1	COMMUNITY COMMISSION for PUBLIC SAFETY and ACCOUNTABILITY
2	PUBLIC MEETING
3	Thursday, December 12, 2024, 6:30 p.m. American Irish Heritage Center
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5	APPEARANCES:
6	President Anthony Driver
7	Vice President Remel Terry Commissioner Sandra Wortham
8	Commissioner Abierre Minor Commissioner Angel Rubi Navarijo
9	Executive Director Adam Gross
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PRESIDENT DRIVER: Hi, everyone. 1 The December 12, 2024, meeting of the Community 2 3 Commission for Public Safety and Accountability is called to order at 6:36 p.m. 4 We will begin by establishing a 5 quorum with the call of the roll. Commissioner 6 Driver is present. Commissioner Gottlieb. 7 Commissioner Minor. Commissioner Rubi Navarijo. 8 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Present. 9 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Commissioner Terry. 10 COMMISSIONER TERRY: Present. 11 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Commissioner Wortham. 12 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Present. 13 PRESIDENT DRIVER: With four commissioners of 14 the CCPSA present, we have a quorum and can 15 conduct the Commission's business. 16 17 Next item of business is public If you would like to share something 18 comment. related to the Commission's work, you have a few 19 options. You can speak at a public meeting. You 20 can also submit public comment in writing to 21 22 CommunityCommissionpubliccommentCityofChicago.org or you can bring a copy of your comments to one 23 of the Commission's public meetings and give it 24

1 to someone on the Commission staff.

People who wanted to speak at
public comment were asked to submit their names
in writing earlier today. Names were drawn at
random by a member of the Commission staff.
Speakers will be called in the order in which
their names were drawn.

If your name is called to offer 8 public comment, we ask that you approach the 9 microphone and line up in the order in which your 10 name is called. When it's your turn to speak, 11 12 please say your name and spell your name and offer your comments. Each speaker will have two 13 minutes. We have allotted a total of 20 minutes 14 for public comment. And our first three speakers 15 are Gail Beitz, Patrick Lindley, and Bernadette 16 17 Stuckey.

MS. BEITZ: Hi. My name is Gail Beitz. I've lived here on the north side for probably about 48 years, specifically the North Mayfair area right by the Gompers Park. Beautiful Gompers Park. You've probably seen a lot of media attention to that location. And what my concern is that -- PRESIDENT DRIVER: It's a little hard to hear
 you. Maybe if you hold the mic closer. Or
 someone turn up her microphone.

4 MS. BEITZ: Can you hear me out there? I can 5 hear me now.

6 Anyways, I want to bring to the 7 attention about the lack of police officers we have in the 17th District. We have Gompers 8 Park's homeless encampment taking place which we 9 are really trying hard to get some housing and 10 wraparound services for them. In the meantime, 11 12 we have had some crime increase in that location. We've had drug activity. We have prostitution. 13 What I'm looking for the Commission 14 to encourage us to get more police in our 17th 15 16 District. Are we hiring more police in for the 17 -- you know, for the Police Department? I'm also encouraging to -- I want to see ShotSpotter come 18 back. And I want to see license plate readers 19 come back. 20

21 So I'm here to support that, and we 22 got a whole community that's backing that. Thank 23 you.

24 MR. LINDLEY: Thank you. My name is Patrick

1 Lindley. Patrick, traditional spelling,

P-A-T-R-I-C-K. Last name L-I-N-D-L-E-Y. I would 2 3 first like to express gratitude to Commissioner Terry and Commissioner Minor for attending the 4 recent town hall last month, a meeting with over 5 a hundred neighbors concerned about CPD officers 6 7 with ties to the Oath Keepers and the credibility of the investigation and findings provided by the 8 Bureau of Internal Affairs on this recent matter. 9

I'd like to thank all of the District Councils that participated in the annual meeting to vote on 2025 priorities to recommend to the Commission and for all the work leading up to the event.

I encourage the Commission to adopt 15 these priorities, including the proposal to 16 17 transfer investigations of officers with ties to hate groups from BIA to COPA. I will have my 18 voice of support to the creation of a task force, 19 to investigate extremism within CPD and City 20 departments. I would like clarification on 21 22 whether the scope of this effort extends to a 23 review of BIA investigation processes. I worry that the BIA investigation closed this passed 24

July provides precedent and a blueprint for how 1 to weather through and ignore claims of 2 extremists groups incubating and recruited within 3 CPD. Thank you. 4 MS. STUCKEY: Hello. My name is Gernadette, 5 G-E-R-N-A-D-E-T-T-E. Last name is Stuckey, 6 7 S-T-U-C-K-E-Y. I'm the president of Psychologists for Social Responsibility. 8 Psychologists for Social 9 Responsibility joins the list of organizations 10 included in the October 2021 -- October 21, 2024, 11 12 letter issued by Color of Change regarding the investigation of Chicago Police Department 13 officers allegedly associated with white 14 supremist extremism. We are stating our position 15 that the Civilian Office of Police 16 17 Accountability, COPA, should investigate and identify the reported deficiencies of the Bureau 18 of Internal Affairs' investigation and address 19 each of them thoroughly. 20 Psychologists for Social 21 22 Responsibility attest that the adverse effects of 23 direct or indirect exposure to police violence diminishes the emotional, physical, psychological 24

well-being of human beings as evidenced by the increased incidents of anxiety, depression, fear, hopelessness, learned helplessness, hypertension, heart disease, and symptoms of PTSD that are prevalent in communities of color and the black community disproportionately.

Psychologists for Social Responsibility advocates for the healing of communities that have historically and currently been negatively impacted by violence. In the advocacy, we reiterate the importance of ensuring the racist, corrupt, criminal behavior within the Chicago Police Department be removed.

Psychologists for Social
Responsibility stands with Push for 5 Coalition
and advocate for COPA --

PRESIDENT DRIVER: Our next three speakers
are Lee Bielecki, Joel Hatch, and Grace Patino.
UNIDENTIFIED WITNESS: You got one more. I

20 got an email on it, and I signed up.

21 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Is Lee here?

22 MR. BIELECKI: Right here. I thought we had 23 somebody before me. I didn't want to interrupt. 24 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Lee Bielecki, Joel Hatch, 1 and Grace Patino.

2 MR. BIELECKI: Good evening, Commissioners. 3 Lee Bielecki, 22nd District District Councilor. 4 I love coming to these meetings. I love seeing 5 you guys, listening to the people from the 6 community talk about police accountability and 7 police brutality.

I was doing some research today on 8 COPA, and I was doing some research on lives lost 9 in marginalized communities since January of 10 3300. 3300 victims of violence in the 2018. 11 12 black community. I don't hear these extremists so-called activists groups talking about that. 13 Every time you turn around, an unmitigated trauma 14 that causes, not by the police, but by members of 15 16 the community. I want to hear these people stand 17 up one time and say they're going to do something to impact that violence and that trauma that 18 occurs in their community. I don't hear that. 19 All I hear is let's sue the police. Let's get up 20 there and not support the police. They create 21 22 more division, more anxiety than any police interaction would probably cause. 23

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As far as COPA goes, they don't --

the investigation of Oath Keepers doesn't fall
 under their purview.

We had Tobara Richardson last night at our council meeting, and it doesn't fall under their purview.

6 When we continue to go on and 7 create more division, which is what a lot of 8 these groups -- when we talk about Oath Keepers, 9 Three Percenters, and Proud Boys, a lot of these 10 so called activist groups are no better. They're 11 extremists. Thank you.

I want to thank the members of 12 MR. HATCH: the Commission who chose to stand with us at the 13 recent town hall meeting and show their support 14 for our community concerns over the Oath Keeper 15 cops. And I'm grateful for the Commission 16 17 members for taking steps to address the District Council's resolution which aims to move 18 investigations of police officers with extremist 19 ties from the Bureau of Internal Affairs to the 20 Civilian Office of Police Accountability, COPA, 21 22 are like an update on the progress of this 23 support and initiative. And I'd like to urge the Commission to prioritize the creation of a 24

dedicated task force to investigate police
 officers with extremist affiliations and ensure
 accountability within the force.

And, finally, I would like to express that I believe the Oath Keepers should be fired as their membership within a terrorist organization as designated by the FBI, regardless of when they joined, legally and disqualifies them from serving on the force. Thank you.

MS. PATINO: Hi. My name is Grace. I uplift what has been said before me -- right immediately before me, regarding thanking some of the commissioners who decided to stand with their community here in the 17th District, and at our town hall last month as we discussed the issue of officers with ties to the Oath Keepers.

17 In terms of like what shows division and creates anxiety, I just want to say 18 as a resident of the 17th District, what creates 19 great anxiety in me is knowing that it was known 20 for months and months and months that one of the 21 officers here was found on the list of being a 22 23 member of the Oath Keepers, and yet there was a choice made to continue his role as in some type 24

of community outreach position with CPD. So 1 that's concerning to me as a resident here. 2 And I do want to encourage the 3 Commission to just continue to try and hopefully 4 work with the OIG's office in terms of getting 5 with the Johnson administration for creating this 6 task force to eradicate any officers who have 7 ties to white extremist organizations in CPD. 8 And, yeah, just thank you so much. 9 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you. Our next three 10 speakers are Tiwon Sims, Mildred Rivera, Claire 11 12 Sharkey. Instead of Mildred, we will go with --I think this says Mike Pavilon. 13 Whenever y'all ready. So I could 14 MR. SIMS: be the case study for that for the Proud Boys, 15 for the Oath Keepers, for a civilian that's been 16 17 chased down by criminals masquerading as police. Me right here, Tiwon Sims. 18 Everybody investigating this, 19 please let me get y'all information so we can 20 crack this. And you all know who the Proud Boys 21 22 and Oath Keepers are, people like Bielecki, people like Tom McMahon over there. You see? 23 These individuals still in their previous 24

capacity as law enforcement. The same way Burge 1 and them had they criminal rule. These people --2 3 that's why you got 16 young officers out of each cadet crew that quit because they don't want to 4 become gang members. They want to serve the 5 people. They don't want to be gang members. 6 7 You see Bielecki, right? You come up here trying to check me and bull shit. 8 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Watch your language. 9 MR. SIMS: Chicago is done with it, this 10 machine of corruption and foolishness. Look, we 11 12 got a real champion right here. Right there, Larry Snelling. Came out the most ept serving in 13 the City right now. Came out for the DNC front 14 line. I was there all three days. He was front 15 line, him and those gold stars. They represent 16 17 something, integrity, honor, versus what you all

18 represent.

Like I said, they won't let me. Like I said -- and I recently emailed you all about this, because this is what I'm suffering under. The guy call himself the Mayor of Pullman because you have some type of police pull. We taking that police word away. Law enforcement, because you all tried. That's the division,
 police versus civilian.

3 No, these are public service. Law May we call you law men? Then we let y'all 4 men. keep calling yourself police. That way you not 5 get the chance to hide behind the blue. Y'all 6 blood cowards, man. Y'all going to always be 7 that. But y'all you chose the right one, trust 8 and believe. These people removed me from my 9 children, from my life. And once it is properly 10 investigated, they going to be properly jailed. 11 12 Like I said once before, I'm no fool and no coward never, but y'all is. 13 14 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you.

MR. SIMS: And they must be called. Stopped,stumped out. Y'all dogs.

17 MR. PAVILON: Hi. My name is Mike Pavilon, and I grew up in Roseland. I'm here now for the 18 last 24 years, and I represent Lincoln Square 19 Community Association, and I've been bouncing 20 around from the 19th Police Council to the 20th 21 22 and occasionally to the 17th. And I was at that 23 meeting where the Oath Keepers and others were brought up. So I'm bouncing around. Mine is 24

more of a report. I'm sorry. I'm going to have
 to rush through the report.

3 So the 19th Council, in particular, has been begging for the last couple of months 4 when are we going to get so-called civilization 5 or more civilians into the Chicago Police 6 Department. New York has done it, L.A. has done 7 it, Houston has done it, and they're doing better 8 than we are. Not that there aren't other 9 factors, but we got to get that done. It allows 10 the cops to spend more time doing what they need 11 12 to do.

Secondly, there's something called 13 "smash and grab." And that's not part of its own 14 line item when we talk about crimes. It's put in 15 with burglary. It shouldn't. It shouldn't. 16 17 Because the smash and grab, it happens in Lincoln Square, it happens in, you know, Englewood, it 18 happens downtown, it happens, you know, Rogers 19 Park. It devastates the community. That's much 20 different when people come out in the morning to 21 22 take the bus or to get to their car or walk to work that, What's going on here? And they say, 23 Do I want to live here?" 24

So in burglaries, you don't have 1 that same dynamic. That ought to change. 2 Ιt 3 ought to change. I would think the Superintendent could do something about that in 4 the next couple of weeks. It's not a big deal. 5 I got one second left. Can you give me a little 6 wiggle room? 7 PRESIDENT DRIVER: I'm sorry. Thank you. 8 Be happy to talk to you after the meeting, though. 9 MS. SHARKEY: Hi. My name is Claire Sharkey. 10 I live in the 19th District. Thank you, 11 12 Commissioners, for the chance to speak tonight. I came to speak to you and ask -- make a request 13 of you. For over one year, neighbors and I have 14 been participating with the 19th District 15 Council. We've been going to many meetings on 16 17 the importance of the workforce allocation study, the Consent Decree. We've been engaging with 18 them and questioning as much as we can. We want 19 to be involved. And we were promised that we 20 would have a voice once the workforce allocation 21

22 study became official -- official initiative.

23 And now it has.

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We were surprised on November 20th

to hear that the Mayor's Office announced that 1 2 there are now City-wide community input sessions, but they began on November 18th. And if we are 3 to divide the City into, let's say, seven 4 regions, the meetings are only taking place in 5 about two of those regions, and they're packed 6 7 into a ten-week period spanning the holiday season when people are busy, and we were also 8 assuming that the District Councils would be the 9 ones leading the engagement process, given that 10 that's what their job duty is. The District 11 12 Councils are paid -- taxpayers pay about \$400,000 a year for their salaries, and they've done a 13 great job promoting the workforce allocation 14 study, community policing, and the other 15 initiative, which is the 911 alternate response. 16 17 Some of you commissioners were actually at their meeting and commended them on the 20th about how 18 well they did. So why the District Councils have 19 been left out of the engagement process, and it's 20 now become sort of a special -- a special 21 22 interest project by the Mayor's Office is surprising to us and disappointing. 23

24 So if you could speak for us to the

Mayor's Office. Let's get that into the hands of
 District Councils.

3 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you. Our last4 speaker is Anuj Argwal.

5 MR. ARGWAL: Hi. My name is Anuj. I'm an 6 organizer with the Anti-Coalition. So I will 7 just cut to the chase.

Reports show that white supremacist 8 extremists have infiltrated the ranks of the CPD 9 and not as aberrations but as natural extensions 10 of its purpose. From officers tied to hate 11 12 groups of the Proud Boys and Oath Keepers to systematic failures to hold them accountable. We 13 14 see the true nature of the CPD. And the problems are not just extremists. They are fascist 15 organizers that thrive on intimidation, racism, 16 17 and violence.

For the CPD to harbor those individuals within its ranks is a shameful and deliberate act of war against our communities. The modern police descended from slave patrols and the CPD's Jon Burge has been that group, tortured over 100 black men into false confessions. The murder of Laguan

McDonald, shot 16 times by an officer who then 1 conspired to cover it up, is not an isolated 2 incident, but a pattern. This is not simply a 3 bad apple problem. The entire orchard is 4 5 poisoned. The presence of Proud Boys and Oath Keepers in the CPD is a glaring indicator of a 6 7 larger systematic failure. One that does not just require reform. So we got to unite and 8 organize on this. We don't need better training 9 for officers, and we certainly don't need more 10 police, but fundamental social change. Fire the 11 12 cops who are in the Proud Boys, fire the cops who are in the Oath Keepers, and qualified immunity, 13 and reopen all cases of police brutality. 14

Thank you. We've reached PRESIDENT DRIVER: 15 16 the end of our public comment period. Thank you 17 again for all our speakers. We value your input. Next order of business is Approval 18 of Minutes. Before today's meeting, draft 19 minutes of the Commission's meetings held on 20 November 14th were shared with all Commissioners. 21 22 Are there any corrections to the 23 draft minutes that have been circulated? Hearing no corrections, I move to approve the minutes of 24

the Commission's meeting held on November 14th. 1 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: 2 Second. PRESIDENT DRIVER: I move and seconded by 3 Commissioner Rubi Navarijo that the Commission's 4 November 14th minute meetings be approved. Any 5 debate on the motion? Hearing none, we will now 6 move to a vote. Those in favor, signify by 7 8 saying aye. (CHORUS OF AYES.) 9 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Are there any nays? 10 (NO RESPONSE.) 11 12 PRESIDENT DRIVER: The ayes have it. The motion carries. The minutes for the November 13 regular meeting of the Community Commission are 14 approved. 15 Our next order of business will be 16 17 new business. The next item is the approval of a series of closed meetings. 18 Section 2(c)(3) of the Illinois Open 19 Meetings Act allows the Commission to meet in 20 closed session to consider the following 21 22 subjects: The selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in this Act, including 23 a vacancy in a public office, when the pubic body 24

is given the power to appoint under law or 1 2 ordinance, or the discipline, performance, or 3 removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body given power to remove the 4 occupant under law or ordinance. 5 Section 2a of the Act authorizes the 6 7 Commission to take a vote to hold a series of closed meetings over the course of not more than 8 three months from today, and only for the 9 purposes cited under Section 2(c)(3). 10 Over the next few months, the 11 12 Commission may need to meet in closed session for reasons that are allowed under the Open Meetings 13 Act, including to discuss filling vacancies on 14 the Police Board. 15 I move to hold a series of closed 16 17 meetings to take place for the maximum period allowable as authorized by Section 2(c)(3) of the 18 Open Meetings Act. Is there a second? 19 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Second. 20 PRESIDENT DRIVER: I move to hold a series of 21 22 closed meetings to take place for the maximum 23 period allowable as authorized by Section 2(c)(3) of the Open Meetings Act. Is there a second? 24

COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Second. 1 2 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Moved by myself, seconded by Commissioner Rubi Navarijo to hold a series of 3 closed meetings to take place for the maximum 4 period allowable as authorized by Section 5 2(c)(3). Is there any debate on the motion? 6 (NO RESPONSE.) 7 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Hearing none, we will move 8 Those in favor of holding a series of 9 to vote. closed meetings to take place for the maximum 10 time period allowable, as authorized by Section 11 12 2(c)(3) of the Ope Meetings Act, please say aye. (CHORUS OF AYES.) 13 14 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Are there any nays? (NO RESPONSE.) 15 PRESIDENT DRIVER: 16 The ayes have it, and the 17 motion carries. The Commission is authorized to 18 hold a series of closed meetings to take place 19 for the maximum period allowable. 20 Now we are going to hear from the 21 22 Chicago Police Department, the Police Board, and Civilian Office of Police Accountability 23 leadership regarding their 2025 goals. 24

1 Before I invite our first speaker, I want to give a quick overview. It's freezing. 2 3 I'm trying so hard from keeping my teeth from chattering. Where was I? Under the CCPSA 4 ordinance, the Commission has the power to set 5 yearly goals for the CPD Superintendent, COPA 6 7 Chief Administrator, and the Police Board President. 8 Each of these agencies has a 9 working group that consists of two commissioners. 10 Goals presented tonight are draft 11 12 qoals. Today's hearing will give all the 13 Commissioners, including those not part of the 14 working groups, a chance to ask questions and 15 make recommendations. 16 17 After tonight, the Commission will work on a formal response to each group's draft 18 19 qoals. We will work over the next month to 20 finalize these goals. And for the record, 21 22 Commissioner Minor is now present. Five out of six members of the CCPSA present. 23 We'll work over the next month to 24

1 finalize these goals.

2 We plan to vote at our January 3 meeting on whether to adopt these goals. I would now like to ask 4 5 Superintendent Larry Snelling and anyone else from his team present to join us. 6 7 SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Good evening. First off, good to be here, hear everybody speak. 8 It is very important to hear everybody's voice. 9 Regardless whether people agree or not, it's 10 always good to hear what people are thinking so 11 12 that we can address the concerns that everyone brings to the table. 13 Let me start by saying that as we 14 move into 2025 from 2024, we're going to build on 15 some of the momentum that we've seen in the 16 17 Police Department, especially around training, reform, and the work that we've been doing toward 18 constitutional policing. 19 The effort here is to strengthen the 20 relationship between the police and the 21 22 community. 23 Our major concern right now is with

violent crimes that has been just seriously

affecting our City, our children, our
 neighborhoods.

3 Our efforts are focused on4 addressing current crime patterns.

5 We recently had a very serious rash 6 of robberies that's been going on since we 7 implemented a new plan. Those robberies have 8 decreased by a total of about 1800 so far over 9 the past six months. So we're starting to see 10 some progress there, but we still have work to 11 do.

12 As we work toward reducing the trauma in the neighborhoods, we also have to have 13 a strong focus on reform. That reform is going 14 to include six goals that we have here, that we 15 work with the CCPSA, and I'm happy to say that we 16 17 have a really good working relationship, and it was great effort sitting down and having these 18 conversations and talking out these goals. 19 Number one, the first goal, is 20 ensuring that all officers have a strong 21 22 foundation in constitutional policing, based on 23 impartial policing, to guide the everyday work

24 that officers do. This goal also includes

traffic stops. I know that's a big topic of 1 conversation. And that's one of things that 2 we're working, and we are also working with CCPSA 3 in that effort. 4 In 2025, we will redraft our traffic 5 6 stop policy and develop correspondence training. 7 Our second goal is launching the workforce allocation. I heard someone mention 8 that. Just let me be clear. Everything is 9 finalized, but I will let CCPSA follow up on some 10 of the questions that you may have about the 11 workforce allocation. But the workforce 12 allocation is important. 13 We need to make sure that we are 14 effectively utilizing our manpower. 15 16 It's also going to help us look at 17 district mapping, the size of districts, how quickly our officers are getting to jobs, how our 18 officers are responding and how we can increase 19 response times. 20 We're working with the company 21 22 Matrix. They come very highly recommended. Thev do a very good job. They've done this work 23

across the country. And we're looking forward to

working with them and bringing this to a final 1 outcome that we know -- we know is going to be 2 effective in moving our Department forward. 3 The third goal is ensuring 4 Department members understand and adhere to 5 established guidelines relative to prohibiting 6 7 Department members from active participation or membership in affiliation with criminal or biased 8 organizations and from an association with known 9 members of criminal or biased-based organizations 10 as set forth in our Department directives. We're 11 12 working toward implementing a mechanism for 13 tracking complaints related to this directive. We've heard talk about this. We're moving 14 15 forward to make sure that we're checking on these 16 things. When something happens that we know 17 bring shame upon our Department, we're going to take action. But it's also important to remember 18 that our officers are out there working. 19 There are things that the public doesn't see on a 20 regular basis and the work that the officers are 21 22 doing out there, the work that they're doing with 23 children, the work they're doing with community members, the work that they're doing when dealing 24

with the unhoused, dealing with people who are 1 suffering from crisis. We're helping our 2 officers develop their crisis response with our 3 CIT training. All of these things are going to 4 be necessary moving forward to make sure that our 5 officers have the tools to respond in the best 6 7 way possible that is going to bridge that gap between the police and our community members. 8 Our fourth goal is to build and foster true 9 collaborative partnership through engagements 10 that result in greater public trust between the 11 12 Department and the community. This is going to start, number one, moving forward with working 13 with children, especially in our most 14 impoverished neighborhoods. Those people who 15 don't necessarily have the same access to certain 16 17 things as others.

18 If we don't start young, we allow 19 people to now step into a life of crime because 20 they don't have anything available to them. 21 We've been working with the Mayor's 22 Office to talk about getting everyone involved, 23 not just the police, to have every aspect of 24 government working along with the police to make 1 sure that this happens.

2 Our fifth goal is to ensure a 3 healthy and resilient workforce by strengthening 4 members' wellness.

If we want our police officers to go 5 out and respond in the best way possible, if we 6 7 want those officers to go out and treat people with dignity and respect the way they are 8 supposed to, I as the Superintendent and everyone 9 in this Police Department is to treat them the 10 They're human beings. And what we bestow 11 same. 12 upon them is what they will bestow upon the public. We have to make sure that our officers 13 are well. Well of mind mentally, physically, so 14 that we are putting the best possible product out 15 into the community. 16

17 If we are not treating our officers 18 well, we can't expect our officers to treat 19 others well. I've heard it said many times 20 before, hurt people hurt people. We want to make 21 sure our officers are prepared to do the jobs. 22 Number one, our officers see things 23 that the average person does not see. They see

24 death on a daily basis. They see the death of

children. They see domestic violence, abused
women and children. They see robbery victims,
elderly people who have been attacked and abused,
and we want our officers to approach those
situations with compassion, care, understanding,
empathy. That cannot be done if we don't prepare
our officers to do those things.

8 So in the upcoming year, we will 9 make sure that we're working on our officers' 10 wellness. We will continue to do that so that 11 when our officers go out, and they encounter you, 12 you will be encountered with the respect that you 13 deserve.

Our final goal is to ensure the 14 Department supports every victim of crime from 15 stronger victim services. Since I've become 16 17 Superintendent, I've made it a priority to build strong relationships with crime victims and 18 families who have lost loved ones to violence. 19 Violent crimes creating a ripple effect of trauma 20 in our communities. And if we don't disrupt it, 21 it will continue to do so. 22

I heard someone mention earlierabout civilianization of our Police Department.

That was a priority, and it still is. And we
 have been hiring civilian members of our
 Department.

Sir Robert Peel, the inventor of 4 policing, said the community are the police and 5 the police are the community. I absolutely 6 7 believe that. We could not get to the bottom of crime just being the police. We have to have a 8 partnership with the community. We have to work 9 in lockstep together because if we are not doing 10 that, we are failing. If we're not reaching out 11 12 to each other and understanding each other and hearing each other, we are failing. We will 13 always do better when we're working together. 14 15 So we will continue to build this department, bring in the right people, make sure 16 17 that we have them working in the right places, so that we can continue to serve the City and keep 18 it safe. 19

The men and women of the Chicago
Police Department will continue their work in our
City.

As you saw with the Democratic National Convention, something that went on for a

period of almost six days total when you look at 1 all of the events, the protests, it was 2 relatively peaceful. It was the lowest number of 3 complaints launched against officers at an event 4 that large that I can remember, and it was all 5 based on training, constitutional policing, and 6 7 what we provided for those officers. It was also rooted not only in constitutional policing but 8 wellness for our officers, because we knew what 9 they were going to be facing, and they were 10 prepared when they went out there to make sure 11 12 that they protected everyone, regardless of what it was people were saying, that they respected 13 everyone's constitutional rights and allowed 14 people to have their voices heard. 15 With that, that's the end of my 16 17 goals. I thank everyone for being here, and we are going to continue to work to keep the City 18 safe. 19

20 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, Superintendent. 21 We will now open it up to questions from 22 Commissioners. We will start to my far right. 23 Do you have any questions?

24 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Yeah.

1 Superintendent, thank you for being here today. 2 I appreciate your leadership as well. I've seen 3 firsthand -- I did a ride-along with one of your 4 officers in the 24th District. I've seen 5 firsthand some of the changes that have been 6 made, and I look forward to those improvements as 7 well.

I do have a question. A couple of 8 days ago, a member of the incoming administration 9 came to Chicago and said some things that made us 10 scared, some members of our noncitizen community. 11 12 How is the Department going to reinforce their partnership with the immigrant community so they 13 don't feel fearful and feel they can feel 14 confident to come to the police and report 15 crimes? 16

17 SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: That's part of the 18 Welcoming City Act. The first thing that we need 19 to understand about that, when it comes to the 20 Chicago Police Department, we have limited, 21 limited power when it comes to enforcing 22 immigration laws.

23 So anyone, I don't care who you 24 are, where you are from, if you are a victim of a

crime, or something you want to report to the 1 2 police, we're going to show up, and we're going to protect you the way we will protect anyone 3 else when a crime has been committed against you. 4 So we don't want anyone to fear the Chicago 5 Police Department if they've been victimized, and 6 7 they want to come to the police and report because they fear immigration. That's not what 8 the Chicago Police Department does. 9

COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you. 10 Ι have a follow-up. I know that there's been some 11 12 issues with the new visa process, both internally and also people committing fraud around that 13 process. I was wondering what progress or 14 tracking mechanisms will your Department put in 15 place to ensure that that system is good on the 16 17 inside and outside?

18 SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Right now we have a 19 lieutenant who is assigned there right now who is 20 very good at it. We brought him back not too 21 long ago. He was promoted out of that unit. So 22 we needed to bring him back. What we're doing is 23 making sure that we have enough people in that 24 unit to make sure that everything is being done the right way. As we continue to bring in civilians -- which we've hired -- I believe it was 80, if I'm not mistaken, but don't quote me on that number, but we brought in quite a few. But as we continue to bring in more and more, we're going to continue to build the unit.

7 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you. And I have a question pertaining to the DC 8 engagement. I've heard a lot of DCs wanting to 9 get involved hyperlocally in public safety issues 10 and strategic plans, right. A lot of feedback 11 12 that I hear from District Councils, and I've been going to many meetings, is that they don't feel 13 they have a formal role in the process. So other 14 than communicating with the District Councilors, 15 what do you think is the priority for the 16 17 Department to keep them involved in that process? Because these DCs are moving really quickly. 18 They are making relationships in the community. 19 They're connecting with business owners. They're 20 promoting Department initiatives. I think that 21 22 they deserve a spot there. What would you have to say to those DCs that don't feel they are part 23 of the process? 24

SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Here's one of the 1 things -- and I know that we're working on 2 3 something internally for communication with our District Council members. There are a lot of 4 rules around that, and as a Police Department, we 5 don't want to violate any of those rules, 6 7 especially when it comes to meetings and things, the Open Meetings Act. We want to be careful 8 with that. Right now, we are drafting something 9 to make sure that we can reach out to each and 10 every District Council member so we can have that 11 12 communication and that feedback. We just want to 13 be careful around that. That should be coming --14 forthcoming shortly.

15 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you. Ι did a ride-along recently. Very insightful. 16 One 17 of the things that I noticed, we pulled somebody over, and the officer filled out a little piece 18 of paper and put it on his dash for later and 19 then marked in his computer as other. 20 That concerns me because how are we keeping track of 21 22 this data? It seems like -- I don't know what 23 happened. To be honest, I didn't ask that question. But when it comes to traffic stops, 24

there's a lot of discussions being had about that. What do you tell community members that may be worried about the process of how that's documented, especially when they interact with constituents.

SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Here, for the most 6 part, someone has a driver's license, usually 7 that information is on there. We do have to be 8 careful sometimes when we're asking questions 9 about, you know, someone's gender, race, things 10 of that nature. We want to be respectful. 11 So 12 sometimes if you see "other," there may be -- it may be possible that the officer could not 13 determine and the person did not want to give 14 that information. And that's why the "other" box 15 would be checked in a situation like that. 16

17 But any traffic stop that an officer makes should be documented. The body cam should 18 be on, and there should be documentation of the 19 stop. Now, whether that stop is a stop where an 20 officer uses his or her discretion and gives 21 22 someone a warning, or if they decide they need to issue a citation to the individual, but officers 23 do have enough discretion to say, Hey, listen, I 24

will let you off with a warning. But there
 should be documentation of that.

3 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you very 4 much. One of the things -- my last question. 5 One of the things that the community members have 6 been bringing up in many meetings is what's going 7 on with the BIA investigation and et cetera. The 8 training that officers receive, they receive bias 9 training, correct?

10 SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Yes, they do.

11 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Do you believe 12 that training maybe covers some of the concerns 13 that member of the community may have about 14 police officers that may have been listed as part 15 of that group? Do you think that that bias 16 training can cover some of those issues that 17 community members may be dealing with?

18 SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Here's what I can 19 tell you. Since the implementation of the 20 Consent Decree, and especially this year, the 21 year prior, the training has increased greatly. 22 When it comes to biased-based policing, things of 23 that nature, officers are getting constant and 24 continuous training on that now. It's a lot more

than it was when I started the job. But I will 1 2 say this when it comes to biased-based policing, we watch body cam all the time. We review it. 3 We look at it. We look at it at the district 4 levels. And I can tell you this right now, 5 anytime something has been said, there were some 6 actions, there was proof of biased-based 7 policing, racism, sexism, whatever it may be, 8 that's unbecoming a police officer, those issues 9 are usually addressed with a complaint register 10 number at some point. Through that, we have had 11 12 some things come right across my desk where they were openly racist statements were made. And I 13 can tell you right now, we've taken action on 14 that. 15

When we look at affiliations, as a 16 17 Police Department, we have to be really careful about determining ourselves who are members of 18 what someone would call a biased-based group, 19 because there are people who show up and speak 20 out, and they're members of groups, and we can 21 22 say the same about them. We have to be very careful about that. What we're looking at are 23 the actions of people, and if they're acting out 24

in a way that's unbecoming to police officers or
 a human being for that matter.

One of the things that I will not 3 tolerate is the mistreatment of people by our 4 officers. What I can tell you is that on a daily 5 basis, when we're watching those body-worn 6 7 cameras, we see officers acting heroically, we see officers assisting people, we see officers 8 applying tourniquets and saving lives. 9 So there has to be that balance. 10 What I will not do is allow a few officers to 11 12 destroy the reputation of all of the hard-working good officers and destroy the reputation of this 13 Department. 14 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you. 15 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Commissioner Minor. 16 17 COMMISSIONER MINOR: I will be very brief because I am a part of the CPD group for the 18 goals, but I will say I was really encouraged by 19 your sentiments today, so I thank you, 20 Superintendent Snelling, for sharing your time 21 and sharing your vision for what we should be 22 23 expecting for 2025. I want to thank you for your partnership in 2024 as we did work on -- some of 24

these goals are carrying over from 2024, so I am excited to see that they're a priority to continue to be worked on in 2025.

Lastly, I really want to commend 4 5 your comments on here because I think you really hit the head on some of the most important things 6 that I've seen throughout the year. A lot of 7 very reoccurring trends that the community are 8 concerned about, and I know that we do have 9 language already in the 2025 goals to address 10 some of those concerns. So I am excited to see 11 12 the impact that's going to happen next year.

13 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Good evening, Superintendent Snelling. Thank you so much for 14 vour words this evening, and one of the 15 commitments, because I attended the most recent 16 17 goal-setting meeting. Excited to hear about the commitment to at least visit and drafting some 18 sort of policy for the traffic stops that we've 19 been speaking about as a Commission and also 20 working collaboratively with the Department. 21 22 So I have two really quick 23 questions. One is around the workforce allocation study. As we've seen, this is a big 24

topic. It's something that community members 1 care a lot about. So can you just provide any 2 insight on what opportunities, if any, as you all 3 are going through that process that community 4 will have to be engaged, right? Because they 5 really want to know what's happening and how they 6 can influence that process. So can you just 7 share a bit about any opportunities that will be 8 available? 9

10 SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: For one, the 11 process will be transparent. Just like we want 12 to do dashboards with most things, there will be 13 public information, number one.

Number two, one of the things that 14 we do, especially when it relates to the Consent 15 16 Decree, is we open things up for public comment. 17 A lot of times we're not getting the public comment that we would like to see. So I do think 18 it would be a good idea to reach out to other 19 groups of people and not just the same people who 20 comment all the time. Just to open that up and 21 22 broaden that to communities. So the people can 23 have some input, because I'm sure there's someone sitting somewhere right now wondering how they 24

can have their voices heard around response times
 by the police or the size of their districts and
 how long it takes for someone to get to a job.
 So we will be pushing information out.

5 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you for that,6 Superintendent.

7 So second question I have is related to the Consent Decree. So there's a lot 8 of concerns that we're always hearing, of course, 9 about the compliance with the Consent Decree, but 10 I know that us sitting in these seats we 11 12 oftentimes are privy to a lot of information that community is not allowed or have access to, and 13 it's very difficult to sometimes synthesize that 14 information to report out. Are you able to share 15 so that there's a consistent understanding of 16 17 some of the challenges that exists for the Department in order to meet the compliance of the 18 Consent Decree? Because I think that that's 19 really important for people to know so that if 20 there's any support for those who want to see you 21 22 all fulfil that can sort of advocate in a way to get you the resources or the support that's 23 24 needed.

SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: That's a great 1 question. Number one, I think there needs to be 2 a better education on the Consent Decree. 3 Everyone focuses on operational compliance, which 4 is that number that everyone -- you're only at 9 5 percent, you're only at 5 percent, you're only at 6 7 9, 10 percent compliance after five years. But they have to understand the different levels of 8 compliance. One, policy development, right? 9 First level. Two, the development of training 10 around those policies. And then three, you have 11 12 to train every member of your Department on the policy and the training. Right now, we're at 13 close to 90 percent on preliminary compliance. 14 Secondary compliance, we're somewhere around 45 15 percent, and then we're at operational 16 17 compliance. So those levels are important. The other thing is this. 18 When it

19 comes to the Consent Decree, we are working with 20 the Independent Monitoring Team, and we're also 21 working with the Office of the Attorney General. 22 And oftentimes what we're doing is we're talking 23 things out. We may not agree upon everything all 24 the time, and when it comes to the police, we

have a level of knowledge and expertise around 1 2 laws, policies, department policies, and things of that nature, and we want to make sure that we 3 can go out and perform the duties that we need to 4 do to keep the City safe. We have to be very 5 careful as to how much we give up and how much we 6 give away, because it takes away the ability to 7 actively enforce laws that will keep people safe. 8 So we want to make sure that we're careful around 9 that. We usually find some level of compliance 10 with each other there. 11

12 The other thing is this. When it comes to things that will help us, one, our 13 Records Management System, which would help all 14 of our records talk to each other. We have too 15 16 many different systems. We're working on 17 antiquated systems. That RMS system would help us greatly, but there are levels of government 18 that we have to go through to get that done. 19 Sometimes these things can take three to five 20 If you look at the workforce allocation 21 vears. 22 study, that's been promised over the past five or six years. When I came in, I was actually able 23 to go through philanthropy to get the funding for 24

it, and that's how we got it pushed through a 1 little quicker. I'm still looking to do that. 2 3 So those are some of the issues. There are so many issues -- it is just running 4 5 through my mind right now. I can tell you a million, and I'll stop here, but there are 6 7 financial issues that affect us, and there are also things in place government wise that we have 8 to take the natural steps to go through to make 9 sure that we're following the right procedures in 10 order to obtain those systems. 11

PRESIDENT DRIVER: Commissioner Wortham. 12 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Hi, Superintendent. 13 Thank you for being here. Thank you for being 14 here and thank you for all that you and your 15 16 Department do to keep our City safe. I have two 17 questions. You started talking about violent crime and the focus on violent crime. I've heard 18 you in other settings talk about the Crime Gun 19 Intelligence Center. I'm wondering if you can 20 give like a brief primer for those who may not be 21 22 familiar with that. My question about that, is, you know, from my perspective, gun violence is a 23 huge issue obviously, and part of solving that is 24

holding gun offenders accountable. Is there
anything that you can share with us that you
need, either internally or in terms of
partnerships or externally that would maximize
the utility of the CGIC, like that partnership,
that ability that your department has to work
there?

SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: What I can tell you 8 about the Crime Gun Intelligence Center, the CGI 9 Center, we partnered with the ATF, and that 10 partnership has been great. Right now we have a 11 12 couple of State's Attorneys embedded into that program. We have our detective division working 13 over there. We also have members of the Bureau 14 of Counterterrorism. And they're all working in 15 lockstep together. We've been able to solve some 16 17 very serious crimes by running weapons through NIBIN. Getting the information back a lot 18 quicker. And this is why the detective division 19 has been able to solve some gun crimes a lot 20 quicker. 21

The other things that we're doing now is just trying to move forward a little more on weapons that have been altered, guns with switches, extended magazines, drones, those
 weapons that we know that people carry to use to
 take lives.

Right now, I can tell you with the 4 CGIC center, just the support from the State's 5 Attorney's Office, the support and everybody 6 working in collaboration is the best possible way 7 to get this done. Legislation is going to be key 8 moving forward. That's going to be the big 9 thing. When we start talking about gun violence 10 and people who should not be carrying guns, 11 12 repeat offenders, people who are committing armed robberies and taking lives, we have to make sure 13 that we stop those people because children are 14 dying, innocent people are dying, and we have to 15 do something to bring down this violence. 16 In 17 order to do that, we're going to have to get some of these guns off the street. 18

So far right now we've taken 12,000 guns off the street in the City of Chicago. And if we've taken 12,000 off, just imagine how many are actually out there.

23 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you so much for24 that. This is going to be my 1-A question. I

had two. So based on that, would you be willing 1 to share with us -- like with the Commission and 2 obviously the public, when these item of new 3 legislation are like being drafted and starting 4 to, like, circulate through the legislature --5 because I think -- what I hear people say all the 6 7 time is like something bad happens. There is a murder, there is a shooting, and, of course, we 8 run the background and -- you know, often this is 9 not like this person's first offense. So people 10 are very curious, how could this happen? Why is 11 this person on their fifth, sixth, seventh qun 12 offense, and now they finally killed someone? 13 I'm very interested -- you don't have to get into 14 legislation today. Whatever is going to be 15 16 proposed to try and get at this problem, I think it would be great for the Commission to be able 17 to share that with the public, not to take a 18 position necessarily on it, but it is part of 19 this whole ecosystem that we would know that so 20 that can be addressed here as well. 21

SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Listen, legislation is always going to be the key. Now, what I'm talking about when I talk about violent crimes, what we find is the people who are committing the
most violent crimes are usually repeat offenders.
And those people need to be stopped. All right.
Those are the people that we need to remove from
the streets.

6 Now, we do have people who made a mistake, or they made a bad choice in life, and 7 it was that one time. We're not looking to take 8 that person, lock them up, throw away the key. 9 If those people have the ability to move into 10 something better, and we can assist them with 11 12 that, we will do absolutely that, but those people who know that they're going to go out and 13 commit the same crimes over and over and continue 14 to take lives, we have to stop them. Not only 15 have we seen it with gun violence, we've seen it 16 17 with domestic violence. We can't continue to go down the path where we're telling people we're 18 going to protect, and we keep allowing the 19 violent offender back on the street, and allowing 20 them to continue to re-offend and take lives over 21 22 and over again. We have to do something to stop 23 that.

24 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you. I agree.

1 I'll clap for that. Anyone else?

And my second question is --2 interestingly, the public comment we heard --3 we've have diversity of the opinion in the City, 4 obviously. I am of the opinion that the 5 Department needs to be fully staffed with sworn 6 7 members. We know we are not right now. That's not unique to Chicago but obviously a law 8 enforcement recruiting issue all over the 9 10 country.

My question for you tonight, 11 12 though, is we know that there are community members in the City who want to see more police, 13 who want to see the police in their community 14 often. Given that, what, if anything, do you 15 16 believe could be helpful to your department -and let me put a note here. I do know that you 17 have a robust recruiting unit, staff of great 18 people who are working very hard to recruit, but 19 what, if anything, could help that? Like get us 20 the most qualified, most intelligent, 21 22 hard-working professional people to want to come 23 to this Department? It doesn't have to be something internal. What even if it's an 24

external factor do you believe might stand
between the Department and getting the people we
really want to come on this job?

4 SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Number one is 5 trust. Right? We know when the Department --6 when departments across the country -- not only 7 across the country, across the world, started to 8 break down, people stopped wanting to be the 9 police. People started leaving the profession 10 shortly after the George Floyd incident.

Since then, we're seeing things pick up slightly. But in order to build that trust, you make sure that you're presenting the most professional department that you can possibly present.

If people believe that the 16 17 organization that they want to be a part of is not an organization that they can be a part of 18 because they feel that it's an integrity issue 19 for them, we have to show the capabilities, the 20 professionalism of our Department, the 21 22 hard-working members. And then we have to get 23 them to understand that this is a job of service where we go out, and we serve the community, and 24

we're protecting lives, we're protecting our communities, and we continue to build that trust. When people know that they can join an organization and do great things for people they don't even know, I believe people would want to be a part of that profession.

7 So internally we have to just continue to move in a direction that we're doing 8 to continue to continue to build this Department. 9 10 I know criticism is going to come. I'm used to it at this point, but we fight through those 11 12 things, and we make sure that we are presenting the most professional, most well-trained, most 13 well officers out there. 14

We saw a glimpse of it during the 15 There was a level of pride that I saw in 16 DNC. 17 those officers that I had for those officers during that time, and we just want to continue to 18 move in that direction. And I believe -- because 19 it doesn't matter how great your recruitment 20 process is, if people don't want to be a part of 21 22 it, you are not going to recruit them. We create the best department that we can, people will want 23 to be a part of it. 24

COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Just a quick 1 2 follow-up. I remember a time when there were 3 years' long waits to get into the academy. That wasn't like that long ago. So obviously we want 4 a Department that's attractive to candidates, but 5 6 then also how can the Department -- you said 7 there's always going to be criticism. How can we counteract, perhaps, the criticism being a 8 deterrent? Even if something like, man, the 9 Chicago Police is the greatest department, I 10 really want to work there, but I'm concerned 11 12 about being put in a position where I'm going to be constantly criticized. How can we combat 13 maybe that serving as a deterrent for the 14 candidates that we would want to come on the 15 16 Department?

17 SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Two things. Two 18 things. One, again, continue to develop our 19 members, continue to develop the Department, have 20 a message and get that message out.

I think what we've done in the past is we've done a very poor job. I will just say it out loud. We've done a very poor job of messaging, messaging the great work that the

Chicago police officers are doing on a regular 1 2 basis. That's not something that you see when you go to the internet, and you pull something 3 up, it is usually something negative. You don't 4 see the tourniquet that the officer put on a 5 nine-year-old girl who had a biceps ripped off by 6 a pit bull. You don't see the officers who got 7 to the scene and applied the tourniquet to both 8 legs of an individual that they just encountered 9 who told them how much he hated the police. 10 You don't see those things. 11

We have video of all of these things where officers did this on body-worn camera. We need to start pushing out more positive information.

The other thing is this, we need to start hearing the voices of community members who are concerned about what's going on in their neighborhoods.

If you have an issue with officers, if you have an issue with officers who you feel did not show up to a job, we need to hear that voice.

24

If you know that an officer showed

up and did a great job for you, and you want to
 compliment that officer, please do that.
 These are things that are going to

help us build those relationships, because now we
get to know more of the people in the
communities, especially those communities that
people aren't really coming out.

8 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, Superintendent. 9 I'm also one of two commissioners that are on the 10 CPD goals working group, so I don't have any 11 12 questions, per se, because I asked them in our working group meetings, but I will just ask --13 and this has come up a number of times -- a 14 number of times today, in the media, in the 15 community there's been forums about it, but I 16 17 would ask that you -- you have done this a little bit today as well, but if you could speak 18 directly to the person in the community who is 19 fearful, who is scared and who believes that the 20 Chicago Police Department didn't take the Oath 21 22 Keeper investigation seriously. And I want to be clear, too, that is not an accusation, but I do 23 think there's a lot of fear in the community, and 24

I hear a lot of it, and I think it could do some good if you could speak directly to that person who has that fear.

4 SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Listen, let me be 5 the first to say this. When that investigation 6 was done, we reached out to the Office of the 7 Inspector General, and we asked the Office of 8 Inspector General to partner with us. They have 9 subpoena power. We do not.

10 They did not participate in the 11 investigation. So what BIA had -- the Bureau of 12 Internal Affairs had, they did the best possible 13 investigation they could.

14 Now, as someone who you don't hear me say this that often, but I don't think I need 15 16 to tell you what my race is. Right? I grew up 17 in Englewood in a community. I participated in black history bowls, know your heritage, because 18 those things were important to me. If anybody 19 thinks that for any reason that I would sweep 20 white supremacy under the rug, they're sadly 21 mistaken. 22

This was an investigation that was done, and it was posted for transparency. If

anyone has the opportunity to look at it, please 1 look at it. Please read it through and through. 2 And understand what it takes to do a thorough 3 investigation of something like that, some of the 4 roadblocks that you may run into when you are 5 doing this investigation. As I told you before, 6 7 when I see something -- because I'm not going to tolerate discrimination of any type, and when I 8 see it, I'm going to do something about it. And 9 I can tell you that I have seen it, and it has 10 come across my desk, and I have done something 11 about it and will continue to do so. 12

13 We can look at affiliations all day. I'm looking at actions. I want to know what 14 people are doing. I want to know how people are 15 16 interacting with other people. I want to know if 17 people are being disrespectful to each other. That's what's important. I can tell you this. 18 That when -- if you watch a bunch of the 19 body-camera footage of officers who show up to 20 locations, jobs, some of the things that are said 21 22 to these officers -- and I said this before, especially during the DNC. The things that were 23 said to the female officers, it took every single 24

ounce of control to make sure that we maintained 1 2 our professionalism not to respond to it. Vicious, nasty, nasty things. Officers deal with 3 this on a daily basis. And those officers know 4 how it made them feel. I know how it made them 5 feel. And under no circumstances would I want 6 anybody from my Department to inflict that kind 7 of disrespect or trauma on anyone else. 8

They know what it feels like. 9 Ι know what it feels like. But we're not going to 10 stoop to that level. And I'm going to make sure 11 12 that our officers understand that. These officers are out here working hard, and I'm not 13 going to leave a podium without highlighting 14 that, because although you may not see it, 15 16 although people may not report it, I see it on a 17 daily basis. And if I didn't stand up for those people, those officers who are putting their 18 lives on the line every single day, I'm failing 19 these officers. And if I'm failing these 20 officers, I'm failing our City. So I want 21 22 everybody to be clear that our Department, myself and our leadership, we're not going to tolerate 23 people who are out policing in a biased manner. 24

We're not going to do it. When we see it, we're
 going to take action against it. That simple.

3 PRESIDENT DRIVER: My last follow-up is just 4 if you can -- I feel like a lot of people may not 5 be as familiar with some of the terminology. You 6 mentioned subpoena power. Can you explain a 7 little bit about what that means?

SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Well, listen, a lot 8 of times if we want to look into someone's phone, 9 right, there's a constitution. You have to have 10 a subpoena to do that. That's not one of the 11 12 tools that the Bureau of Internal Affairs has. So if we want to take a deeper dive into 13 something, we have to get other people involved, 14 and if we get that help, we welcome it all day 15 16 because that help was requested. We asked for 17 it. We just didn't get it. So we will continue to work. We're going to continue to be 18 transparent. And whatever we do, we're going to 19 put it out there. 20

I answer questions. So if someone asks a question, I'm going to give you the most honest possible answer I can.

24 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you. Thank you. We

1 appreciate you.

2 SUPERINTENDENT SNELLING: Thank you.
3 Appreciate you. Appreciate everybody here.
4 Thank you.

5 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Now I would like to ask 6 Police Board President Kyle Cooper or anyone from 7 his team making a presentation to join us.

PRESIDENT COOPER: Thank you, Commissioners, 8 and thank you, Executive Director Gross, for 9 having me today to talk about the goals for next 10 year for the Chicago Police Board. In addition 11 12 to building off of the '24 goals in which we worked to increase transparency, accountability, 13 and outreach, for 2025, the proposed goal that 14 we've had submitted to the CCPSA Board or the 15 Commission is a goal that begin the process to 16 17 rewrite -- at least look into rewriting the policies and procedures of the Chicago Police 18 19 Department.

20 Section 2-84-03 of the Municipal 21 Code grants the Police Board the power to adopt 22 rules and regulations for the governance of the 23 Chicago Police Department. And these rules and 24 regulations, they don't cover operational rules, 1 but they establish the general rules and goals and duties of CPD members and set forth the rules 2 of conduct that every officer is expected to 3 follow. So, for example, the rules of conduct 4 govern prohibitions on police officers' use of 5 excessive force, unjustified use of a weapon, 6 7 making false statements, and failing to report misconduct. 8

9 In total, there are currently 55 10 rules and regulations of the Department that we 11 would be looking into.

Now, reviewing and updating the rules and regulations is necessary to ensure that they align with principles of 21st century policing, because the current version of the rules and regulations were adopted in the '70s with only one new section added in 1998 and only minor revisions taking place in 2021.

But before the actual work of rewriting these rules begins, all stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide input on both the substance of the rules and the proposed process by which the rules will be amended. This preliminary phase ensures that stakeholders are well-informed about how the work
 will proceed and how the community and relevant
 stakeholders will be engaged throughout the
 process.

5 And so to that end, in order to go 6 about this goal that we proposed, what we will do 7 is we will begin by holding listening sessions 8 with stakeholders to discuss their views on areas 9 for proposed changes and a process for 10 undertaking that review.

Stakeholders include the Mayor, the 11 12 Deputy Mayor for Community Safety, members of the City Council, leadership of CPD, COPA, the Office 13 of Inspector General, CCPSA, and the law 14 department, also leadership of the unions 15 representation members of the Chicago police 16 17 officers, police District Councils, the Consent Decree monitor, the Office of the Attorney 18 General, community organization, and people like 19 you who are here today which means members of the 20 public. 21

And in order to go through that process and develop the rules and regulations for the Police Department, we are going to undertake a comprehensive review to determine what, if any,
 of the existing rules or regulations need
 revision and to identify the new rules and
 regulations that should be implemented.

I just want to emphasize that the 5 goal for this year is a preliminary first step of 6 7 what we anticipate will be a lengthy and complex process and project that will involve input from 8 a diverse group of stakeholders as the last thing 9 that me as president or the Board is interested 10 in doing is putting forward a set of proposed 11 12 revisions and rules that are misaligned from the reality of what it's like to become -- act as a 13 Chicago police officer on a day to day, but also 14 don't provide officers with the correct guidance 15 and insight that will help them be more effective 16 17 members of the communities in which they're serving. 18

19 So after the Board conducts its 20 review and after thoroughly considering the 21 feedback received from stakeholders, I will 22 discuss next steps with the Police Board and 23 provide a report to this Commission, as well as 24 to other stakeholders and the public. If later

steps include drafting a new version of the rules 1 and regulations, the Board will follow the 2 processes of providing notice and receiving 3 comments from the public as required by the 4 Consent Decree, as well as the Board policies. 5 So at this time, I would take any 6 questions that the Commission might have. 7 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, President. 8 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you, 9 President Cooper. I look forward to talking 10 about this very complex project. And then just 11 12 as a context, one of the rules and regulations on this is that officers cannot smoke a pipe. 13 I don't know if there's some former police officers 14 in this room, but if you could let me know when 15 the last time an officer smoked a pipe. 16 17 So I look forward to updating these outdated rules and regulations, along with our 18

very diverse stakeholders that we're going to have to engage. Thank you very much, and I'll relinquish the rest of my time for the rest of the Commissioners.

23 COMMISSIONER MINOR: I second that. I think24 that's very important and essential work. I

would love to know more about your timeline, and
 I would love to know about your processes and
 approach as well.

PRESIDENT COOPER: Sure. For a timeline, we 4 are anticipating and hoping by the end of 2025 5 that we'll have had key important conversations 6 7 with the stakeholders that I mentioned in my opening remarks, such as Chicago police officers, 8 the union that represents Chicago police 9 officers, community leaders, CCPSA members. 10 In terms of a timeline, we are anticipating that 11 12 because of the diverse and numerous types of groups and individuals who I think are going to 13 want to have a say in helping you update these 14 rules and regulations, that we can bring these 15 new rules to the 21st Century, that the goal --16 17 this goal is to have that sort of talking process take place over the course of the next year with 18 the hope that by the end of these listening 19 sessions that we will be holding in public and in 20 private with members of the group, that we will 21 22 have a strong idea as a board as to what rules such as outdated rules regarding smoking a pipe 23 need to be addressed and what rules are such that 24

1 they can exist as they're currently written.

We're looking really for the next year to have the information from the community and key stakeholders to determine what rules, if any, need to be modified.

6 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Thank you.

VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you, President 7 Cooper, for your presentation. So I have one 8 really quick question. All of my questions are 9 likely going to be centered around partnership 10 and communities. So this one is for community. 11 12 What is sort of your idea or have you guys thought about your outreach and engagement 13 strategy to get the feedback from community? 14 Because usually people -- again, we see a lot of 15 education needs to happen, first and foremost, 16 17 and then actual engagement so they can have input. So what does that look like so people can 18 have an idea of how to be engaged in this work 19 moving forward? 20

21 PRESIDENT COOPER: Thank you, Vice President. 22 We're thinking about it in a couple of different 23 ways. Every third Thursday, the Police Board 24 conducts public meetings at the Chicago public --

Police Department's Headquarters. And during 1 that meeting, which is similar to the meeting 2 that we're here today, we have members of the 3 public who come in and make public comments. 4 One of our outreach strategies is going to be to 5 announce this goal at the next public meeting. 6 7 In addition, the Chicago Police Board does a really good job of actively promoting its news on 8 its website. And all these Police Board meetings 9 are also carried live on CAN-TV. 10

So in addition to putting the 11 12 proposed rule and hopefully the finalized rule on 13 the Board's website, in addition to bringing it up at meetings like this one at the monthly 14 Police Board meeting, we're also going to put 15 blasts out in the form of press releases and in 16 17 outreach to community groups and organizations that the Board is aware but also in communication 18 with CPD and members of the Commission to make 19 sure that we are identifying and reaching out to 20 community groups and communities that would want 21 22 to have an input as part of the process to 23 rewriting the rules of the Chicago Police Department. It's ChicagoPoliceBoard.gov. 24

COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Hi, President Cooper.
 PRESIDENT COOPER: Hi, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: How are you? 3 Thank you for being here today. Mine isn't so much a 4 question, but I'm glad to hear you talk about 5 engaging various stakeholders and wanting to hear 6 all perspectives. I've had the opportunity to 7 come to several of your meetings, and I 8 appreciate your work. I would just encourage 9 like as an underpinning of all of this -- and I 10 don't know how you would synthesize this in the 11 12 rules, but to keep kind of center -- the need for all of your members to stay in a position where 13 they can render an unbiased opinion if called 14 upon. We know in cases of disagreement, you 15 might have to do that, right? I think just like 16 17 a random draw, right? And I know you have public comment session where you're gracious, and you 18 allow the public to express themselves. 19 Sometimes we have members of the public who have 20 pending litigation with the City, specifically 21 22 with the Chicago Police Department. I think it's very important that the way that the meetings are 23 run -- the way that the meetings run keeps in 24

mind that those cases -- the nature and facts of 1 2 those cases might at some point come before you or members of your Board for a decision on a 3 disagreement case. We want to be careful not to 4 say anything or do anything that might indicate a 5 preference toward a certain perspective on those. 6 7 I think that's just something maybe keep in mind for all of these. That would 8 permeate through all the rules and all the 9 updates just to make sure that everything that's 10 coming out of the Board is as legitimate as 11 12 possible.

13 PRESIDENT COOPER: I think that's great 14 advice, Commissioner, and something we will 15 certainly keep in mind.

One of the things that myself, and 16 17 I know the other members of the Board, take very seriously is any sort of indications or 18 insinuations of bias and be recused from deciding 19 cases in which that bias may either be 20 implemented expressly or implicitly. So that's 21 22 definitely something we will keep in mind as we 23 go through the process of looking at current rules and rewriting them so we can update them 24

1 for the 21st Century.

2 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, President 3 Cooper. I don't have any questions. Thank you 4 for being here and presenting with us today. 5 PRESIDENT COOPER: Thank you, Commissioners. 6 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Now I'd like to ask Chief 7 Administrator Andrea Kersten or anyone from her 8 team making a presentation on behalf of COPA to 9 join us. 10

11 CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR KERSTEN: Thank you. 12 Good evening. Thank you, Commissioners, for the 13 opportunity to be here, members of the public for 14 your attention. I know I'm going last, so I'm 15 going to try to go quickly because we're all 16 still freezing.

17 So just to touch on our 2024 year in review. Some of this is a little bit -- I 18 think we skipped ahead here. A little bit 19 important to really contextualize the 20 relationship that COPA has enjoyed with the 21 22 Commission and how that relationship, specifically the goal-setting process, has really 23 set the table for what the Commission is looking 24

1 to work with us on in 2025.

We've advanced past the slide, but 2 in 2024, we set specific goals around 3 consistency, timeliness in closing our cases, 4 improving transparency and communication, youth 5 engagement, and overall issues pertaining to 6 equity both inside our agency as well as the work 7 of our agency and how it impacts our communities. 8 So the slide represents a little 9 bit of the highlights with respect to that. 10 We made significant gains in 2023 11 12 on timeliness. Overall, we went from -- in 2023 concluding about 49 percent of our cases within 13 six months, to that number jumping up to 68 14 percent of our investigations being concluded at 15 COPA within six months. 16 The average 17 investigative caseload per investigator in 2023 was about 35 cases. That's far too many to do 18 the job as thoroughly and as quickly as I think 19 officers and complainants in the community we 20 serve deserve. Thankfully, because of our work 21 22 with the Commission in developing our timeliness initiatives, our average caseload right now per 23 investigator is about ten cases. 24

And then lastly this year saw 1 2 incredible gains for us as agency with respect to 3 our overall Consent Decree compliance. The Independent Monitoring Team just published its 4 report for the tenth reporting period in which 5 COPA has a hundred percent preliminary 6 compliance, a hundred percent secondary 7 compliance, and 90 percent operational 8 compliance. 9

So, again, that work is really 10 setting the foundation for us to be able to work 11 12 directly with the Commission in 2025, going ahead, to make sure that we are achieving the 13 goals that the Commission is setting out for us. 14 15 This slide also just depicts really the overall case law. We are at a historic low 16 17 as an agency having currently around 580 open investigations in our agency. That number being 18 down from almost 2000 just a couple of years ago. 19 That is a tremendous accomplishment and really 20 the work of a dedicated staff that I lead at the 21 22 agency. But also certainly partnership with 23 commissioners that have served both as interim commissioners and now the current Commission. 24

So, for 2025, the Commission has set 1 forward goals for COPA in four key areas. 2 Number 3 one, finalizing and publishing our communications plan. As I mentioned, last year's goals kind of 4 set the table for that where we were really 5 working on increasing and improving our overall 6 7 transparency and communication. That means a lot of different things, how we publish our summary 8 reports, how we publish and comply with the 9 City's video release policy so the videos of 10 critical incidents and police shootings. Media 11 12 engagements, other sort of community engagements, strategies for sharing information about our 13 work. So we have draft internal guidance and 14 some policies that we've been working on and look 15 to be finalizing with the Commission's input in 16 17 the coming year.

Secondarily, the Commission asked for us to look at expanding our pattern and practice investigations.

21 COPA has many different authorities 22 under our ordinance. One of the areas of 23 authority that we have in addition to 24 investigating individual complaints that we

receive about specific incidents is COPA can look 1 at broader trends by way of looking at patterns 2 and practices of misconduct. So some of that 3 derivative information that we receive from 4 logging and investigating and concluding these 5 cases. What message does that send? 6 What 7 information can we glean from some of that work? And so I know the Commission is excited to see 8 COPA be able to expand that -- our efforts in 9 that space. And, again, it is actually our goal 10 setting with CCPSA in the past that's going to 11 make this goal possible in 2025. Specifically, a 12 goal in 2023 we set with the Commission was to 13 fully staff that unit. And so finally for the 14 first time in 2024, as of November, we now have a 15 fully staffed policy research and analysis 16 17 division that is going to be able to be looking specifically at our investigative case data, and 18 as you can see on the slide, augmenting and 19 supplementing the qualitative approaches that we 20 already have, to identifying those patterns and 21 22 practices with more quantitative approaches, and 23 specifically identifying anomalies that we see in complaint intake, as well as flagging trends from 24

complainant characteristics or exploring tips or 1 insights from our investigative staff, as well as 2 the officers that we work with and community 3 members through various forms of data analysis. 4 So this work is exciting. 5 This work, I believe, can be very prospective in 6 nature and be some of the most transformative 7 efforts that our agency will be able to engage 8 We are looking forward to this partnership 9 in. as well. 10

The third goal that the Commission 11 12 had set for us was to continue the development of our community mediation program. One of the 13 requirements under the federal Consent Decree is 14 that the City operates a community-centered 15 mediation program for officers and members of the 16 17 community where there are complaints or issues that are raised have an opportunity to sit down 18 with one another and a third-party mediator in 19 neutral setting and be able to hopefully 20 understand and gain perspective on each other's 21 22 experiences, as opposed to only having one way to 23 resolve complaints, which is through the disciplinary system. This provides more of a 24

procedural justice model for both parties
 involved to be able to gain insight from one
 another's experiences.

So, again, goal setting with the 4 Commission last year led us to bringing on our 5 first director of mediation. She joined our 6 7 office in August of this year, and she's already well at work with moving towards this goal. 8 The City had a brief and short pilot 9 program that it launched into this mediation 10 project. We're looking to just expand upon the 11 12 lessons that we learned there and really get a fully operational mediation program running in 13 this coming year. 14

Again, I think it's really important 15 particularly for officers and community members 16 17 who become complainants to understand not every case needs to result in discipline. A lot of 18 times what needs to result is a meaningful 19 conversation. So we see the community mediation 20 program as one aspect or opportunity for those 21 22 kinds of conversations to take place. And to be 23 very clear for anyone that's interested, a complaint that goes through that mediation 24

program is taken completely off the disciplinary track. There are incentives for officers to want to participate in a conversation like that, as opposed to moving through a disciplinary investigation.

So, hopefully, we'll have more to share about that as we work through 2024. Or 2025. I apologize.

And then lastly, the fourth goal 9 that we had with the Commission for 2025 is just 10 further growing COPA's collaborative relationship 11 with the CCPSA. I know that CPD and 12 Superintendent Snelling mentioned this in his 13 remarks have worked on policies to govern the way 14 in which in a Department interacts with the 15 commissioners, and COPA is excited to join in 16 17 that effort. We actually interact frequently with the District Councils. I've gone to 18 multiple District Council meetings as has my 19 staff. 20

We want to continue to solidify that partnership and grow those opportunities. So we look forward to making sure that we're able to share information with the District Council and the Commission in a way that makes sense for the constituents in the communities you serve and making sure that that is clear in policy inside of our organization.

Really when it comes to it, we have 5 a complicated ecosystem here and accountability 6 world of police oversight in Chicago. And all of 7 us have to collaborate and work openly and 8 collaboratively with one another, so whether it's 9 COPA and CCPSA or COPA and CPD or COPA and the 10 Police Board or the OIG or all of us together, I 11 12 think that spirit of collaboration is really key. So this goal is certainly one that our agency is 13 excited to work towards as well. Those are my 14 comments. And any questions of the Commission, 15 16 I'd be happy to answer.

PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you. We will beginwith my far right.

19 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Awesome. Thank you so 20 much for your presentation. I really appreciate 21 it, and I'm excited to see the work that we're 22 going to be doing on the goals. I'm mostly 23 excited about the patterns of practice 24 investigations with some of the work that can 1 come out of that.

I want to know -- I know that you all did a pilot for mediation program. For any community members who might want to participate why you are still in the process of solidifying that program, is there any way they can perform outreach to you all to, perhaps, be on a queue or on a waiting list?

9 CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR KERSTEN: Absolutely. 10 Our website makes us pretty available, 11 ChicagoCOPA.org, and via the website you can 12 reach out to our community engagement folks, et 13 cetera, who can put you in touch with the right

14 staff. But we do have community engagement

15 sections pertaining specifically to mediation.

16 So we've been informing District Councils

specifically about some of those upcoming events.
So we'll make sure to share any of those. And
for any of you -- I live here in 17, so if anyone
in 17 is interested in having one here, I'd be
happy to make sure that happens.

But any of the District Council members, if there is interest in your specific community, we would attend one of your monthly 1 meetings.

We were actually in 22 a few weeks ago, our director of mediation was with us and was able to answer a lot of community questions during and after that meeting. So we would have any of those opportunities that people are interested in.

8 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Thank you.

9 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Good evening, Chief 10 Kersten. Thank you for being here. Thank you 11 for your presentation. I don't want to belabor 12 us since I know you're like I'm last.

13 THE WITNESS: It's cold.

14 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Two quick questions. I know you spoke about the communications plan 15 16 and your strategy sort of around that. Are you 17 able to share some of the internal policies that you are leveraging for, you know, to use as your 18 quidance for that particular process? And, 19 separately, are you able to sort of share that 20 with the Commission so that we can have, you 21 22 know, a thorough understanding of sort of what you're using to guide that as we are going to be 23 scoring -- or not scoring, but taking account of 24

1 how you're meeting the goals?

2 CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR KERSTEN: Absolutely. Before I even get into any sort of internal 3 policies, there's a couple of bodies of authority 4 that are governing a lot of that as well. 5 We have some transparency related obligations both 6 7 in our ordinance, as well as in the federal Consent Decree. Any policy or internal guidance 8 that we are working on, of course, has to make 9 sure it is complying with those things. I think 10 an area of focus for the Commission is really 11 12 just making sure that best practices are being looked at as well, particularly with some of 13 those external communication approaches. 14 I can tell you as the civilian 15 16 oversight practitioner, we certainly are 17 constantly liaising with our partners across the country, whether it's New York's civilian 18 oversight model or Denver's or Oakland's. We 19 really have partners across -- a network of 20 partners across the country that we will be 21 22 certainly leaning on to make sure that we're availing ourself of their approaches and 23 resources as well. 24

Also wanting to work here in 1 2 Chicago with our law enforcement partners. Anv 3 communications that we're making we need to make sure are clear to both CPD first and foremost as 4 well as well as the Cook County State's 5 Attorney's Office and also to some extent City 6 7 Hall or the Department of Law, et cetera. So those are practices that have 8 always been in place that people maybe just don't 9 know much about, unless you are in these roles, 10 so we're excited to share more with the 11 12 Commission and the public about sort of how those communications develop. And then also improve 13 upon the processes that we have. 14 15 So those are some of our approaches 16 thus far, and we look forward to our working 17 group's input as well. Thank you. 18 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: The second question I have, so I sit on the CPD policy 19 working group, and as you were sharing about the 20 future partnership with the Commission and being 21 22 more collaborative, something popped into my 23 head, you know, with this COPA working group. Ι think it would be great to sort of weave them 24

into our process of crafting your policy, similar 1 to the work that we do with CPD. So as you all 2 are considering this patterns and practices 3 policy, is that something you all would be open 4 Because I think it will allow for you all to 5 to? move forward quicker if the Commission is sort of 6 7 engaged throughout the process and are aware as you all are crafting the language and giving 8 feedback at different points in times so that 9 we're not having to read what you created, give 10 you feedback, sort of that back and forth. So 11 12 just interested to know if you would open for 13 that.

14 CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR KERSTEN: Absolutely. We love a working group at COPA. Actually, it was a 15 policy working group -- a community policy 16 working group that we were obligated to engage 17 with in our all of our federal Consent Decree 18 policies that has really enabled COPA to your 19 point to move quickly in our Consent Decree 20 progress because we had those collaborative 21 22 working group relationships.

23 So we'd be happy to make sure that 24 our working group at the Commission is part of

the conversation before we're looking to finalize 1 2 policies, making sure that we're all aligned, as well as other stakeholders, again, CPD, Police 3 Board, OIG, whoever else may be relevant, but 4 particularly our working group members, since we 5 know ultimately the Commission is going to need 6 ultimate approval of a lot of these policies. 7 Thank you. 8

COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Hi, Chief Kersten. 9 Thank you for being here. So my question -- you 10 talked about transparency. I'm glad to hear you 11 12 say that. One of the things I think is really great on the website -- on COPA's website is that 13 you have like a page where you break down final 14 summary reports, and you explain each section 15 kind of what it means to a reader who's not super 16 17 familiar.

In looking at moving forward and trying to make sure COPA's operating with the same transparency that COPA kind of looks at for the agency that it oversees, could you envision an -- either an amendment or revision to final summary reports or, perhaps, a separate document where COPA shares with the public not just the

final result, but -- like more of the 1 investigatory trail, if that makes sense. 2 So I understand there's various layers within COPA. 3 You have the people who might go out, people who 4 initially look at the facts. You know, there 5 might be an initial thought, and then there might 6 7 be a review of that and the thought might change and the final result might change. Could you 8 envision a system where COPA shares more of that 9 with the public so that even in situations, which 10 will be all situations, right, some people will 11 12 agree with the ultimate result, some people won't, that people might understand how you got 13 there a little more than just showing the final 14 result? 15

16 CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR KERSTEN: I could 17 envision having conversations about that. I think -- I'm sure our legal department would want 18 to have a lot of mindful conversation around 19 deliberative process privilege and other things 20 that might impact our ability to share pre-final 21 22 decision conversations or discussions. So it's an interesting point that you raise certainly. 23 But I think where we could certainly lend more 24

transparency would be around just the process 1 2 that we go through as an agency, so maybe not specific deliberative process in an individual 3 investigation, but by making sure the public has 4 direct access on our website to what some of 5 those investigative processes are, and how 6 disagreements internally are made out and 7 handled. So I think that's a great suggestion. 8 And I will note that that's something that we 9 talk a lot about at our COPA People's Academy. 10 We really try to walk members of the public and 11 12 folks from CPD and other stakeholders who have attended those sessions through those processes 13 so that people have a general sense of how that 14 works. But we could certainly make some of that 15 information more available on the website. Great 16 17 suggestion.

COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thanks. 18 I think the process is really important, and I appreciate 19 that, and I do know the People's Academy, that's 20 kind of what it's for. And I totally understand 21 22 the legality of deliberative process, and we can 23 talk about that. But I think why it would be helpful to the extent that legally COPA can share 24

as much information as possible, just like we 1 want other -- entities to share a lot of 2 information, is because I think it would help 3 people see -- again, everyone doesn't have to 4 like everything, but if you understand how we got 5 there, I think that that builds legitimacy for 6 7 all of us. I would be interested in talking about that and see how we might -- I don't want 8 to call it a hurdle, because I don't know if it 9 is a hurdle. But discuss the legality of it to 10 see how we could work toward sharing more of that 11 12 process and case specific even, if possible, because I think that that might help the larger 13 14 ecosystem will understand how we're working together. 15

16 CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR KERSTEN: I appreciate 17 that. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DRIVER: I don't have any
questions. Thank you so much, Chief Kersten.
Sorry.

21 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: I have one 22 question, and then you can get down. Chief 23 Kersten, I just have a question regarding one of 24 the goals. I just want to ask you, how do you balance promoting COPA's work and the integrity
 of your investigations?

3 CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR KERSTEN: I mean I think that is a critical balance that has to be struck. 4 5 Like I said, most of our transparency obligations are pretty rooted in principles either in the 6 Consent Decree or direct requirements of the 7 Consent Decree and/or our ordinance. So that is 8 the starting point. But as you can see, any time 9 you talk to the public about the complexity of 10 the work that we do, even really informed members 11 12 of the public or informed commissioners, there's still a lot more questions. Right? So a part of 13 being transparent is, to Commissioner Wortham's 14 point, I believe, about making sure everybody 15 16 understands how we get there. Right? How we get to the process. I think what information is 17 released, when it is released, those are all 18 things that have to be critically and carefully 19 analyzed. And those conversations that I look 20 forward to having with the working group and 21 22 making sure we're being transparent to the public. I appreciate the question. 23

24 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you. Thank you to 1 2 all the agencies for attending today. Aqain, these goals are just drafts, and we will be 3 working with the agency over the next several 4 weeks to finalize. Our intention is to vote on 5 these goals in our January 30th meeting. They 6 7 will be posted on our website sometime in 8 January.

9 Our next order of business will be 10 reports and updates. We will begin discussing 11 working group updates. First is Commissioner 12 Terry with the update on traffic stops.

VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: The Community
Commission for Public Safety and Accountability
is hosting a series of listening sessions across
Chicago to gather input from community on traffic
stops.

We invite you to share your experiences with traffic stops and provide feedback on anything related to this and potential changes of establishing an actual traffic stop policy, because I think that's really important.

24 Most people believe that the

Department has a policy specifically around 1 certain traffic stops, and we have learned that 2 3 that is not the case. So we really want to gain an understanding of how you all think about the 4 topic overall, and we invite you to come out to 5 the first meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, 6 7 December 17th, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., at the JLM Center located at 2622 West Jackson Boulevard in 8 Chicago. And for those who cannot attend in 9 person, we will also be launching a survey that 10 day which will be posted on our website and 11 social media. 12

13 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, Commissioner14 Terry.

Next Commissioner Minor will
provide an update on the Community Outreach
working group.

18 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Well, first I want to 19 make sure that I am recognizing our District 20 Councilors in the room, Tom McMahon, Lee 21 Bielecki, Colleen Murphy, Dion McGill, Colleen 22 Dillon, and Beth Rochford. I want to say thank 23 you so much for showing up and showing out 24 tonight. We appreciate all the work that you're doing in our community on behalf of public safety
 and accountability.

The Commission encourages members 3 of the community to attend their local District 4 Council meetings. This is a great way to get 5 involved and have a voice in Public Safety and 6 7 Accountability in your local community. Behind me should be a QR code that links to a calendar 8 with all the upcoming District Council meetings. 9 If you are unsure what you're district you are 10 in, you can go to our website or a member of our 11 12 beloved staff can help you out. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, Commissioner
Minor. Next I will provide update on the CPD
Budget Review working group.

Last month, the Commission submitted its report on the proposed 2025 Chicago Police Department budget to the City Council. The Commission is required by law to review the Police Department budget annually before the City Council votes on it. The report is available on our website for the public to read.

One of the report's key findings isthat the proposed elimination of numerous

critical civilian and sworn positions threatens
 to undermine reform required under the federal
 Consent Decree.

We are encouraged to hear that on November 25th, the Mayor announced the decision to restore the vacant positions that will help Chicago meet its consent decree obligations. The Commission looks forward to reviewing the final budget that will be presented for a vote to the City Council.

Next, Commissioner Rubi Navarijo
will provide update on the Noncitizen Advisory
Council.

14 COMMISSIONER RUBI NAVARIJO: Thank you,15 President Driver.

The Commission is accepting 16 17 applications still for the Noncitizen Advisory Council through Monday, December 16th. 18 This volunteer council advises the Commission on 19 public safety matters and concerns in Chicago's 20 noncitizen community. We encourage you to apply 21 22 if you are a noncitizen living in Chicago or work 23 directly with noncitizens. Please understand the Commission commits to reserving the privacy of 24

all applicants and at no time will applicants be
 asked to disclose their immigration status.

3 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, Commissioner.
4 Next, Commissioner Terry will provide update on
5 extremism within the CPD.

6 COMMISSIONER MINOR: I will provide the 7 update on behalf of Commissioner Terry, just to 8 give her lovely voice a rest. I know she has 9 been doing a lot in this program. I just want to 10 talk about our most recent meeting with the 11 Mayor's Office.

12 So the Mayor's Office of Community 13 Safety and the Office of Immigrant, Migrant, and 14 Refugee Services and the Office of Racial Equity 15 and Justice are convening to discuss a task force 16 to address the reports of extremism in the 17 Chicago Police Department.

18 Currently, the group is 19 workshopping strategies, goals, and identifying 20 any barriers. Next week, the co-chairs will meet 21 to decide the scopes, cadence, and desired 22 results of the task force. The group will also 23 identify partners to engage in the task force. 24 Updates on the progress of the tax force will follow in the next year. And, of
 course, we will provide update on the task force
 at this meeting as well. So thank you.

PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you, Commissioner 4 I will actually have a brief comment on 5 Minor. this particular subject. It is something that's 6 7 been a source of frustration for me. I would first like to say that I'm very appreciative of 8 Commissioner Terry and Commissioner Minor for 9 their work with the Mayor's Office of Community 10 Safety on working with this particular issue. 11 12 This is obviously something that's important to me, and I believe in being a solution-oriented 13 person. And we were presented with this 14 information from the Inspector General before the 15 16 public got in. I believe that was back in March or January. And for me it's been particularly 17 frustrating watching how slow this process has 18 played out, because I do think there are things 19 we can do now that can help. 20

We just heard the Superintendent say that the Bureau of Internal Affairs does not have subpoena power. We need to look critically at that issue and figure out why is that the case 1 and how can that be fixed.

We've heard District Council 2 3 members present and say they would like this power to be transferred to COPA. There have been 4 a number of things that come up, and I think so 5 often we get tied up in bureaucracy and it's 6 7 really frustrating and frankly pisses me off that 8 we get caught in these bureaucratic processes trying to be respectful to one another. And I 9 don't like to fight people. I like to fight 10 issues. And this is an issue that we need to 11 12 fight. So for me personally, this is not a shot at the Mayor's Office, our Commission or anyone 13 I am tired of waiting on this. 14 else. There was a vote that was scheduled for our Commission last 15 That vote was tabled because we wanted to 16 month. 17 have further conversation with the Mayor's Office and figure out how we can all do this together. 18 A month later we don't have much of an update. 19 That's not acceptable to me. And, again, that is 20 not a shot at anybody on this stage or the 21 22 Mayor's Office or anybody else. I want to simply 23 just fight the issue. I want to figure out how we fix these systemic issues to make sure this 24

never happens again. None of the work that this 1 Commission does, none of the work that Chief 2 3 Kersten, President Cooper, or Superintendent Larry Snelling does, or the Mayor or Garien 4 Gatewood or anybody else means a damn thing if 5 people don't believe in what we're doing. It 6 7 means absolutely nothing. So when people talk about trust, that's something that has to be 8 earned. We are in a deficit of the trust for the 9 City, and we have been for a while. So I can't 10 just say we started at ground zero, we have not. 11 12 We started at a negative, and we need to work hard as hell to get to zero again to move 13 forward. 14

So for me where I stand on this 15 16 issue currently is I don't believe we necessarily 17 have to wait on the Mayor's Office. I would love to work with them on this particular subject. I 18 would love for us to move forward together. But 19 if it doesn't happen by our next Commission 20 meeting, I believe this Commission needs to take 21 22 a vote to do it ourselves.

I know I said a lot. AnyCommissioner that would like to comment on

1 anything I said?

VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: I appreciate that, 2 3 President Driver, but I think things like that we need to have conversations, because we have never 4 talked about us taking this initiative on. 5 And I think it's very important for people to 6 7 understand the work that currently exists under this Commission and where the recommendation 8 essentially stems from. Not at all against us 9 figuring out how that can work. But with a lot 10 of the responsibilities that we already have 11 12 before us, I do want to level set the 13 expectations of the people who may be leaning on you, because if you all are leaning on President 14 Driver, he is the president from a spokesperson. 15 All of us on this table have a vote. So if you 16 17 have concerns, it doesn't fall on him to make the decision alone. So I think it's very important 18 for him not to be in the line of fire of certain 19 things and understand that any decision that's 20 going to be made about the work has to include 21 22 all of us up here as a Commission. 23 And so I would implore you all to

24 establish those relationships with the rest of

the Commission, so that we can have meaningful 1 conversations about what is actually possible, 2 because I appreciate the passion about this, but 3 it's so much more that you all don't see because 4 this is a monthly meeting. We're meeting 5 literally every day. We're working on things 6 7 every day. And this is not the job -- this is not the role that pays us. So it is very 8 important, because I don't want you to continue 9 to receive people reaching out to you thinking 10 that you're going to be able to move mountains by 11 12 himself, because that's not the reality of the 13 situation. So I believe we're all committed to doing this work in the best way possible, but 14 we're going to do it in the most realistic way, 15 and we're going to be forthcoming and honest, and 16 17 we're going to have a conversation about what is actually possible. 18

19 So we can take a vote on us taking 20 up this task force, but I can guarantee you the 21 fruits of that will not be tomorrow, it won't be 22 next month, and it probably won't be the month 23 after that. So I really want to make sure that 24 that's being said because expectations will be 1 that there's going to be a quick turnaround, and 2 that's just not the reality.

3 COMMISSIONER MINOR: What I also want to say, and I want to make sure that we're adding light, 4 too. Even when we had our last meeting, every 5 last one of these Commissioners sat on this 6 7 stage, and they gave a statement on their commitment to addressing this issue. Maybe in 8 their own scope, and there was -- and I also want 9 to make sure about being inclusive of all 10 perspectives because we did hear a diversity of 11 12 thought, right? But all of us is passionate. Even our Superintendent came on this stage and 13 talked about how he feels and how he's also 14 impacted and his commitment to making sure that 15 16 bias-based groups is not in the force.

17 So I really want to commend the passion from the Commission. I want to commend 18 them for being thought partners. Myself and 19 Commissioner Terry also went out to the community 20 and listened to their perspective and how they 21 22 feel, and we want to -- we wanted to make sure 23 that -- I want to make sure it's clear that we brought that all back to the Commission, and that 24

did inform our work, that did inform the way that 1 we showed up at the Mayor's Office, and also 2 informed our ask when it comes to making sure 3 that we are being timely and responsible with 4 this work, because we know that there's a lot of 5 eyes, there's a lot of different people that's 6 7 impacted by this work, and we want to make sure that we have a safe, right, comfortable police 8 force. 9

10 So at the end of the day I just 11 want to make sure that is very clear, that we're 12 all working on the same team, that we all care 13 about this issue.

I also believe that after being in 14 the space with the Mayor's Office, that they have 15 16 taken some of the steps to put together a task 17 force. I also want to make sure that similar to what Commissioner Terry did and making sure we're 18 grounding our expectations, I've been a part of 19 creating a task force. It takes time. It takes 20 time to identify the stakeholders, it takes time 21 22 to convene the meeting, it takes time to define the scope, it takes time to develop the 23 recommendations, and requires a period of time 24

for all the different stakeholders, subject 1 2 matter experts in the community members to come together and to decide on something, similar to 3 the bureaucracy that we see even in the 4 Commission, it takes time to get everybody on the 5 same page or find that great compromise. At the 6 7 end of the day, what we're doing is not just something that looks good, but it's something 8 that is good and should be sustainable, and if 9 you want to build a sustainable building, you 10 want to make sure that you have a sustainable 11 12 foundation to build it on. So whatever we do and whatever decision we put forth, I am committed to 13 making sure that it is sustainable. I'm 14 committed to making sure it is transparent. 15 I'm 16 committed to making sure that we hold different 17 stakeholders accountable. And most of all, I'm committed to being transparent through the 18 19 process.

I thank you all for your stake in this work. I know that we all have a huge stake in the work, and I'm grateful for the passion and fire that we're experiencing even right now because I definitely believe it is going to 1 inform our outcome.

COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: So I just want to say 2 something on this. I do appreciate, Commissioner 3 Minor, you acknowledging the diversity of other 4 opinion, because I do want to be clear, we didn't 5 all express the same opinion on how to approach 6 7 this at our last meeting. I will speak for myself. I, of course, did not agree -- we didn't 8 take a vote. We kind of took an informal vote 9 because everybody else said that they supported a 10 task force, I believe, even though we didn't 11 12 actually take a vote. I did not.

13 I will say this, I appreciate what President Driver said, because what I'm always 14 going to say, what is the problem we're solving 15 for. So Superintendent Snelling just told us 16 17 that they ask for help, gave an offer for partnership, the Department doesn't have subpoena 18 powers, and you just pointed that out, President 19 Driver. If that's the problem, and we don't 20 think that the Department and BIA are able to do 21 22 investigations such that they can get the information they need, that's a problem to 23 address. But when this came to us, my 24

understanding was, Okay, we want to support the 1 Mayor's Office starting the task force because we 2 think the BIA investigation was deficient such 3 that -- again, I don't want to speak for people 4 who believe that's the right path, but that's a 5 different issue. If you think that the 6 7 Department isn't conducting investigations sufficiently or with integrity and that's why you 8 think the Mayor now needs to have a tax force to 9 investigate the Department, that's a different 10 issue with that. That's what I thought people 11 12 were speaking to. And, of course, I disagree with that, having read the entirety of the 13 investigation and the detail that went into what 14 BIA did. 15

16 So I want just to be very clear 17 that I do think to your point, Commissioner Minor, all of us, I hope, want a Department free 18 of biased policing, but I think the impetus of a 19 recommendation that alleges deficiency in an 20 investigation, and then that's why we need the 21 22 task force, that's what I disagreed with. So I quess we'll have more conversation about this. I 23 always am going to say what is the problem we're 24

1 solving for. If we think BIA needs more powers, 2 great, let's talk about that. But that's not 3 what I heard as the basis for the vote on a task 4 force from the Mayor's Office coming to us. I 5 wanted to be clear about my perspective on that. 6 Thank you.

7 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Thank you. And just to respond to that, so I do agree with you, that was 8 not the impetus of the reason why I support this 9 task force. I support what the Inspector General 10 wrote in the sense she said let's look into 11 12 hiring practices, look at this issue holistically. Right? That's preventative. 13 How 14 do you make sure this never happens again because you screened ahead of time. How do we make sure 15 that BIA has tools it needs to conduct an 16 investigation? How do we make sure -- and we 17 look at this thing -- this issue that is 18 troubling so many people in our community from 19 all angles. And so that is my reasoning for 20 supporting this. I was in no way saying that I 21 22 believe that, you know, BIA intentionally or, you 23 know, ran a bad process to investigate this. Because, frankly, if I believed that, I would be 24

looking to hold the Superintendent accountable
 right now because of that.

What I'm doing right now is saying 3 that I think this thing needs to be looked at 4 systemically. I think public officials, City 5 officials, elected officials, appointed, and the 6 7 like, you need to stop lying to people. There are people out here right now -- and I caught a 8 lot of flack for saying what is true and it's 9 still true to this day, now that investigation is 10 closed, we don't have a way to reopen it, and if 11 12 we did, I would support doing that. But we don't. And so I believe in level setting, as you 13 all said. I believe in being honest. I just 14 want to attack this issue. I want us to get a 15 16 move on, and I want to get back to doing stuff 17 that's proactive and moving us forward, and the cyclical process of talking about the same thing 18 because we haven't found a solution yet. 19

20 Next I'll pass it back to
21 Commissioner Wortham for update on the Public
22 Safety working group.

COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: Thank you, President
 Driver. Commissioner Minor and I actually make

up the Public Safety working group. The purpose 1 2 of the working group is based on the understanding that the solutions to public safety 3 will not all come from this Commission or from 4 the police department or from COPA or from 5 anybody in particular. And so we're charged with 6 7 kind of coming up with suggestions of recommendations to make to City Council based on 8 research and community outreach and things like 9 that for information sharing or initiatives that 10 might contribute to public safety. 11

So Commissioner Minor and I were 12 able to meet a couple of weeks ago to really 13 start digging into our ideas on this. I'm very 14 excited about that. So we're trying to get a 15 meeting on the calendar coming up. And so we 16 17 wanted to talk through some more things, but we look forward to coming back with an update at 18 future meetings about some of those initiatives 19 that we are going to work on for the Public 20 Safety working group. Thank you. 21

PRESIDENT DRIVER: Next Commissioner Terry
will provide an update from the policy working
group.

VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. So in mid 1 November, the policy working group revised the 2 3 policy called GO1-11. Once finalized and implemented, this policy will address how CPD is 4 expected to work with the Commission as well as 5 our District Councils. In this new version of 6 7 the policies, CPD has incorporated many of the Commission's recommendations, additions, as well 8 as clarifications. On last week, the CPD policy 9 group -- policy working group met with the CPD 10 members of research and policy unit to review 11 12 several outstanding points of feedback, including 13 input from our District Councilors. We want to thank the District Councilors that attended last 14 week's policy input session on the newest version 15 of this policy. 16

17 District Council input is invaluable, and we work to finalize this policy 18 and turn it into planning and -- and turn to 19 planning for roll out and implementation. 20 The policy working group also received an update from 21 CPD about the implementation of the association's 22 23 order or GO8-03. This policy is in effect for the Department as of April 2024, and CPD rolled 24

out an outline -- online an e-learning training 1 on this policy in June of this year. 2

CPD's Bureau of Internal Affairs, 3 or BIA, is working on ensuring regular quarterly 4 reporting in 2025 that summarizes violations of 5 this policy. 6

7 CPD is also planning on a joint training for CPD members on this policy and their 8 social media use policy in 2025. The policy 9 working group also spoke with CPD about the 10 current policies governing traffic stops and 11 12 other police encounters. CPD also discussed existing and pending policies, including a group 13 of policies that were posted for community 14 comment in August of 2024 entitled Police 15 16 Encounters and Fourth Amendment. CPD anticipates 17 rolling out these new policies in response to related investigatory stops -- investigatory 18 stops, Consent Decree requirements in 2025. 19 Thank you, Commissioner 20 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Terry. 21 Commissioner Minor.

23 COMMISSIONER MINOR: To connect with the Commission, please follow us on social media. 24

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You will find you us on Facebook at 1 2 Facebook.com/ChicagoCCPSA. You can search 3 Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability. You can also follow us on 4 Instagram and Twitter @CCPSA Chicago, and you 5 can also follow us at YouTube@ChicagoCCPSA. 6 You will bee on our stream for this live public 7 8 meeting. Thank you so much for your participation. 9

10 PRESIDENT DRIVER: Any more business or 11 anything anyone else would like to speak to 12 before I adjourn the meeting?

13 COMMISSIONER WORTHAM: One last thing. But with the traffic stop outreach, and Commissioner 14 Terry covered this, I want to be super clear. 15 16 We're looking for all perspectives on traffic 17 stops. So, for example, if you are a person who has found traffic stops to be a useful law 18 enforcement tool in your community, we are 19 welcoming that feedback as well. It is not just 20 if you have an issue with traffic stops. That's, 21 22 of course, welcome too, but I do want to be clear we want to hear from everyone about your 23 experience with traffic stops with the Chicago 24

1 Police Department.

So that's, you know, inclusive of good experiences and useful law enforcement public safety experiences with traffic stops. Thank you so much. PRESIDENT DRIVER: There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting is now adjourned. Thank you, everyone. (WHEREUPON, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.) 

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS ) ) SS: 2 COUNTY OF C O O K )

MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, C.S.R., being first duly sworn, says that she is a court reporter doing business in the City of Chicago; that she reported in shorthand the proceedings had at the hearing of said cause; that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of her shorthand notes, so taken as aforesaid, and contains all the proceedings of said hearing.