

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

COMMUNITY COMMISSION for PUBLIC SAFETY and
ACCOUNTABILITY
TRAFFIC STOPS LISTENING SESSION
December 17, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
JLM Center

- - - - -

APPEARANCES:

Vice President Remel Terry
Commissioner Abierre Minor

1 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Welcome to the first
2 of our community listening sessions on traffic
3 stops. Thank you all for being here. My name is
4 Remel Terry, and I currently serve as the vice
5 president for the Community Commission for Public
6 Safety and Accountability. We are joined by our
7 President, Anthony Driver. If you want to wave
8 your hand. We also have another commissioner
9 that is joining shortly, Commissioner Abierre
10 Minor. And I also do want to acknowledge our
11 District Councilors in the room. So if you are a
12 District Councilor -- Mr. McGill, I see you.
13 And, Beth, I see you. And we also have our --
14 okay, Ashley Vargas is here. Thank you all for
15 being here.

16 And then I also want to acknowledge
17 Myra who is a part of our Non-Citizen Advisory
18 Council. If you just want to wave so people know
19 that you are in the room.

20 So thank you all for being here and
21 welcome to our first community listening session
22 on traffic stops.

23 Before we get started, I would like
24 to thank the JLM Center, Reverend Miller -- he

1 was just here a moment ago -- for hosting
2 tonight's event. I would also like to thank
3 Alderman Jason Ervin who is supporting tonight's
4 event. There are also my fellow commissioners
5 who I have already acknowledged, as well as our
6 District Councilors.

7 So to give you all context about
8 this evening's meeting, the Community Commission
9 for Public Safety and Accountability is hosting a
10 series of listening sessions on traffic stops
11 across Chicago to gather community input. We're
12 looking for community members to share their
13 expectations -- I mean share their experiences
14 with traffic stops and provide feedback on
15 current policies and potential changes to the
16 Chicago Police Department's practices.

17 The Commission, through its
18 policy-making authority, is working
19 collaboratively with the Chicago Police
20 Department to develop a policy around traffic
21 stops. While CPD has currently -- while CPD
22 currently has and is pursuing new policies that
23 cover a wide range of police encounters, CPD's
24 traffic stops are specifically governed by

1 several policies that mainly focus on data
2 collection.

3 There are several things that CPD is
4 doing, including the commitment from the
5 Superintendent around traffic stop reform,
6 including traffic stop reforms related to their
7 2024 and 2025 goals with the CCPSA. CPD has also
8 developed and received input on groups of
9 policies called "Police Encounters" and "Fourth
10 Amendment" that enforces constitutional
11 protections for the public during various types
12 of police encounters.

13 This policy suite includes multiple
14 policies, including police encounters,
15 investigatory stops, and reporting mechanisms for
16 investigatory stops.

17 So since 2023, there has been
18 discussion between the IMT, which is the
19 Independent Monitoring Team, and the Office of
20 Inspector General -- Office of Attorney General
21 engaged in community outreach and traffic stops.

22 The Commission, we want to further
23 that work and allow you all to have an
24 opportunity to engage with us throughout the City

1 and give us information that we can use to inform
2 the work that we're doing as a commission.

3 So we look forward to sharing all
4 the feedback that we hear from not only tonight's
5 listening sessions, but all of our future
6 listening sessions with this Department as well
7 as others.

8 So during this process, the
9 Commission wants to ensure that the voices of
10 community are at the forefront as we discuss the
11 drafting of any new policy related to traffic
12 stops. Our input should be centered in the
13 community and its experiences.

14 And so I want to turn it over very
15 quickly to Commissioner Minor to give you insight
16 on sort of the questions that we're posing and
17 would like to hear to just get your thoughts
18 going. If you have other things you'd like to
19 share, please feel free, but just to get your
20 thoughts going around this issue.

21 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Awesome. It's so
22 amazing to be joined by you all this evening.
23 Good evening. I am Commissioner Minor, and now
24 is the time for us to kind of open up to make

1 public com -- for you all to make public
2 comments.

3 Some of the things that we're
4 hoping to learn from you all tonight is what are
5 you or your family's experiences with traffic
6 stops? Are there any public safety reasons for
7 police to conduct traffic stops for non-moving
8 violations? And what should be included in the
9 police policy about traffic stops?

10 In addition to giving public comment
11 at one of these listening sessions, the
12 Commission also created a survey where you all
13 can share your feedback. You can find the survey
14 through the QR code on the handout that you're
15 receiving tonight. So if you haven't received
16 the handout, please connect with Commission
17 staff, and they'll make sure to get you one.

18 The survey will also be posted on
19 the CCPSA website and on our social media. I
20 hope you're already following us.

21 Now, I would love to call up the
22 first three speakers. Anyone with a comment will
23 have two minutes to speak. When I call your
24 name, I just ask that you line up at this

1 microphone here. Okay?

2 So the first three names -- and
3 please excuse me if I mess up your name -- is
4 Alexandra Block, W. Robert Schultz, the Third,
5 and Mara Lane. Thank you.

6 MS. BLOCK: Thank you so much, Commissioners,
7 President Driver. My name is Alexandra Block.
8 I'm the director of the Criminal Legal System and
9 Policing Project at the ACLU of Illinois. Can
10 you hear me now? Okay.

11 I've spoken to the Commission
12 before, but I'm here again because, as you know,
13 I represent the plaintiffs in the Wilkins versus
14 City of Chicago lawsuit, which is a proposed
15 class action challenging CPD's discriminatory
16 mass traffic stop program that's been in place
17 since 2016.

18 We appreciate you holding this
19 listening session tonight. I'm here on behalf of
20 our clients in this case.

21 It's crucial that CCPSA continue
22 this process and keep open avenues for public
23 input and feedback as it considers a policy and
24 considers whether to have a role in governing

1 traffic stops under the CPD Consent Decree.

2 Based on long experience, we can
3 confidently say that as it works now, the Consent
4 Decree process does not adequately respond to
5 community input. This is what happens instead.
6 First, CPD drafts its own policy. Then the
7 Office of the Attorney General and the
8 Independent Monitoring Team review it and sign
9 off. And often they don't even insist on
10 correcting clear constitutional and legal errors
11 or violations of the Consent Decree's language
12 itself.

13 Third. After the monitor and the AG
14 have already signed off, then CPD posts the
15 policy for public comment for 15 days, and the
16 community can send in written feedback.

17 But, fourth, CPD finalizes the
18 policy, regardless of the feedback that it
19 receives. It doesn't explain why it did or
20 didn't take that input. And mostly it doesn't
21 accept any recommendations that it gets from the
22 community.

23 So we are hoping that this process
24 is going to look significantly different.

1 If traffic stop policies are left to
2 this Consent Decree process that I just
3 described, I predict that it will not result in
4 any meaningful changes, because CPD will really
5 get to do the first draft of the policy, and it
6 won't have to respond to any community
7 recommendations. And this will not result in
8 community members feeling heard or respected.

9 So whatever formal role CCPSA
10 decides to take on, we ask that CCPSA continue to
11 bring the voice of the community to the
12 negotiating table and to proceed in a transparent
13 and democratic way.

14 And when making this policy, we
15 specifically urge CCPSA to do the following:
16 First, define and prohibit pretextual traffic
17 stops, which are stops that are made for minor
18 violations when the officer's real reason is to
19 investigate unrelated crimes without suspicion.

20 Second, prohibit traffic stops for
21 minor vehicle equipment and registration issues.

22 And in answer to the question that
23 Commissioner Minor asked, there is no public
24 safety justification for stopping drivers for

1 equipment and registration issues. We have
2 demonstrated this in our lawsuit. These types of
3 stops do not decrease crime. They don't result
4 in streets being safer. This is demonstrated
5 through statistical evidence. And so there is no
6 public safety or roadway safety justification for
7 these types of stops for minor violations.

8 Third. We urge the CCPSA and CPD to
9 prohibit quotas for traffic stops, meaning
10 requiring police officers to make a certain
11 number of stops within a shift or within a month,
12 something like that, which is a policy we know
13 they currently pursue and increase -- and
14 increases the number of stops.

15 Fourth. Get rid of tactical teams
16 and other CPD units that primarily make traffic
17 stops. These are very dangerous encounters that
18 are much more likely to lead to harm -- physical
19 harm and even death of motorists.

20 Five. Prohibit CPD from flooding
21 black-and-brown neighborhoods in Chicago with
22 traffic stops as a supposed crime-fighting
23 strategy. This is known as -- sometimes it's
24 called a hot-spot policing. What it really does

1 is discriminate against people who live in
2 black-and-brown neighborhoods.

3 And six, the last request that we
4 have, is to prohibit so-called consent searches
5 during traffic stops.

6 Thank you very much for your time.

7 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you very much.
8 So unlike our traditional public comments in this
9 listening session, I do have capacity to provide
10 some follow-up. It won't be follow-up in all
11 cases, so I just want to level set expectations.
12 But related to your inquiry about the involvement
13 of the Commission when it comes to the Consent
14 Decree, we are having active discussions, right,
15 with the Department, with the OAG who have both
16 agreed that if, in fact, there is placement of
17 traffic stops into this Consent Decree, that we
18 are actively involved in the policy development
19 process, as we would be without it being in the
20 Consent Decree.

21 So I do want to assure you that as
22 a Commission, we've advocated for that, and all
23 parties at the table are in support of our
24 engagement being and having that oversight

1 continued as it relates to policy. And in all of
2 our work that we've demonstrated, we will
3 continue to ensure that we're engaging community
4 and giving you all, you know, of course more than
5 15 days to weigh in and be informed and give us
6 feedback as we're crafting the policy.

7 So I just wanted to share that.

8 MR. SCHULTZ: Good afternoon. Or good
9 evening. My name is W. Robert Schultz, the
10 Third. I've lived in Chicago for almost 35
11 years, and I'm currently a resident of Belmont
12 Cragin. I wanted to say two quick things before
13 I get into the comments I wrote. One is, it's
14 good we're having this community meeting, but we
15 see a lot of empty chairs. I've done community
16 engagement for most of my career, so if you ever
17 need some TA about how to fill these seats, I'm
18 available.

19 Secondly, I work in the area of
20 transportation justice, and we're working on two
21 things. It says here, "Traffic stops can reduce
22 traffic accidents." We're working on changing
23 the nomenclature to crashes. Accidents seem to
24 suggest something just happens out of the blue.

1 And our streets are designed for speed, and
2 they're not designed for safety. And one of the
3 things we're leaning into is advocating for
4 infrastructure to control traffic.

5 So I encourage you to change
6 "accidents" to "crash."

7 I'm the campaign organizer at the
8 Active Transportation Alliance. We promote
9 walking, biking, and public transportation for
10 sustainability, health, and equitable
11 communities, and we were one of the three
12 organizations that came together to form the
13 Free2Move Coalition to address the issue of
14 pretextual traffic stops.

15 We did this work because we
16 saw based on data and coming to the realization
17 that there is inequitable law enforcement for
18 black and brown people when walking, biking, and
19 driving. And the data analyzed by Impact for
20 Equity shows that our advocacy to end pretextual
21 traffic stops is important, because contrary to
22 the popular belief that traffic stops --
23 pretextual traffic stops are effective crime
24 prevention, they're not. And it's equally

1 ineffective with regard to traffic safety.

2 20 years ago, when I was on staff at
3 Amnesty International, we called for an end to
4 pretextual traffic stops based on our research
5 regarding this practice. We actually held two
6 community meetings in Chicago about this issue.
7 That was 20 years ago, and we're still debating
8 the efficacy of pretextual traffic stops.

9 Therefore, I want to say that we
10 stand unequivocally with our partners in the
11 Free2Move Coalition for three principles for your
12 consideration as you move forward and craft
13 policy; one, end pretextual traffic stops
14 outright. Two, end stops made for minor traffic
15 violations, such as broken headlights; and three,
16 end suspicionless consent searches.

17 Tonight I urge the CCPSA to adopt
18 the strongest policy to end pretextual traffic
19 stops. Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Awesome. And,
21 Mr. Schultz, I just want to say that I'm a part
22 of the Community Engagement Working Group. I
23 know that our communication staff, Nicki, has
24 done a lot to try to fill these rooms, but as you

1 know, we have a small team of folk. We have been
2 trying to be as innovative as possible to fill
3 these seats, but we would love the help of you as
4 a community organizer and all of your various
5 organizations.

6 So if you want to help us with
7 turnout, please feel free to come to me at the
8 end of this meeting, and I would love to talk
9 strategy with you.

10 So thank you for offering your
11 assistance in that way.

12 MS. LANE: I think I'm next. Hi. My name is
13 Mara. I'm a long-time advocate, but I rarely
14 give public comment, because I'm usually here to
15 support. So I want to thank you for the
16 opportunity to speak.

17 I don't take it for granted as a
18 white woman speaking here tonight or the
19 privilege that comes with it.

20 I know I don't face the same
21 frequency or impact of traffic stops as
22 black-and-brown communities, and I appreciate
23 being heard in this space.

24 My intention is to share my own

1 experience in hopes that it adds to the -- this
2 broader conversation about improving these
3 interactions for everyone.

4 I was pulled over for expired
5 license plates. I had no idea they were expired.
6 So when CPD's bright lights came flashing, I was
7 clueless but also immediately struggling. I have
8 two non-apparent disabilities and both are
9 greatly affected by bright, flashing lights and
10 abrupt sounds.

11 As the cops approached, I asked if
12 they could please turn off their lights
13 explaining that I have epilepsy. One of the
14 officers laughed. Maybe he thought I was lying.
15 And his response was dismissive, condescending,
16 and rude. Exactly what I expected,
17 unfortunately. That didn't feel like serving and
18 protecting anyone, but it usually doesn't. I
19 asked again covering my eyes as I pleaded and
20 still they refused.

21 I have a letter from my neurologist
22 in my glove compartment for situations just like
23 this, so I took it out to show them, and it made
24 no difference.

1 I understand CPD needs their lights
2 on for safety reasons, but once I was already
3 pulled over, turning them off wouldn't have
4 created risk. But keeping them on was a risk for
5 me at least.

6 It might seem like a small thing to
7 someone else, but for me it was the difference
8 between getting home safely or possibly having a
9 seizure over a freaking expired license plate.

10 This interaction wasn't just
11 dismissive, it felt unnecessary.

12 Listening to someone's health
13 concern and making a small adjustment could have
14 avoided everything.

15 Traffic stops aren't just about the
16 reason for the stop, they're about how we treat
17 people in the moment. Imagine if there were
18 policies or even basic empathy in place to make
19 these interactions safer and less harmful.

20 Oh, and in the end, did I get a
21 ticket? Nope, I didn't. I'm white, and we were
22 on the north side. Thanks.

23 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Our next three
24 speakers are Tree Palmares and Chloe Vitale.

1 Two, not three.

2 MS. PALMARES: Hi. I'm Tree Palmares. I'm
3 with Black Lives Matter Chicago. It's obvious
4 that people are terrified. Dexter Reed would
5 have been much safer on the road without his seat
6 belt than he was facing CPD.

7 The Department of Justice has been
8 slowly, slowly, slowly, slowly, slowly
9 investigating Chicago for being the worst gang in
10 Chicago and also the most well funded.

11 As a member of Black Lives Matter
12 Chicago, I was invited to a vigil in Nollywood in
13 the heart of -- or -- where the police live up
14 north. A vigil. A multi-racial, predominantly
15 white, vigil for Laquan McDonald. And the police
16 stood -- clogged up traffic, had their kids out,
17 blowing their horns, had threatening weapons. I
18 called the police on the police 15 times.
19 Recorded it.

20 We have to just wake up, Chicago,
21 and decide we are not going to fund this anymore.

22 People come to me all the time
23 terrified because the police not only have
24 brutalized or taken their everything off this

1 earth, they are torturing them. They kill their
2 dogs. They harass their children. They harass
3 them. They doxed me.

4 We got to remember that about 30,000
5 of our future, our baby Chicago, in 2020 took to
6 the streets saying, We are tired of paying to be
7 beaten. We are tired of paying to be murdered.
8 And those children got beat.

9 I don't know how much evidence you
10 need from the community at two minutes at a time,
11 you know.

12 So we need to say we need to
13 immediately defang them. They need to get rid of
14 all their tanks and toys. We need to defund
15 them. The end.

16 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Chloe Vitale.

17 MS. VITALE: Hello. Hi. I'm Chloe Vitale.
18 I'm one of the District Council members for the
19 12th Police District. And you hear really two
20 arguments in favor of continuing the practice of
21 these pretextual traffic stops. The first is
22 that, you know, they're finding weapons. You
23 know, they're getting weapons off the street. So
24 the pretext is working.

1 The second is that this isn't
2 pretextual at all. These are not -- there's no
3 pretext, and that these are just routine traffic
4 stops to -- you know, that stand on their own,
5 you know, validity, because we need to enforce
6 traffic violations. So they're not both true,
7 right.

8 So in the case of the former, you
9 know, where the argument is that, you know,
10 they're finding weapons, there's a problem,
11 because, you know, they're not finding weapons by
12 and large relative to the sheer volume of these
13 stops that are happening and motorists are being
14 subjected to these stop-and-frisk-style
15 encounters.

16 So -- and then if these are not
17 pretextual, and we're deploying police officers
18 to enforce nonviolent minor traffic violations,
19 you know, in this way, you know, it's -- it's a
20 gross misappropriation of allegedly strained
21 resources when community members are coming, you
22 know, to our meetings complaining that they're
23 calling 911 for service, you know, from the
24 police. For example, in the case of someone

1 brandishing a weapon in a place of business, and,
2 you know, the police are not available to come,
3 and they're not, you know -- or they come hours
4 later, you know, after whatever happens has
5 already happened. So all of this is to say that
6 however, you know, you spin this, you know, the
7 practice is inappropriate and should stop. Thank
8 you.

9 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: So the other person
10 that we had listed for public comment is no
11 longer speaking.

12 Is there anyone who hasn't shared
13 -- okay. So the next person we will call up is
14 Mrs. Phyllis Logan.

15 MS. LOGAN: Thank you. I'm not representing,
16 but I'm a board member for the Racial Profiling
17 Prevention and Data Collection for the state, and
18 I wanted to be able to hear from everyone else
19 where the concerns are. I'm also on the
20 subcommittee board for data collection. We get
21 to speak to members of ICJIA, Illinois State
22 Police Association, as well as IDOT.

23 We've had studies done over the
24 past four years -- yeah, 2022 and 2023. We're

1 working on 2024 and 2025, but I've also read
2 2021 -- '20, and 2021, those studies. And the
3 same concerns that you guys have here, me being a
4 board member for the state, we have the same
5 concerns.

6 So we're collecting data, and we
7 get to hear the data reports from not only just
8 Chicago, but every police officer, every
9 district, every jurisdiction. They are liable
10 for reporting to us. And our biggest concern has
11 always been when we don't get the reports, who's
12 policing them? And this is an ordinance for the
13 state, believe it or not. This data has to be
14 collected in order for us to come up with the
15 consensus of what other -- and comparing what
16 other states are doing.

17 We've had reports from California,
18 I think the 2Cs, Cincinnati -- not Cincinnati,
19 Connecticut, and a few other states that we read
20 their reports to see how we can change how the
21 policing is done in the State of Illinois.

22 So the concerns with the racial
23 profiling piece, whether you're walking or
24 driving -- I just added in my notes biking,

1 because we did not consider biking, so I will add
2 that to our board when I return. But we're
3 working on it. And anything that I can do to
4 assist the CCPSA, I'm willing to provide what
5 knowledge we have. But we do have open meetings
6 every quarter of the month. That's public
7 knowledge for people to attend those public
8 meetings to get to hear what we're reporting on
9 and the information that we're receiving
10 throughout all of the jurisdictions in the State
11 of Illinois. So that's what I wanted to say.

12 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. Can you --
13 do you have like a meeting cadence that you can
14 share or information about the website where
15 people who may want to participate in those
16 meetings can --

17 MS. LOGAN: I can share that, yes.

18 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: You can share right
19 now?

20 MS. LOGAN: I can share with you.

21 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: I don't know how to
22 get it out to the people.

23 MS. LOGAN: Oh, okay. You guys don't have
24 access. I can't repeat -- put it out either, but

1 -- and I don't want to give out my information,
2 but I will share that with you.

3 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Okay.

4 MS. LOGAN: And then once I get approval from
5 our board, I can --

6 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Yeah. Can you give us
7 the board again? Because maybe people can
8 research the website for the board to find the
9 information. Can you just say it one more time?

10 MS. LOGAN: Yeah. So it's the board -- the
11 board is the Racial Profiling Prevention and Data
12 Oversight board that I'm on. But it's Racial
13 Profiling for Pedestrians and Drivers. We don't
14 have "biking" on there, but I want to add
15 "biking" to include that population as well.
16 Thank you.

17 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: So I do want to open
18 the floor. Are there any other comments that
19 anyone would like to make, as we do have a bit
20 more time?

21 I want to thank all of those who
22 have come before us already to sort of speak
23 about this topic. We do -- all of our meetings
24 are being recorded, so we'll have transcripts

1 from these conversations, as we will with all of
2 our future meetings. I definitely would
3 encourage you all to not just come yourself but
4 to bring others with you, especially if you are
5 not the directly impacted individual, but you
6 know impacted individuals from these communities
7 where there is a significant amount of traffic
8 stops. It would be really great for us to hear
9 from them.

10 So I strongly encourage you all to
11 continue your engagement. I also thought I saw
12 the alderman, but I don't know if he came in. So
13 I wanted to recognize him and see if he wanted to
14 address the community. But Alderman Ervin was
15 here. He was out in the hall.

16 So, Beth, do you want to come and
17 give us comments? Thanks.

18 MS. ROCHFORD: So Beth Rochford, 17th
19 District Councilor. I'll just add two quick
20 things.

21 Not too long ago, I was pulled over
22 for an expired plate sticker. They said because
23 it was two weeks, you know, it was in August --
24 it expired in August, and it was September, so

1 they didn't give me a ticket, but they did pull
2 me over in a relatively busy intersection of
3 North and Kedzie. There was only room for me to
4 pull over, so their squad car was in the middle
5 of the street blocking traffic.

6 Again, I think that it doesn't make
7 a whole lot of sense to pull somebody over for
8 something like that, block traffic, and then not
9 give them a ticket. They should have given me a
10 ticket because I was in violation. I mean I was
11 happy that they told me, but there were other
12 ways that -- as we heard at the hearing that you
13 had several months back, you know, other places
14 are sending letters to people so that they can
15 get things fixed.

16 And then I would just also add, I
17 have a couple of my CVI workers that I work with
18 in the 17th District are here today. And when we
19 were getting petitions signed to have the hearing
20 that you guys had several months back, I went to
21 some of their events, and we had no trouble
22 getting people to sign that petition. We ran out
23 of pages. I only brought two, and we filled up
24 those 20 slots on each of those pages really

1 quickly, because anybody that we talked to at the
2 event said, Of course pretextual traffic stops
3 should be stopped. It doesn't serve a value, and
4 it puts people at risk.

5 So they're my evidence that there
6 were clearly people in the community who felt
7 that this was an issue and were happy to sign the
8 petition. So thank you.

9 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: So when you approach
10 the mic, please give your first and last name and
11 then proceed with your comments.

12 MR. JOHNSON: Good evening. My name is Corey
13 Dooley Johnson. Yeah, so I was recently
14 stopped -- I think it was on November 7th. I was
15 stopped, but I didn't report it. And so I -- we
16 recently hosted an event with the NAACP. It was
17 called Fireside Friendsgiving where we came
18 together, and we talked about a plethora of
19 different events, one of them being public
20 safety.

21 I remember being out with my friend
22 that night, Jay Simon, and we were literally
23 planning on how we were going to do this event
24 for that community, and we were talking about how

1 the relationships between public safety and the
2 community needs to be bridged together.

3 So I'm taking him home. It's
4 around 9:00 o'clock maybe. I exit. I'm leaving
5 Independence, and I'm just, you know, taking my
6 routine route, and I get pulled over by an
7 officer. And before I was pulled over, I noticed
8 that they didn't have any headlights on. And so
9 I was kind of like, okay, that was a little iffy.
10 You know, I made sure definitely since the police
11 were behind me to use turn signals, drive slow,
12 things that I was already doing. And they
13 followed me for a little bit, and then they ended
14 up putting on the lights. They followed me for
15 maybe a few blocks. They put on the lights, and
16 they pulled me over. I was very cooperative,
17 asked the officer, Good evening. What's the
18 reason for you pulling me over? And it was
19 really kind of vague. It was like, Oh, you
20 didn't use a turn signal whenever you turned, but
21 I know that I did because I saw them before they
22 even got behind me. So I was making sure to be
23 very cautious. The officer asked if I had
24 anything in the vehicle, any weapons. I didn't

1 have any weapons in the vehicle, just a lot of
2 questions they started to ask. And then they
3 asked me if I could get out of the vehicle, and I
4 was asked why should I get out of the vehicle.
5 They didn't give me a reason, but I complied. I
6 knew that I didn't have anything on me. So I
7 stepped out of the vehicle. And there was a lot
8 of like questions -- like leading questions, like
9 where are you coming from, what are you doing,
10 where are you going, are you sure you don't have
11 anything.

12 So once I stepped out of the
13 vehicle, me and my friend Jay were told to stand
14 towards the back, and then he searched my car. I
15 asked him why he was searching my car, if there
16 was something he was looking for. He didn't
17 answer. He just continued to search. Pulled
18 everything out of my middle console. And so he's
19 searching my car, he's searching the back, and
20 then he gets to my trunk, and this is -- this
21 process maybe took about 20 minutes, and I keep
22 my -- a yard sign in there. I'm a former
23 candidate for 29th Ward alderman from when I ran
24 my campaign, and he saw the sign. He's like,

1 What's this? I was like I was a former candidate
2 for alderman in the 29th Ward. And his whole
3 demeanor changed. And there was three officers
4 that pulled us over, and after the 20 minutes, I
5 didn't say anything, because I didn't want to be
6 the person -- you know, I've seen it all too
7 common on social media, you know, you trying to
8 do something, and it goes the wrong way. So I
9 was trying to be as compliant as possible. And
10 his whole demeanor changed. And it was just kind
11 of like, Oh, well, you know -- he started trying
12 to give me tips on driving and what I can do to
13 be a better driver, even though I didn't do
14 anything. And it's unfortunate because I do
15 know -- you know, I'm very active in the
16 community. I do know a lot of law enforcement,
17 but I didn't report it because I just felt
18 like -- I don't know, maybe part of me felt like
19 nothing would be done, or maybe it was just like,
20 Well, this is just something that happens every
21 day. So this is just being a black man while
22 driving, right? So, I don't know. I still
23 haven't reported it, but I thought that it was
24 important to come up here and talk about it. And

1 maybe it's something that I should report. I
2 didn't get the officer's name or his badge
3 number, any of the officers. But that was an
4 incident that happened to me. I was lucky enough
5 to not get a ticket or anything like that.

6 Like I said, they didn't find
7 anything, but that was my experience.

8 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: So I still do want to
9 open it up for any additional comments or any
10 potential questions. If we do have answers,
11 we're more than willing to, you know, provide you
12 all with additional insight. But, again, before
13 closing out, I do want to make sure that all
14 minds and hearts are clear, and thanking you all
15 for coming into this space and just giving you an
16 opportunity because we're here to listen, we're
17 here to learn, and we want to make sure that
18 whatever it is that we're doing in regards to
19 this work, in regards to a traffic stop policy,
20 that we're going into it fully knowledgeable of
21 all ends, all impacts, and thinking through the
22 policy, not just in crafting it, but how the
23 impact of its implementation, because that's a
24 very important piece. We often have ideas about

1 what a great policy looks like, what it should
2 have, what it shouldn't have, but when it becomes
3 implemented, we see that's really where sometimes
4 we miss the mark.

5 And so, again, I just want to, you
6 know, make you all aware that as part of this, we
7 want to make sure not only from crafting, but all
8 the way through implementation we have the best
9 understanding.

10 So does anyone else -- okay. So
11 with that being said, I really do want to thank
12 you all for coming out this evening. We truly do
13 value -- we truly do value your feedback, your
14 commitment to staying engaged with us. And if
15 you would like to have further information on the
16 CPD's draft policies with the Office of Inspect
17 -- Attorney General, you can visit their website
18 at WWW.ChicagoPolice.org/policy-review.

19 We also want to thank again the JLM
20 Center for allowing us to be here, as well as
21 Alderman Ervin for hosting.

22 We will be implementing a survey.
23 And so, again, I encourage you all, and for those
24 who could not be here, follow our social media

1 sites at CCPSA Chicago. We are on YouTube. We
2 are on Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, all of the
3 places, and share the videos. Encourage people
4 to reach out if they are -- if they are not able
5 to participate in person. Please encourage them
6 to attend virtually as there are virtual options
7 because we stream all of our meetings.

8 And before I fully close it out, I
9 do want to give Commissioner Minor an opportunity
10 to share any final thoughts if she has any.

11 COMMISSIONER MINOR: Thank you, all, for
12 being here with us tonight. Your comments and
13 experience and recommendation is invaluable to
14 the policy-making process.

15 I know that we have a staff member
16 Thara who is recording and taking notes that's
17 going to be brought back to the full Commission,
18 and this will definitely inform our negotiations
19 and our policy-making process as well.

20 I also took my own notes as well.
21 So I really want to just thank everyone for their
22 transparency and vulnerability, for those of you
23 all who shared your personal experiences. Please
24 encourage your family, your friends, various

1 community members, anyone else that you have --
2 you feel has an impact on traffic stops in our
3 future listening sessions.

4 This event doesn't begin and end
5 here, but this is just one part of the
6 policy-making process.

7 So I just want to encourage -- I
8 feel very encouraged at the participation that we
9 saw today, and I look forward to having future
10 engagements with you all as well as we get closer
11 to a policy that we all can agree on.

12 MR. GAITHER: Good evening. My name is Jimmy
13 Gaither. I work for Lawndale Christian Legal
14 Center. I just want to make a bookmark.

15 A couple of days ago, it's been on
16 the news about they're lowering the speed limit
17 in the City from 30 to 25. And they also -- I
18 heard -- I'm not a hundred percent -- I know they
19 said if you get pulled over, the officers have --
20 they can search your car if they smell fresh
21 marijuana, but they can't if it's burnt
22 marijuana.

23 So I want to make a bookmark with
24 the data, what's going to be the outcome or how

1 many traffic stops, how many arrests after that,
2 since they're changing things, and the young lady
3 with ACLU stated that they make their own
4 policies.

5 So do we have the opportunity to go
6 against their policies and things like that?
7 Because it seems like everything is pretty much
8 geared for the black-and-brown community. You're
9 already doing 30. It's a school zone, so they
10 going to slow down even -- if I'm doing 30 and I
11 forget it's 25, I get pulled over, so now that
12 gives them the right to search my car, check my
13 registration. They're going to give me a ticket
14 for something. I'm not going to be fortunate
15 enough not to get a ticket, like some people
16 stated.

17 So I just want to make a bookmark so
18 we can start paying attention to after they make
19 this policy a law, how things turn after that.
20 That's all. Thank you.

21 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you for that,
22 Jimmy.

23 Really quickly, related to that
24 particular policy, that's not a CPD policy. Any

1 changes to speed limits and things of that nature
2 have to be done by ordinance. So those are
3 conversations that you want to have with your
4 alderman, as well as the Mayor's Office, related
5 to them pushing an ordinance related to the change
6 in speed limit. And I do know that there were
7 advocates around that sort of change, but, again,
8 with that policy to your point, that's what I
9 mean about when we push for certain things, we
10 also have to think about what are the
11 implications of its impact.

12 So I do agree that needs to be a
13 bookmark for us to see what are the impacts of
14 implementing this policy of changing the speed
15 limit from 30 to 25. And it may be, you know, a
16 good time -- I'm -- not a good time, but a good
17 conversation if there are advocates for you to
18 understand why they were pushing for that, and
19 then for you to also communicate your concerns on
20 the impact of the implementation of that policy.
21 So I just wanted to provide that context.

22 Mr. Schultz.

23 MR. SCHULTZ: W. Robert Schultz, the Third,
24 with Active Transportation Alliance, and I just

1 wanted to clear up a couple ideas that are
2 misinformation, miscommunication, whatever.

3 Yes, there is a conversation to
4 lower the speed limit from 30 to 25 universally;
5 however, right now it's a conversation. There's
6 an ordinance that's been proposed. It hasn't been
7 voted on by the City Council. And even if they
8 approve it, the language of the ordinance is set
9 up so it doesn't take effect for a whole year.
10 And concurrent with that are conversations about
11 how to make fines more equitable on top of the
12 policies that already exist with regard to
13 equitable fines.

14 So there's conversations about this,
15 but nothing has been enacted yet. And even if it
16 does pass, it won't take effect for a year.

17 Like I said in my opening comments,
18 one of the things that needs to be done, but you
19 can't do it unless you lower the speed limit, is
20 redesign the streets like Cicero. Fullerton
21 Avenue, where I live, has eight lanes when I
22 cross from McDonald's to a Walgreens. Mannheim
23 Road. Lots of roads out here. Roosevelt, they
24 have many lanes. So we need to have a fulsome

1 discussion about how to redesign our streets and
2 how to deal with our speed limits. And we're
3 behind the cities of Portland, Boston, New York,
4 Seattle, Evanston that have all lowered their
5 speed limits.

6 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: Thank you. So, Jimmy,
7 to that point, talk with Mr. Schultz so you can
8 learn more about the work that they're doing in
9 advocating and pushing for that.

10 MS. WILLIAMS: Hello. Janecia Williams. I
11 was coming with a question in regards to
12 reporting these kinds of traffic incidents that
13 seem to be racially motivated or biased, and
14 listening to Ms. Logan talk about how they're
15 going very underreported. What is kind of an
16 independent -- or is there talks about an
17 independent reporting process for civilians who
18 may not feel comfortable walking into a police
19 station and reporting somebody's fellow officer
20 in a sea of people that don't look like them?

21 So I don't know if that's any kind
22 of policy or initiative that you all are working
23 on.

24 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: So the Civilian Office

1 for Police Accountability exists to take those
2 sorts of complaints. They take all complaints
3 that are rooted around police misconduct, whether
4 it's something as being pulled over and feeling
5 like you weren't supposed to be pulled over to a
6 police-involved shooting. So that already
7 exists. That infrastructure exists for people to
8 -- it's its own entity. But as a Commission, we
9 do have oversight over the Chief Administrator,
10 which is the head of that department. So if that
11 is information that you need, we can definitely
12 provide you all with information for the hotline
13 on where you can make those reports to COPA, and,
14 you know, it can be as much information or as
15 little information, and they will take that
16 complaint.

17 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. Then do you know what
18 happens once those complaints are given, or kind
19 of like what will make people feel like they have
20 been, you know, really heard or that it's -- you
21 know, it's effective?

22 VICE PRESIDENT TERRY: So their process is to
23 investigate that complaint. So they would do an
24 investigation. COPA is an independent entity who

1 are not officers. They are not allowed to be
2 sworn officers. If they have been officers, they
3 have to be separated from the Department for a
4 significant amount of years. They have their own
5 internal investigators. So they do their own
6 independent investigation, meeting with whomever
7 the complainant is, meeting with whomever else
8 may be witnesses. So they're doing an
9 investigation of whatever the complaint and then
10 they determine their findings.

11 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER MINOR: I also wanted to speak
13 to your question as well. So in addition to
14 filing a complaint with COPA, sometimes when you
15 file those complaints, it's not egregious
16 misconduct, or, perhaps, you had an instance or
17 an interaction with the officer that was tense,
18 or you felt like you wasn't presented with the
19 respect that you deserved, right, and those are
20 not necessarily -- it depends on the level of the
21 engagement and the interaction determining what
22 COPA will use to kind of escalate that specific
23 case. But with that being said, they also
24 provide mediation services as well where the

1 person -- if you wanted to opt in, you can have a
2 conversation with that officer on what your
3 interaction or your experience was like, and then
4 you kind of -- they would then facilitate that
5 like peace circle, so to speak, so that you can
6 kind of get to a closer conclusion, and they can
7 also use that as a learning experience.

8 So that's one option that's also
9 available to community members. They just
10 finished a pilot for the mediation program.

11 The second thing that I want to say
12 is that the state is also -- also has an
13 initiative where you can file complaints of
14 misconduct anonymously. And so similar to -- I
15 know that some folks might not want to always be
16 face-to-face with the police officer and talk
17 about any harm that they felt like they
18 experienced. So that's also a channel that you
19 can follow.

20 If you want, I can follow up with
21 you and tell you a specific name of that service,
22 because this is actually a new learning that I
23 experienced this weekend.

24 And I also want to talk a little

1 bit about some of our internal advocacy, because
2 I know that in the Commission, there are other
3 folks that share your concerns about, you know,
4 what if you're pulled over, and you're not
5 necessarily given a receipt, right, but that was
6 a major inconvenience, and you were not in any
7 kind of violation. Like what does that chain of
8 command look like?

9 So I know there has been a lot of
10 advocacy from our president specifically, and a
11 few other commissioners as well, in terms of what
12 that can look like in the future, and I look
13 forward to seeing what that language can look
14 like in our 2025 goals.

15 So just stay tuned for those goals.
16 They're not publicly available just yet because
17 we're still in the process of negotiation.

18 But once it is released to the
19 public, I hope that that concern can also be
20 captured in the language as well.

21 **MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you.

22 **VICE PRESIDENT TERRY:** Thank you. So, again,
23 as we close, I want to thank you all again. And
24 we look forward to continuing this conversation

1 and look forward from hearing from the community.
2 Feel free to reach out to anyone on the
3 Commission and especially those of us who are
4 sitting here.

5 I know many people already reach
6 out to the president, but feel free to reach out
7 to myself, Commissioner Minor, Commissioner
8 Gottlieb, Commissioner Wortham, and Commissioner
9 Rubi Navarijo. We are all available and look
10 forward to working with you all, continuing these
11 conversations, and, you know, invite us out as
12 well to have conversations with your
13 constituents. If you know that they may not be
14 able to make a meeting such as this, feel free to
15 reach out. I'm speaking specifically for myself.
16 I don't want to commit anyone else's time. But
17 I'm definitely willing to come out with small
18 groups or meeting at a library or something to
19 just hear and have conversation and build
20 relationships and also provide education as well,
21 because I thought -- Janecia, thank you for that
22 question. I think it's really important.
23 There's a lot of questions about what oversight
24 looks like in Chicago. There's a lot of

1 different entities. You know, it's really like
2 this -- I like to call it an octopus of sorts,
3 right, because tentacles go in different
4 directions. And so it's really important for us
5 to be informed and educated, so we can make sure
6 that we're going to the right places for the
7 things that we are looking to resolve.

8 And so on behalf of the Commission,
9 we wish you and your family a happy holiday.
10 Again, follow us on all of our social media
11 platforms, and thank you, all, again and have a
12 great evening.

13

14 (WHEREUPON, the meeting was
15 adjourned.)

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

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

3

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

12

13

14

15

MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, CSR
License No. 084.002740

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24