72nd,  
14 particularly between 72nd and Halsted and 72nd  
15 and Wentworth Street, it is very dark. Hamilton  
16 Park is there. At any time you can see police --  
17 at any time you can see the police stopping  
18 someone five -- more than five cars at a time all  
19 unmarked. It happened to my son while he was  
20 home from Morehouse College on break where he  
21 stopped, police swarm in, 16 cars. And this is  
22 not an exaggeration. Flashing a light in his  
23 face. He calls, and then just as soon as they  
24 stop him and look into his car and scare the



1     daylights out of him, they go off into the night.  
2     No ticket, no anything.

3                     It's happened to me where I've been  
4     stopped on that same route multiple times.

5                     We've been homeowners here for 20  
6     years. I can count more than seven times myself,  
7     my husband, or my son have been stopped in that  
8     particular strip. And, again, with no ticket,  
9     just a random, We thought you were somebody else,  
10    or your light is out, or you don't have the  
11    proper -- we didn't see your license plates. All  
12    fabricated because there's no ticket to be given.

13                    So a policy -- also, yes, if there's  
14    no ticket, every stop should have a record. So  
15    even if it's not a ticket, it's no violation, at  
16    least have it that there was a stop here, how  
17    many stops there were, so that the public can  
18    have access to that record, the public can see  
19    how many people are being stopped, who it is they  
20    stopped in particular, and what officers are  
21    involved in these stops. And I think that is  
22    all.

23                    And I'm also wondering what I would  
24    like to see come out of this. We know that the

1 Consent Decree has come down in 2017, and I would  
2 like to know how any of the recommendations that  
3 came into that are into play now or how police  
4 are doing stops in this community.

5 Thank you all for your attention and  
6 for your time.

7 MR. COOK: For the record, my name is Darrel  
8 Cook. I've just been recently pulled over last  
9 Thursday by the CPD, and as far as I was  
10 physically beat unconscious to -- I was -- well,  
11 basically just -- excuse me, excuse me, excuse me  
12 for one second. I've been crying so much about  
13 this that I really can't even cry no more. I had  
14 faith within the Police Department. Now it's  
15 like I'm really petrified as far as being in the  
16 traffic stop just last week. And like I said, I  
17 was physically beat unconscious. But I been in  
18 the hospital for like five days. As far as my  
19 left side is impaired -- I mean my right side is  
20 impaired right now, but I was just a hard-working  
21 man, going to see my auntie on 77th and May. And  
22 it was snowing that day. I think it was the  
23 16th. Looked like ice out there, and I came to a  
24 stop sign. I did a complete stop, but it was

1 slippery out there, so it's like black ice. So  
2 the officers, they came out of the alley  
3 somewhere where they was parked at, pulled me  
4 over, asked me to get out of the car, because  
5 they said I ran a stop sign or whatever, which I  
6 didn't, because I stopped and my car just slid a  
7 little bit because of the black ice. So as far  
8 as me getting out of the car, the officer tried  
9 to grab me, and I just slightly pulled back from  
10 him. And I'm not resisting or anything like  
11 that. I'm getting out of the car. So once I get  
12 out of the car, that's when they put the cuffs on  
13 me, and they just slammed me to the ground and  
14 some hard object was just slammed over my head,  
15 and I was just unconscious.

16                   So like I said, I've been in the  
17 hospital for the past five days due to the  
18 incident. And as far as how they pulling people  
19 over for just minor little things such as that,  
20 which I was handing my SR22s and everything.  
21 They wasn't trying to hear anything I was talking  
22 about, they just wanted me to get out of the car.  
23 So once I get out of the car, like I said, once I  
24 blacked out, whatever I was here with, I was

1 unconscious. I woke up in the hospital with an  
2 incubator {sic} tube down my throat. And I woke  
3 up last Saturday because of this incident.

4                   So as far as with -- how they doing  
5 they traffic stop right now, they pulling you  
6 over for just the minor things when -- if you not  
7 -- like I say, you don't have a -- you probably  
8 turning right, got your turn signal on, and they  
9 just -- they don't think nothing of that as far  
10 as when paying attention to those signals and  
11 things like that.

12                   So what I'm trying to say, I'm just  
13 trying to tell -- get my story out there,  
14 because, like I say, I was a victim of police  
15 brutality. Excuse my French. But something's  
16 got to change with this. It truly does. And I  
17 really didn't want to come to this meeting, but  
18 my cousin -- at the end of the day, I only had  
19 one person to call, that's my cousin, Shirley  
20 Guest. And as far as allowing for this to bring  
21 us together, I'm truly thankful so I can get my  
22 voice to be heard. But it's a lot that have to  
23 change within there that the traffic stops the  
24 way they doing things.

1                   And I'm really -- I'm really done  
2 with it right now. But like I said, I just want  
3 to thank you all for allowing me to hear my voice  
4 and getting everything out that I can.

5           VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

6           MR. GASTON: I heard the two commissioners up  
7 there today say, "Good evening, everyone," and I  
8 didn't hear a lot of voices, so I'm going to try  
9 to do it again. Good evening, everyone. Thank  
10 you. Show them some respect, too.

11                   My name is Troy Gaston. I'm a  
12 Black Lives Matter organizer. I worked extremely  
13 hard to get this organization implemented in  
14 2019. 2021, we finally got to push it over. We  
15 didn't get everything we wanted, and that's why I  
16 think Commissioner Wortham asked us significant  
17 questions that I wanted to jot down an answer to  
18 in response to concerns about the practices,  
19 specifically of police and how we can bring  
20 (inaudible). So I'll tell you what we have done  
21 so far. Body-worn cameras, independent review  
22 boards, data transparency initiatives, training  
23 programs, policy revisions. All insufficient.  
24 All insufficient.

1                   Last time I was here, I was here  
2 speaking about Dexter Reed who was shot at 96  
3 times for a traffic stop.

4                   Today I'm here as the Ph.D. student  
5 and trying to do research on this issue is kind  
6 of tough, and I know it's a challenge for y'all.  
7 Absolutely challenging. But the community is  
8 looking for results.

9                   Any institution we put money into  
10 it, and at the bottom -- at the bottom line, we  
11 all looking for results.

12                   My initial question coming here --  
13 and I just kept on thinking, Why do we need a man  
14 with a gun to pull somebody over for a minor  
15 traffic stop? That's something you can take that  
16 back with you. Why do we need a man with a gun  
17 to handle a traffic stop? These traffic stops,  
18 particularly for African American men and many  
19 other marginalized young men, result in  
20 oftentimes deadly violence. We know that from a  
21 simple traffic stop. And it's a lot of things  
22 that we got to look at; historical background,  
23 like behaviors of particular potential  
24 perpetrators, assumed perpetrators. We got to

1 look at all that. We just can't point a finger  
2 at all officers out there. No one here is saying  
3 that.

4 And as a Black Lives Matter  
5 organizer, as a person who loudly says defund the  
6 police, I'm still committed to the idea that we  
7 got some good people willing to protect the  
8 community.

9 At the end of the day, I'm not going  
10 to waiver from that. But in understanding that,  
11 I expect accountability. I expect for people to  
12 be held accountable when they stepping outside  
13 they job, and we ask for this body to do as much  
14 work as they possibly can, to be as diligent as  
15 you possibly can, but to make a decision about  
16 our safety when it comes down to the Chicago  
17 Police Department infringing on our freedom.

18 That's all I got for today. Y'all  
19 enjoy y'all's day and thank y'all for having us.

20 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: The next three  
21 speakers we have are Keith Harris, Larry Richard,  
22 Ali Longbottom.

23 MR. HARRIS: Good evening, everyone. Got a  
24 question before I start. If a police -- if

1 there's a police traffic stop, and it is  
2 warranted, what would be the typical procedure?  
3 Saying somebody ran the stop sign or was speaking  
4 or something like that, what would be the typical  
5 procedure of the police? I'm asking.

6 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: So Commissioner Terry  
7 can jump in here. I mean, quite frankly, I could  
8 tell you, but I don't -- this is why when we --  
9 we're open. We try to highlight -- and it is  
10 actually publicly available, good news, the suite  
11 of policies that are currently in place with the  
12 Chicago Police Department as it relates to all  
13 things involved in the behavior of conducting a  
14 traffic stop. So as you all, I'm sure, know who  
15 are involved in this issue that would include the  
16 Fourth Amendment, all sorts of different things  
17 like that. I don't want to -- frankly, I don't  
18 want to speak for the Department. I could tell  
19 you, but I think for the purposes of this hearing  
20 tonight, the best thing is to hear from you. I  
21 understand the purpose of your question. We can  
22 discuss as a working group that -- at one of  
23 these we can open with some more specifics to  
24 really ground us in what policies exist now,



1 because I do think -- I'll tell you, I do think  
2 that's for me one of the sticking points, because  
3 I do think there's a little bit of misinformation  
4 about that in the public that's driving some of  
5 our issues.

6 So I know that's not the answer you  
7 want, but that's the answer I'm going to give  
8 now. We will talk about that.

9 I'm happy to ground the beginning  
10 of one of these -- because we're going to have  
11 more of these. I'm happy to ground the beginning  
12 of another one with a primer on what policies  
13 exist, because I do think that that would be very  
14 helpful for the public and for the Department,  
15 quite frankly, so that we're all on the same page  
16 when you're discussing your feedback or your  
17 opinions on what policies may or may not --

18 MR. HARRIS: Okay. I want to speak about two  
19 incidents. The first incident I gave, you know,  
20 a document on July 16th, the day after that  
21 tornado hit. I was followed then stopped. So  
22 the encounter was aggressive, and it was  
23 confrontational. Because of my background and  
24 working in the community and working with

1 different -- through different avenues through  
2 the City, I kind of know what to do, know what to  
3 expect, and know how to diffuse a situation or  
4 let it escalate. But, again, I was followed, and  
5 then stopped.

6           So the point I want to make with  
7 that is that in Englewood, there's a tactic where  
8 the Police Department, for whatever reason, will  
9 run your plates. You don't have to have done  
10 anything. They will just -- either they'll make  
11 a U-turn and get behind you or just drive behind  
12 you, follow you, run your plates, and if they  
13 do -- if they come up with a reason on why to  
14 pull you over, they will. You didn't have to do  
15 anything. It's up to their beck and call.

16           So on that situation, I was pulled  
17 over, and in the same case with this young  
18 brother, the officers we're aggressive and  
19 confrontational. And he's a grown man. I'm a  
20 grown man. You don't talk to adults a certain  
21 kind of way and expect a respectful encounter or  
22 respectful engagement. If you confrontational,  
23 then nine times out of ten, the event will end up  
24 confrontational.

1                   Make a long story short. Got  
2 pulled over, got seven tickets. At the time, I  
3 had my FOID, concealed carry over five years. No  
4 incidents. I don't have it anymore because of  
5 that officer. I had my vehicle taken, and it  
6 took me almost eight days to get it back, \$1500,  
7 because I didn't comply with the initial command,  
8 and that was to get out of my car. When I asked  
9 for what, "I don't have to give you a reason."  
10 Yes, you do. Confrontational.

11                   The second event was on my son's  
12 birthday, and then that document is noted, he got  
13 murdered on August 8th, but his birthday is  
14 January 2nd, and every January 2nd, we have a  
15 little balloon release and a light celebration,  
16 and we were doing that. It was about maybe 19,  
17 20 degrees that day. They pulled up about seven,  
18 eight cars without cause and start snatching  
19 everybody out of the car. Put me in handcuffs.  
20 Put some of the other kids in handcuffs.  
21 Searching cars for no reason. Nobody called  
22 them. And they were confrontational again.

23                   I don't know about other districts,  
24 but at a certain point in time, you have people

1 patrolling Englewood that don't look like me.  
2 And they are disrespectful. They're  
3 confrontational, and it causes a situation. It  
4 causes a distrust first of all. Certainly, if  
5 there is distrust, they're making it further.

6           So to get to the -- to some of the  
7 policies or some of the things that need to  
8 happen -- the first thing that needs to happen is  
9 the City. You might be the Chicago Police  
10 Department, but the City needs to do something  
11 about the union contract where if an officer does  
12 something, all they really going to get is a slap  
13 on the wrist, and all officers know that, so they  
14 disregard commanders, sergeants, lieutenants,  
15 whatever the case may be, because they know  
16 nothing's really going to happen. So what? You  
17 complain, you put a complaint in my jacket, in my  
18 envelope on my name, but nothing's going to  
19 happen to me, and I'm going to continue to do  
20 this, continue to do this.

21           So the policies or the power that  
22 that leadership authority in Chicago Police  
23 Department needs to have to reprimand and bring  
24 action towards officers that are -- that violate

1 their policies, that are overzealous, that create  
2 problems when there's not a problem, they need to  
3 have that. And that deal -- that starts with the  
4 union contract.

5           The second thing is there needs to  
6 be some kind of psychological training, because a  
7 lot of times, a lot of police officers are  
8 ex-service men, and they come back with a  
9 mentality like they still in the service, and the  
10 people they're patrolling, the enemy combatants  
11 we're not, and we don't deserve to be treated  
12 like that. So that needs to be fixed.

13 Psychological exam needs to be done on these  
14 officers before they allowed out in the streets,  
15 see if they got some PTSD going on. If they  
16 still got issues thinking that they in  
17 Afghanistan or Iraq or wherever they were  
18 stationed at, because they not, they in  
19 Englewood.

20           And the second thing is ease up on  
21 the aggression, ease up on the confrontation,  
22 because you're going to get met with that. You  
23 got a bunch of -- you got a generation of young  
24 people that don't care, don't care, and they --

1 they are fearless. And I've had to stop a whole  
2 lot of situations in Englewood where there's been  
3 confrontation between these young people and the  
4 police. In some of those instances some police  
5 have gotten hurt.

6 So to keep things on an even keel,  
7 there needs to be some training done on the  
8 aggression and the policy and the confrontation.

9 You're not in a -- you're not in an  
10 enemy zone, and you shouldn't treat people as  
11 enemy combatants.

12 I've seen them be disrespectful to  
13 people's grandmothers, old people, old senior  
14 citizens. And I don't know about y'all, but when  
15 my mother was alive, nobody gonna talk to my  
16 mother any kind of way. I didn't care.

17 You got a bunch of young people out  
18 here that have that mentality. We don't care.  
19 You're disrespectful to me, I'm going to be  
20 disrespectful to you, and there's going to be a  
21 big blowup. So let's stop that.

22 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you.

23 MR. RICHARD: Larry Richard. Lifelong  
24 resident of Englewood. When it comes to traffic

1 stops in Englewood, or in the rest of the City, I  
2 think that CPD needs to take a look at the data  
3 rather than a lot of the talk, because a lot of  
4 the talk would tell you that you're only stopping  
5 black people, and that's racism, and that's  
6 profiling, but it's hard to draw that conclusion  
7 when you're in a neighborhood like my community  
8 that is 98 percent black. Who else are you going  
9 to stop?

10 Another thing is, take a look at the  
11 science. Take a good look at the data from the  
12 Insurance Institute, which tells you where the  
13 accidents are, they tell you where the claims  
14 are. You pay it, you know, because of the amount  
15 of insurance you pay. Okay. So if you take a  
16 look at the science and the data, let that drive  
17 your traffic stops, because, in my opinion, in  
18 Englewood, because of the unsafe vehicles,  
19 because of the vehicles I see driving around with  
20 no headlights, no bumpers, no license plates, no  
21 stickers, no tags on the car, all of those are  
22 valid stops, and they should not be foregone  
23 simply because people are saying you shouldn't  
24 stop us for a taillight or brake light. Fix it.

1                   You know, when I came up, the first  
2 thing was if you had a car, make sure everything  
3 was working. If everything is working, you don't  
4 draw the attention of the police. The police, I  
5 believe, in Englewood have more to do than just  
6 to randomly stop people. But let the data show,  
7 because, in my opinion, with the crime and with  
8 all the unsafe vehicles that I see, a little boy  
9 killed right down here coming out of his doorway  
10 on 67th Street a couple of years ago, by who? A  
11 drunk driver. No license, no plates on the car.  
12 That is why we need the traffic stops. People  
13 are getting killed by unsafe drivers. People are  
14 being ran over at stop signs. Property damage.  
15 Every weekend or every other day there's an  
16 accident at some of these intersections. You  
17 only see one car. Why? Because the other car  
18 took off.

19                   So, in my opinion, they're not  
20 making enough of the right stops. CPD does the  
21 same stops. They do the stops on maybe the  
22 person who accidentally blew a stop sign in the  
23 morning on the way to work, but I see very few of  
24 the cars with no plates, no front end, no



1 bumpers, no stickers, I see very few of them  
2 being pulled over.

3           So, if anything, CPD needs to look  
4 at the data, look what the accidents are, look  
5 where the crime is, look what the hit-and-run  
6 accidents are, and that will tell you what you  
7 need to do, and let that speak for itself. And  
8 if you do that, racism is not even in the  
9 picture. When that red light camera gets you, it  
10 doesn't know if you're black or white right off  
11 the bat. Okay?

12           They need to -- going to have to do  
13 the same type of technology with traffic stops  
14 since people think that everything is racist,  
15 because from my standpoint, having a vehicle that  
16 was tore up six times and other people had  
17 insurance, that's not good.

18           So in closing, please have the  
19 writing to some of your rules or bylaws. Pay  
20 more attention to the science. Let the data lead  
21 your stops. And if you do that, you would have  
22 proof. And they really should come out with  
23 something telling people how to act, because most  
24 of the encounters with police with traffic stops

1 over brake light -- brake lights, taillights, or  
2 whatever, most people could get information from  
3 TikTok, and they all end up bad. And guess what?  
4 Most of them, the people are wrong. I'm an  
5 insolvent driver. I don't need a driver's  
6 license. I'm not driving the car. I'm driving  
7 in the car.

8 So why don't CPD put something out  
9 as you had mentioned with the rules and  
10 regulations. You can't argue with it if it's in  
11 writing. Thank you.

12 MS. LONGBOTTOM: Hi. Thanks for the  
13 opportunity to speak today. I'm Ali Longbottom.  
14 I'm here as a member of the Free2Move Coalition  
15 and also a staff member at Chicago Appleseed  
16 Center for Fair Courts.

17 Chicago Appleseed and Free2Move have  
18 been conducting extensive mixed-method research  
19 to paint a clear picture of the criminalization  
20 of gun possession in Chicago. I'm here to share  
21 our findings from that data and argue ultimately  
22 that CPD needs to make an end to pretextual  
23 vehicle stops.

24 Free2Move found that over half of

1 traffic stops CPD made from 2019 to 2021 were for  
2 having a headlight or a taillight issue or  
3 improperly displayed or expired registration  
4 plates. We're hearing a lot of those stories  
5 tonight.

6 Stopping someone for those issues is  
7 more likely to create a dangerous scenario for  
8 them, as they interact with the police than to  
9 improve road safety. Again, we've seen that  
10 tonight.

11 These stops do nothing to fix a  
12 taillight or update a registration plate for  
13 someone. If the CPD wanted to help drivers  
14 correct for infractions, they could issue  
15 vouchers for fixing their lights instead of  
16 giving people citations that actually push them  
17 further away from repairs financially.

18 In reality, the function of these  
19 stops is not to make drivers or roads safer.

20 In their half a million stops last  
21 year, which reports show is a conservative  
22 figure, our reports are showing that CPD is not  
23 reporting about a third of the stops they're  
24 making. Only .5 of those traffic stops resulted

1 in the recovery of a gun in 2023.

2 Chicago Appleseed's October report  
3 on the hypercriminalization of gun possession in  
4 the City highlights that investigatory stops that  
5 target black and Latinate young people  
6 disproportionately are on the rise as police hunt  
7 for guns.

8 The CPD's interest in getting guns  
9 off the street by any means necessary, including  
10 stopping people for minor traffic infractions or  
11 pursuing people without good evidence lays the  
12 groundwork for far reaching, and I can't  
13 emphasize enough, systemic abuses of power.

14 These pretextual vehicle stops,  
15 suspicionless consent searches, and minor traffic  
16 stops don't serve the people CPD claims to  
17 protect.

18 Redirecting resources to strategies  
19 addressing root causes of public safety issues  
20 and prioritizing community voices ensures a safer  
21 environment for all. Thank you.

22 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: I'm going to call the  
23 next four speakers. Brother Cordell Williams,  
24 Roderick Sawyer, Gabriella Negron, Danielle

1 Marburgh.

2 BROTHER CORDELL WILLIAMS: Good evening,  
3 Commissioners and everyone else here. I, myself,  
4 Brother Cordell Williams representing We the  
5 Survivors. And my own personal LLC (inaudible).

6 I have spent 28 and a half years  
7 wrongly convicted and been out two years and have  
8 been stopped on every highway and byway that I  
9 traveled on throughout this great country. And  
10 as -- I as a black man no longer young, because  
11 my future was robbed from me in these very  
12 streets that I went to stag and fought through  
13 the formative years. But most importantly, we  
14 always ran into the police in the confrontation  
15 method of which the super predator type, all  
16 things considered with the issue of police  
17 combatants, because this affects us, directly  
18 impacts us on the victim impact side. And seeing  
19 that the CPD is in charge of the communities at  
20 large of color where most of these disparities  
21 are happening and further pushing us into a  
22 modern day reboot of super predatorism that was  
23 placed on me in my youth in these very same  
24 communities that we have to deal with again in

1 present day.

2                   How about the injustices that's  
3 everywhere and what have you. I don't intend to  
4 preach here. I hope to teach here. Because all  
5 of us here that grew up in these communities have  
6 gone through police interaction, and many of us  
7 that aren't here are no longer with us on this  
8 planet because of the -- because of the way the  
9 police have capitulated to the harm they have  
10 done from the hate that hate has produced.

11                   We can play this civil issue and  
12 civil liberties issue of police accountability  
13 across the board, particularly when there is no  
14 love for us on the solid foundation that it was  
15 to be built on spiritually, educationally, and  
16 edification of lofty estates hopefully. Remember  
17 this, it takes a village, and the CPD should be  
18 working for the village in its community in which  
19 it serves. Not to protect, because there has  
20 been no protection for the most part, and only  
21 because my mother was associated with familiar  
22 people of like ilk that understand the education  
23 process of being aware of our rights that so many  
24 of our elders have passed on because of and due

1 from for you to be Commissioner Terry of a Terry  
2 stop, I'm sure you're not; however, and you,  
3 Commissioner Wortham, how does these spots of  
4 council member men and council members and what  
5 have you, I'm guessing appointed by the mayor,  
6 how's this or what is it lending itself to, not  
7 just policymaking wise, but legislative intent  
8 wise? Because we went to these halls of, dare I  
9 say, learning and institutional hierarchy that  
10 kept us way down, and we still down and can't get  
11 up to fight the way we need to fight. And that's  
12 because we're in an education system right now  
13 that seemingly has not paid itself forward from  
14 even when I went through what I went through, and  
15 everybody went through what they're going  
16 through, and it's seemingly the same thing. But  
17 I would like to know if, in fact, the  
18 commissioner spot is that of authority or  
19 authoritism over that which is to be governed by  
20 someone in the CPD?

21 Thank you for your time, and I just  
22 hope that someone thinks about us, because you  
23 are us, too.

24 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Be sure to speak

1 directly into the microphone for the people  
2 online.

3 MR. SAWYER: Yes, I'm pulling it up. My name  
4 is Roderick Sawyer. For those that are familiar  
5 with that name, I am the 4th Ward Roderick  
6 Sawyer. I live in Hyde Park, not the former  
7 alderman.

8 I come here today to actually tell  
9 you that I am grateful for your Commission. I'm  
10 grateful for a public forum, because what I'm  
11 going to speak on is a system that exists today  
12 that does not have this.

13 The Illinois state statute provides  
14 for private colleges and universities to be able  
15 to establish police departments. These are fully  
16 functioning police departments, and their police  
17 chiefs have the same power as our police chief on  
18 the CPD, Tom Dart, the Illinois State Police  
19 chief, but these college campuses have this  
20 power.

21 I live in Hyde Park, and I am not  
22 only under the jurisdiction of Chicago public  
23 police, but I am under the auspices of the  
24 University of Chicago police, which is a private



1 institution. We have several of them here,  
2 Northwestern, DePaul, Loyola. None probably have  
3 been as aggressive as the University of Chicago  
4 police, one of the largest in the country. And  
5 you might say why am I bringing this up here? As  
6 a private police force with full powers of the  
7 institutions that I mentioned, because they are  
8 private, they are not subject to forums such as  
9 this. There is no CCPSA for a private police  
10 department. What I have seen -- and I have  
11 worked on this for the better part of a decade --  
12 is the City of Chicago, in particular alders and  
13 the CPD itself, depending upon private police  
14 forces, such as Northwestern University and its  
15 campus downtown, and the University of Chicago  
16 Police Departments in the Hyde Park and downtown  
17 areas, the state statute is very broad. For  
18 instance, if Northwestern or University of  
19 Chicago decided to create a satellite over at  
20 Kennedy King College, it gives the -- the statute  
21 gives them policing powers from the right-of-way  
22 from where their defined campus borders are  
23 straight down to those -- to Kennedy King, which  
24 means they can use that area and patrol it as

1 they see fit.

2 My point is that because you have  
3 these private police forces, things that we would  
4 enjoy, such as this forum, Freedom of Information  
5 Act, Open Meetings Act, things of that don't  
6 exist for them.

7 So as disheartening and as  
8 distressing as all of the abuses as many in this  
9 audience have talked about here, that process  
10 wouldn't exist if you were in Hyde Park and a  
11 University of Chicago police officer decided that  
12 they wanted to be a bad actor and do some of  
13 these same things. There's no FOIA. There's no  
14 public forum. There's no Open Meetings Act.  
15 There is nothing. But there is something that I  
16 would ask this body to do. Usually, the City of  
17 Chicago enters into a memorandum of understanding  
18 or those relationships are defined by ordinances.  
19 I would ask that this body would look at those  
20 MOUs and look at those ordinances and decide  
21 going forward that if private colleges which have  
22 this power are going to police our public  
23 streets, not just their defined campus borders,  
24 but even further, they be subject to Freedom of

1 Information Act; that they have to collect that  
2 data, and if it's outside of their campus borders  
3 or even within them on the public street, that  
4 they be subject to the Freedom of Information  
5 Act, have to collect that data and report it;  
6 that they be subject to meetings like this and  
7 not on their campuses, but in public spaces where  
8 people would feel safe.

9                   If a University of Chicago police  
10 officer had abused me, the first step is to go to  
11 their offices on their campuses and make that  
12 complaint.

13                   This building here is fairly  
14 neutral, as you can see by the people in this  
15 audience. People feel safe to come here. They  
16 feel safe to share the stories. Both MOUs would  
17 also restrict the patrol access to those defined  
18 campus areas. For instance -- and I use the  
19 University of Chicago as an example, because I  
20 live in the Hyde Park neighborhood. Their  
21 defined campus boundaries are 55th Street to 59th  
22 or the Midway Plaisance from Cottage Grove to the  
23 lake, but they have extended boundaries to 64th,  
24 to Cottage Grove, to 39th to the lake, because

1 they've been able to establish outposts that  
2 gives that access.

3           The next thing I would ask for is  
4 that they -- instead of reporting to their own  
5 internal command, that they report to the area  
6 commander of the CPD, not to their own private  
7 police chiefs; that they go through certified  
8 training just as the Chicago Police Department  
9 goes through.

10           I was working with my state senator  
11 and state rep, Robert Peters and Curtis Tarver,  
12 and because that legislation is flawed, I cowrote  
13 legislation that would put some of these same  
14 things that would govern not just private police  
15 in Chicago, but all over the state, because it is  
16 a state statute.

17           Lobbyists water that down to  
18 meetings, just like this. No FOIA, no Open  
19 Meetings Act, nothing, no accountability. And as  
20 you do know, you all or the police aren't -- or  
21 our aldermen or the mayor aren't the first line  
22 of accountability when it comes to abuses in a  
23 private institution, their police forces. It's  
24 our state legislator.

1                   So those are the things that I would  
2 ask that you all look for. Go through those MOUs  
3 with these institutions, go through those  
4 ordinances with these institutions, and don't let  
5 them privatize the abuses, because there's no  
6 forum for people in this audience if they come  
7 into those areas, and they are abused. There's  
8 no record -- there's very little recordkeeping  
9 on -- I'm very thankful that when President  
10 Obama, when he was a state senator, wrote in  
11 traffic stops into that legislation. And I did  
12 that research, and I do want to address where a  
13 prior speaker said there was no racism. The Hyde  
14 Park area is a lot more white than Englewood.  
15 But those statistics, whether it was CPD or  
16 whether it was UCPD in their patrol area, were  
17 just as black as any other African American  
18 district in the City. Those weren't white  
19 people, even though Hyde Park is much more  
20 whiter, much more multicultural than Englewood or  
21 most areas on the south side. Black drivers were  
22 being stopped not just at the same rate of the  
23 City but a much higher rate.

24                   So I would ask that you look at

1 those ordinances. Look at those MOUs. That's  
2 something I believe you have input into.

3 I'll continue to talk to my state  
4 legislators to handle that on the state end, but  
5 please look into the governing practices so that  
6 this stuff isn't outsourced to private  
7 institutions. Thank you very much.

8 MS. NEGRON: Hello, everybody. So I am here  
9 because I've lived in the Chicagoland area my  
10 entire life. I went through my 20s in Chicago.  
11 Went through my teens and all that, and it's  
12 looking like this -- I'm not going to say never,  
13 but I'm going to say at least very few times have  
14 had a decent encounter with CPD. That is an  
15 issue. If I'm having problems with CPD, I know  
16 everybody here is in one way or the other.

17 And I think a lot of it stems from  
18 unconscious bias. I'm an Afro-Latina. I'm  
19 queer. I dress masculinely. And so people  
20 approach me and assume that they know me. They  
21 assume they know where I come from, what I'm  
22 about, what I've done. They don't know that I  
23 have a master's degree. They don't know that  
24 I've attended private schools my entire life.

1 They don't know that I grew up in Homer Glen, but  
2 they're going to come at me a certain way,  
3 because they think they know who I am. And I'm  
4 sure that's the case for a lot of people,  
5 regardless where you come from, regardless of  
6 what your background is. That's an issue.

7           If I'm the one who's de-escalating  
8 interactions between me and CPD, then I need to  
9 get on the payroll. That's a problem. Okay?  
10 Because if I have to tell a police officer, which  
11 I've had to do -- which I know my fiancée is  
12 going to speak about a recent stop that we had --  
13 if I have to tell a police officer, if I get out  
14 of this car, and you shoot me, then you're going  
15 to have a big lawsuit tomorrow morning, and that  
16 I guarantee you, because they don't know how to  
17 act, they don't know how to speak to people, and  
18 that is a big problem.

19           Like, I believe this gentleman was  
20 saying, we're adults. I'm 34 years old. I'm not  
21 saying the oldest person in the room. I'm not  
22 saying I am the youngest. But you have to speak  
23 with people with a certain level of respect to  
24 receive that respect.

1                   I've been in public meetings before  
2 with Superintendent Snelling saying that --  
3 speaking to the effect that, you know, that  
4 people in the community are like their children.  
5 I have a father. I have a mother. I don't need  
6 Superintendent Snelling to be my father. I'm  
7 sure he is a great dude, whatever. I don't know  
8 the dude. But I don't need him to speak to me as  
9 if he is my father. He is not. I don't know  
10 him. I don't need anybody who reports to him to  
11 speak to me as if they're my mother or my father.  
12 They're not. I don't know them.

13                   So I think it's a mentality change  
14 that has to happen in CPD specifically. Perhaps  
15 they're used to dealing with a certain type of  
16 person, or perhaps they think they're used to  
17 dealing with a certain type of person, and so  
18 they want to project that onto everybody they  
19 encounter. That is not the public's problem.  
20 That is CPD's problem. And they're putting it on  
21 us to deal with coming out of work, a long day of  
22 work. You got somebody talking to you with no  
23 respect, pulling you over in your car, trying to  
24 pull you out and freak out everybody in your car.



1 That's a problem.

2           After work, you got a hard day, you  
3 got people talking to you crazy all day, and then  
4 you got a CPD officer, God knows from where, God  
5 knows what perspectives they have, talking to you  
6 crazy. It is going to create an issue every  
7 single time. And then afterwards it's going to  
8 be, Oh, how could you talk to them? We're all  
9 people. We have to allow that level of  
10 understanding. And if you're going to put on the  
11 uniform, carry a gun and put on a badge and say  
12 that I'm above the bar in a certain way, I'm  
13 beyond reproach, then you need to act that way,  
14 because if you cannot act that way, that is not  
15 the job for you. And I've been a firm believer  
16 that, you know, I'm not trying to sit here and  
17 bash the cops. I've had family members who have  
18 been sheriffs and police officers. I have close  
19 friends whose parents were police officers. I'm  
20 not bashing the cops, but there is a reality of  
21 how these police officers speak amongst each  
22 other, which I know intimately, because of the  
23 aforementioned relations that I've had to police  
24 officers, and there are ways that they treat the

1 public and that they see the public. And it's  
2 rah-rah, and it's funny until somebody ends up  
3 dead, and then we're paying out 2 billion dollars  
4 in lawsuits that we don't have money for, because  
5 they don't know how to treat people.

6           So there has to be a -- talk about  
7 policy and training, there has to be a level of  
8 unconscious bias training in earnest, not just to  
9 sit down, Oh, we're going to watch this video and  
10 everybody gets to go home, whatever. It is a  
11 waste of time. No earnest training that takes  
12 days; that you read a book, and you figure out  
13 what your unconscious bias is and why you're  
14 treating people a certain way, because your mommy  
15 or daddy talked to you a certain way when you  
16 were five or whatever these cops are going  
17 through. A lot of them have mental issues, and  
18 you could tell that by speaking and interacting  
19 with them. They're having full temper tantrums  
20 and breakdowns over a traffic light stop. That's  
21 a level of insanity I don't think I as a  
22 tax-paying American should have to deal with.  
23 I'm paying taxes for you to come at me with all  
24 your trauma and triggers. That's not my problem.

1 I got my own trauma and triggers. We all do.  
2 I'm not dealing with CPD's. I'm not a therapist.  
3 And I think that is where we have to really get  
4 to the crux of it. A lot of these people are not  
5 well. We see it in politicians. Hello. We see  
6 it in our local, our state, or whatever, but we  
7 see it in these CPD officers every day. They  
8 think they're, you know, God's gift to Chicago or  
9 whatever it is. And, perhaps, some of them are,  
10 but if you're not helping Chicagoans, you're  
11 hurting us.

12 I mean there's men -- there was a  
13 man sitting here who was beat over a stop sign.  
14 How much is that lawsuit going to be? If we're  
15 only talking about money, not to mention the cost  
16 to his life. There's somebody here who was  
17 falsely imprisoned. How much does that cost him?  
18 Nonetheless, the lawsuit you should, you know,  
19 do.

20 Again, I have never had a  
21 positive -- never say never. I can't remember a  
22 time I've had a positive interaction with CPD,  
23 where they've talked to me with respect, given me  
24 any sort of benefit of the doubt or treated me

1     like a real person. That is a problem. It's not  
2     us. We're not perfect. But I assure you,  
3     neither are they. And that's what you have to  
4     deal with. Thank you so much.

5             MS. MARBURGH: Hi. My name is Danielle  
6     Marburgh, and as my fiancée Gabriella mentioned,  
7     we were together, and we were stopped at a  
8     traffic stop. Like many of the people here, I  
9     came here tonight to talk about that experience  
10    and was horrified to find it's not unique, but  
11    everyone in this room has had the same  
12    experience. So all I want to say is, it's  
13    terrifying when you're just sitting in the  
14    passenger seat of the car after a long day of  
15    work having done my best, and there's this man  
16    flashing a light in my face, telling me to roll  
17    down the window. I'm not even driving. I can't  
18    drive. I'm just sitting here trying to get home  
19    from work. And I'm having to think about do I  
20    need to open my phone to start recording in case  
21    my fiancée is shot in front of me? Are they  
22    going to shoot me before I can get my phone open?  
23    Luckily we both made it home. But my whole point  
24    is there has to be some kind of rules of

1 engagement. There has to be rules that we  
2 understand, and that they understand that we  
3 know, so when we're having these engagements in  
4 the public, you can say, Hey, this isn't how it's  
5 supposed to be. You can't talk to me like that.  
6 I have a right to be spoken to as an adult with  
7 respect.

8                   And there needs to be an  
9 understanding that they cannot engage with people  
10 in a way that makes them feel terrified. It's  
11 happening in Englewood, but it is not just  
12 happening in Englewood. It is happening across  
13 the City, and this is a systemic issue they have  
14 to take serious. That's all.

15           COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you for your  
16 comments. I just wanted to jump in here on that  
17 one because it relates to what Mr. Richard said  
18 earlier.

19                   Ma'am, and I don't -- because I  
20 know this is not this format of this meeting, but  
21 there actually are rules of engagement and just  
22 kind of related to what you said -- like the  
23 particular thing when you were talking about the  
24 flashlight. I'm not just trying to speak about

1 your particular incident, okay, because I wasn't  
2 there, I don't know. But I do think the more I  
3 listen to everyone here talk, I really would like  
4 us to do as we prepare moving forward is like  
5 have a session where we talk about that.  
6 Because, again, everyone's going to have their  
7 particular experience and perspective on this,  
8 and I don't want to -- I don't want to diminish  
9 what anyone has said, but a lot of you -- a  
10 couple of -- the last two speakers say that  
11 everyone (inaudible). So I'm not diminishing  
12 your experience, but that is not necessarily  
13 everyone's experience. But wait, wait. That's  
14 your life. I understand. What you said in your  
15 comments was every single person in this room.  
16 I'm in this room, too, and there are other people  
17 in this room who had comments that were separate.  
18 So all I'm saying is I think for -- I'm taking  
19 responsibility for our work here, that I do think  
20 one of the starting point -- but one of them is  
21 we should come to you guys but here are the rules  
22 that exist (inaudible). Every person who travels  
23 through this City should know what --  
24 (inaudible).

1                   Okay. Yeah. And I don't want  
2 to -- I know you -- you probably didn't mean it  
3 this way. I don't want to say -- I didn't mean  
4 to say you're misinformed. I think it's just a  
5 -- if you're a doctor, I don't know what doctors  
6 do, because I don't -- you know, I don't practice  
7 medicine.

8                   So it's not -- I think this is one  
9 of -- this is just me. We don't all have to be  
10 police officers, but if we are, again, subject to  
11 the enforcement of law by police officers, I do  
12 think we should understand what they do. And,  
13 again, you might not like it, but you're talking  
14 about the Consent Decree. So I do want to make  
15 sure that we draw this distinction. We're  
16 Community Commission for Public Safety and  
17 Accountability.

18               VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: We're not CPD.

19               COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: One of the carve-outs  
20 specifically for our work is we generally do not  
21 have any authority over issues, policies, that  
22 have been placed into the Consent Decree.

23                   So I think when you reference 7  
24 percent, you're talking about Consent Decree

1 compliance. While, of course, it's like trying  
2 and stay abreast of that, that is not within our  
3 purview.

4 (NO AUDIO.)

5 BROTHER CORDELL WILLIAMS: Excuse me. I  
6 didn't realize how loud, but I was going to say  
7 that ignorance of the law is no excuse. That's  
8 for certain. However, our communities of color  
9 has not been educated to deal with the believable  
10 lofty expectations of human rights. Because when  
11 we get right down to human rights, the you and  
12 you and me is somewhat similar for them to see as  
13 far as the opposition, because we on the opposite  
14 side of the what the law's supposed to rise. You  
15 know what I'm saying? And they supposed to bring  
16 that to everyone, not just the three-fifths of  
17 the man that they left behind, but the tax-paying  
18 man of representation. Taxation and  
19 representation definitely what you're speaking  
20 about. And an injustice anywhere is an injustice  
21 everywhere, if we go with Dr. King's dream, but  
22 we understand things that we was educated in,  
23 capital things and gangs and all that other thing  
24 remains. But still and all, we in a school



1 talking really what we ain't -- or what all of us  
2 ain't doing for the record. If we got love for  
3 one another according to our essence and our  
4 presence of our being, we be right here. All of  
5 us be right here in this community of color where  
6 we are colorfully abused, misused, and some of us  
7 don't understand the term being used, but you can  
8 be useful, too. And them exorbitant tax dollars.

9 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Indeed, they do.  
10 Thank you, Brother Cordell.

11 So we are at a close for this  
12 particular session. I did see your hand up. Did  
13 you have something really quickly? Can you come  
14 to the mic so everyone can hear you?

15 MS. GRAY-SEWELL: Whenever the public is  
16 faced with an opposition to what the law is or  
17 what tactics are acceptable, it's always said,  
18 Oh, you all don't know the law, you are not  
19 familiar with the law, and so you should be  
20 accepting of how you're treated.

21 What I will say is I hope that --  
22 she mentioned the Consent Decree. Inside the  
23 Consent Decree, while their tactics may be the  
24 law and may be the policy that is in place, what

1 the Consent Decree found was that this Department  
2 has been mistrained for over three decades. That  
3 is factual. That is in the Consent Decree,  
4 because I'm very familiar with it. And so even  
5 though those tactics may be the law and may be  
6 what is in practice, I think and I hope that what  
7 comes out of these conversations is to review  
8 those tactics and to say that those tactics are  
9 not acceptable. And if the public -- and this is  
10 not even all of the public, but if just the 10  
11 percent that is represented here is saying that  
12 the tactics make them feel unseen, disrespected,  
13 and their human rights are being abused, I will  
14 hope that this is not just a lofty conversation  
15 just to have, just to go through the motions, but  
16 you are listening to take it back. That we feel  
17 abused.

18 She said in her lifetime she has  
19 not had great -- you know what? Your entire --  
20 your entire disposition is really -- you know  
21 what? This is really unfortunate, and I'm really  
22 sorry I even attempted. Thank you.

23 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: So I want to thank you  
24 all for coming out. We do value the feedback

1 that you all have provided, and over the next  
2 several months, we will gather input from other  
3 groups across the City of Chicago. You also can  
4 provide us information in writing. We look  
5 forward to continuing these conversations and  
6 checking in with you all throughout the  
7 development process of this policy as it comes  
8 along. So safe travels to everyone and stay  
9 warm.

10 (WHEREUPON, the proceedings  
11 were adjourned at 8:00 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

Re: COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY  
And ACCOUNTABILITY

I, MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, C.S.R., do hereby certify that the foregoing Report of Proceedings was recorded stenographically by me and was reduced to computerized transcript under my direction, and that the said transcript constitutes a true record.

I further certify that I am not a relative or employee or attorney or counsel of any of the parties, or a relative or employee of such attorney or counsel, or financially interested directly or indirectly in this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand of office at Chicago, Illinois this 20th day of February 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, CSR  
License No. 084.002740