

City of Chicago
DISTRICT COUNCIL #2
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Attendance & Quorum

OMA Meeting cannot take place without 2 of the 3 members present in person.

District Council Member Name	Attendance
Chair: Ephraim Lee	Present: <u> X </u> Remote: <u> </u> Absent: <u> </u>
Community Engagement: Alexander Perez	Present: <u> X </u> Remote: <u> </u> Absent: <u> </u>
Nominating Committee: Julia Kline	Present: <u> X </u> Remote: <u> </u> Absent: <u> </u>

Quorum 2 out of 3 members): Yes: x No:

Public Comment

Cassandra Bogan: I feel that it would make more sense to have public comment towards the end of the agenda to give people the opportunity to discuss the progress that the district councilors are making and not just at the top of the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Councilor Lee asked if there are any corrections to the April minutes. There were none. A vote on the minutes was taken. Councilors Lee, Perez and Kline voted to approve the April minutes.

District Council Member Updates

Chair (Ephraim Lee)

Community Engagement (Alexander Perez)

Councilor Perez spoke about the following upcoming and past events related to community engagement:

- The start of the Men's mental health campaign with Coffee Hip-Hop and Mental Health
- The upcoming Basic Gunshot Wound First Response workshop in partnership with Ujamaa Medics on July 6th
- Knock the Block community outreach event on June 29th

- Outdoor roll call that took place on May 25th in partnership with 2nd District PD and the 46th and Vincennes Block Club.

Councilor Perez also discussed inviting Independent Monitor Maggie Hickey to attend a future meeting. Additionally, he mentioned the ongoing development of a draft policy regarding the engagement between the CCPSA and DCs.

Nominating Committee (Julia Kline)

Councilor Kline provided an update on the nomination committee's progress, noting that the committee has submitted 15 names to the mayor's office for consideration to serve on the commission and where those individuals stand currently in the nomination process.

Presentations

Office of Emergency Management and Communications gave a presentation on the inner workings of their agency and its offerings.

Councilor Kline gave a presentation on the various police accountability institutions in Chicago. What follows is the transcription of that presentation auto generated by Zoom:

Okay, just real briefly, the, where this information is coming from. I've undertaken a basically an extensive research project since August to educate myself on the extensive network of accountability systems that exist in Chicago, and they are beyond complex.

Miss Jasmine and Miss Gloria, I do hope that I'm going to address specifically some of the things that you brought up because these are things that I as an organizer and somebody who cares about the issue of police accountability. I've cared about this kind of issues since I'm 20 years old. When I was 20 years old, if I would ever see a police officer pulling somebody over, I would stop my car and I would stand there and I would look. And I would watch that police officer and make sure that they didn't do anything they shouldn't do. So, I've had a 30 more than 30 yrs. Commitment and passion to the issue of holding police accountable for misconduct.

And having taken on this job. I've developed a greatly deepened appreciation for how complex it is and how many people in the city of Chicago and how the agencies in Chicago are already existing and trying to address some of these issues. All of them aren't doing as well as we'd like. But there are changes happening and it's important to not duplicate that in my opinion.

And in addition to the obvious one- personal interviews - I've had multiple conversations with the current and former Inspector General with the current and former Chief of COPA, with the state's attorney with multiple lawyers who have are involved in writing the legislation that's involved in these things. So, I really stepped myself in all of this and I've been seeking out the interactions and where we can move the needle on this.

So that's where all this comes from.

And I want to start off this because this conversation is going to be about police misconduct. So, I'm going to be talking about police who behave badly. But I want to start the conversation by making sure to emphasize that most police officers engage in constitutional policing.

I put a few numbers up on the board. 12,000 CPD. What is that?

Yeah, employees of CPD. That number fluctuates quite a bit, but this is the number that was listed for their 2021 staff levels.

4,000 arbitrations. Anybody have an idea about that? There are 4,000 cases that have already been sustained, consequences have been imposed, and that police officer has appealed to arbitration. 4,000 cases of misconduct are stuck in arbitration. Now some of those undoubtedly are quite minor. They're for not turning on the body worn camera. They're speaking rudely to somebody. But some of them are for people that are dead.

135. Do not call. Does everybody know what that is? No.

No, yes ma'am, you bet. The state's attorney recently, last year if I'm not mistaken, published publicly for the 1st time, The list of police officers that they will not call to a witness stand. Because that police officer has demonstrated themselves to be a liar and would ruin a case if they were called to the stand. Now, of those 175 officers, many are no longer with the force. They either died. Retired or in some cases been separated fire against their will.

141, \$142 million dollars. Anybody know what that is? Yes. From 2019 to 2022. Our total misconduct settlements were \$295 million. Almost 300 million dollars for a four-year period. But of that, almost half, 142 million dollars was spent on settlements relating to 141 officers. And again, not all of them are still carrying a gun in a badge, but some are.

And this gets to your question, Ms. Williams, because do we know who those 141 officers are? We do not. We do not. And I will not have time tonight to get into all that questions on data, but the databases when I ask you, we do not even have the record of the data that we need to be able to answer questions like these.

And then number 58, rule 14. Does anybody know what that is? This relates to the Do not call list. Rule 14 is the rule that said the police officer may not lie. And in addition to the 175 people on the do not call list, The Tribe submitted a FOIA to COPA and found 58 officers that had made work that have been sustained not just accused sustained that means that they were guilty of it that's the investigatory language for guilty does not criminal court.

58 officers. Lie and yet some of them are still carrying a gun and a badge. So, most police officers - we've got 12,000 police officers on the staff - But there's a whole lot that should not be carrying a gun on a badge.

To level set, I see 4 main problems.

1. CPD continues to engage in unconstitutional policing. The quote here is from the consent decree. The Justice Department conducted an investigation of CPD, and they found in part "CPD violates the Constitution and state federal laws by engaging in a pattern of using excessive force, including debit force, in a manner that disproportionately harms Chicago's African American and Latino residents." CPD hurts people and they do it most bit of black and brown folks. And that's what the consent decree said 5 years ago and CPD is now only in 6% compliance with that consent decree. So, they are still engaging in the same conduct.
2. 2, a lot of people in the community don't feel safe.
3. 3. Taxpayers shouldered an enormous burden for this over the last 5 years. The cost for misconduct settlements has averaged \$75 million a year. And that number is skyrocketing because on March 20th, 2024, city council approved settlements for just 3 cases that were a total of \$57 million. So as of March, they're already going through $\frac{2}{3}$ of their budget for the year based on the average and it was only on 3 cases. This number is skyrocketing. Number one, because we're finally seeing some level of justice. You spoke about exonerations with this, the Cook County State Department's office has exonerated more wrongly incarcerated people than any other jurisdiction in the country. So, we're getting a little bit of justice of course there are just hundreds more that are wrongfully incarcerated that need to be let out, but we're seeing some justice. Also, we are in an era of cell phone video. So, the misconduct that is happening that didn't used to be able to be proved. Increasingly, we have it on video. So, these dollar amounts are skyrocketing and its taxpayers that are paying that.

And then of course, the, we have a, Accountability system. We have 6. Accountability agencies, not even including law enforcement. And we're going to go through these very quickly because you all know these, so this is the next 7 or so slides but these the acronyms because I'll So you know who we're talking about.

- We've got COPA is the primary responsibility for investigating allegations of this conduct that got 17 million dollars budget and there's all kinds of ways you can contact them. And we as residents, we need to be increasing the rates at which we report misconduct. Data shows that probably only 15% of the actual misconduct by the part of police officers to see Chicago ever gets recorded. And it's up to us to record that so that we can take action. So, this gets to your point, Ms. Williams, those who have engaged in multiple acts of this conduct. Many of those are not even known to us because it hasn't been reported.
- OIG, the Office of Inspector General, the current Inspector General is Deborah Witzburg. They are responsible for all kinds of things. They've got a 13-million-dollar budget, and she is doing a yeoman's job as far as going after police misconduct.

- CCPSA that is the commission that was created as a result of the work of Jasmine's organization and others that created the ordinance in 2021 called the Empowering communities for public safety that created the commission the center person's mission Perfect.
- There's a police board and we could talk for an hour about the police board. And I'm going to leave it at that because we're trying to get through this quickly.
- And then there's ILETSB. ILETSB is an agency that a lot of people have not even heard of before. It's a state agency and it does a lot of things. But for our purposes, what it does is it decertifies police officers who have engaged in misconduct. If a police officer is de-certified, that means that they are still an employee of the police department, so it doesn't violate union provisions. And so, we're still paying them, which is bad, but at least they don't have a gun in the badge. They're not out here hurting us. And that's ILETSB. And one of the things that happened with the safe-T Act is that Civilians now can report. Police officers to ILETSB. It used to be only law enforcement could report officers for decertification. Now every one of us in this room can report a police officer for de-certification.

And of course, there's too many agencies. This costs us a lot of money. It reduces credibility in the eyes of CPD. One of the reasons that some district councils have had a difficult time having meaningful dialogue with command staff is that They're like, are you kidding me? Another one? Come on. We don't need 18 agencies overseeing us.

And it's also burdensome for victims because they don't know who to talk to and when and so forth. I will say, It's no longer quite as, burdensome for sexual misconduct victims. They can now do a joint interview, which is a little step in the right direction.

So, what are we talking about when we talk about misconduct? I think a lot of people immediately go to things like use of force or search and seizure, which is pretextual traffic stops that's so much in the news right now, right? So, when we talk about misconduct, most of us think about the cop out on the street who's in a split-second moment. Whatever you think about that interaction, that's what a lot of us think of. But there's a lot of other misconduct that happens as well. Rude and negligent behavior. Like my detective never called me for 6 months or this cop called me a racial slur. Those are serious acts of misconduct as well.

And then finally, procedural or administrative misconduct. And I am going to take a moment to expand on this just a little bit because this is really important, and we don't think about it enough. What this is talking about is when police officers file false police reports and you were talking about the circular, Miss Jasmine. And you asserted that that was criminal behavior. I'm no lawyer, so I won't speak to that, but it is absolutely misconduct when they engage in a false police report.

And the example that I have for up on the board. There was an officer named Khalil Mohammed in 2017 who was off duty, and he saw somebody who he deemed a threat. And sitting in his car he shot that person. Hit them in the tuchus. Turned out that that was an autistic boy who was 17

years old. That autistic boy's family has since won a \$2.5 million dollar settlement on behalf of Ike Lambert - I'm sorry. I'm Khalil Muhammad's misconduct. Ike Lambert was his sergeant. And wrote a police report saying that that's what Khalil Mohammed did. Sergeant, Ike Lambert was pressured to change his police report and say that that autistic boy was an assailant and therefore the use of force was allowed. Ike Lambert said I am not doing that. That guy shot that kid for no reason or I'm not saying otherwise. He was moved to a less desirable location. He filed a lawsuit and he won \$900,000.

So, the boy's family got 2.5 million dollars. Ike Lambert has been awarded \$900,000 and I Lambert's supervisor, Commander Rodney Blissett went to court and said this is nonsense, what you're trying to say about Ike Lambert. There was nothing wrong with what he did. And for trying to defend, Ike Lambert, commander Blissett was demoted. So, he now has a lawsuit that is asking for \$4 million dollars. He's probably going to be successful.

That brings us to almost 7.5 million dollars for this one officer, Khalil Mohammed, for shooting this autistic kid in the ass. I don't know about you, but if I cost my employer \$7.5 million dollars, I would not still have a job. But Ike Lambert is still carrying a gun and a badge. I'm sorry, not Ike Lambert. I'm sorry. No, Khalil Mohammed, Khalil Mohammed with the wrongful shooter. Ike Lambert was the whistleblower.

So, when we talk about accountability, what does that mean exactly? In an ideal world, it means that cops are out here knowing how they're supposed to act, and they do. That would be ideal accountability. No misconduct. Nobody out here committing fraud. Nobody out here taking a bag to let the drug dealers go unreported. Nobody out here killing anybody. Nobody out here, sexually assaulting anybody, right?

But once misconduct happens, the consequences basically amount to 4 things

4. a reprimand - and sometimes that goes along with retraining.
5. Suspension. they could be one day 5 days 15 days 2 years there's we learned at the COPA academy about an officer who was suspended without pay for 2 years and he's back to carrying a gun and a badge
6. And criminal prosecution, of course, we're not going to touch criminal prosecution in this presentation. That's just far outside of my purview.

Okay, now we're getting into the very complex stuff. This is half a page off of a 9-page PDF published on the Inspector General's website about how this gets done. So, when I tell you that the Inspector General has published extensive thorough information about how our accountability system is supposed to work, I'm not kidding you. This is just the summary. And it's way too much for me to even begin to talk to you about.

The police board website, they have this slightly shorter summary.

But let's just talk in plain terms about what we're here to talk about tonight when I'm here to talk about tonight: How do you fire a police officer? What you ask for, Ms. Williams? You know, we need to strip them up their powers. This is what's gone happen. We want to fire a police officer in the city of Chicago.

7. 1st of all, of course, misconduct needs to happen. They need to actually do something that warrants - obviously we, certainly don't want to be going after people wrongfully, right? Any more than we want the men in the community wrongly incarcerated. So, let's assume something happens that warrants separation.
8. Then COPA gets the report. COPA is the receiving agency. They do all of the intake for all this kind of investigations.
9. Either COPA or BIA investigates and that's Copa's discretion, which agency takes the investigation.
10. Then they do a thorough investigation and let's say for the sake of argument they found it sustained. This dude did this. And it was severe enough that we're recommending separation.
11. Then it goes through command channel review. All the people in the chain of command get to take a look at that and say, I agree, or I disagree and make comments. They get 60 days; they can ask for an additional 30 days if they need it.
12. Let's assume that everybody along the channel says yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, fire that dude. Then it gets to the superintendent.
13. Assume the superintendent says, yup, fire that dude. So, the superintendent has reviewed it and has concurred.
14. Then the superintendent files charges with the police board. How many charges for discharge do you think were filed with the police board last year? 12,000 members of the police department. How many people recommended for separation and went to the police board? David says 0, it's more than 0. More than 10. It was 23. So, 23 went to the police board out of 12,000 officers in the I would put those numbers on the board how many hundreds lie and everything else right
15. then the police board does a full evidentiary review. And they either find the person guilty or not guilty. If they find the person guilty, the superintendent files administrative charges with the law department. Then the law department is the one that has to basically process the HR paperwork.
16. And when all that is done, now the dude is finally fired, no longer has a gun and a badge, no longer getting paid, but he can still appeal in circuit court.

And I also want to point out that throughout this entire process This person was receiving their pay. They might have been on desk duty, so he might have not been out on the streets where he can hurt us, but they were getting paid the whole time.

And going to your point earlier about unions and the FOP. The FOP already is a unique union, not just because they can take our lives like no other union can, but also because the FOP is the only union out here that if they issue a suspension to their member, that suspension is postponed until the full review process is completed. If any other union member anywhere in the city of Chicago or state of Illinois is suspended for cause, they serve that suspension immediately and then are free to grieve.

So, the reverse, and with that, we are straight up 8 o'clock. I've got a couple more slides left, but I don't have time to get to, but I'll just give you a preview of what I didn't cover. This is the summary of cases, so 23 cases went to the police board last year. 3 Were fired. THREE. 5 officers chose to retire instead of facing the charges and a few others were suspended. But 3 police officers - and by the way in case I have not made it perfectly clear, the only way to fire a police officer in the city of Chicago is to put them before the police board. There's no other way to do it. And we only had 3 of them last year.

There are some good things happening and we could talk for 15 minutes about each one of these.

In fact, the free2move coalition was at our meeting 2 months ago and they're doing fantastic work. One nugget that I want to add is that they are also getting ready to meet with and collaborate with COPA because the free2Move coalition has assembled data about how ineffective pretextual traffic stops are on the effect of policing; and COPA is now working with them to bring in data about complaints. So, they're strengthening that.

I also did want to make the point that I don't have a lot of good things to say about Superintendent Stelling. However, traffic stops are down 9% this year compared to 2023. So, you know, step in the right direction.

The police board last year got 23 recommendations for separation, right? COPA in January recommended 30 officers for separation. They're currently sitting on Snelling's desk being negotiated between the different lawyer teams and we don't have time tonight to get into how that's all working, but COPA is doing what they can and that's work that we need to support.

And then the final slide that I wanted to actually choose the there's financial solutions that I would love to go through that I think that I've investigated that have every one of them has pitfalls and difficulties. They don't make this stuff easy for us.

And then the last one is restrictions from the contract and labor law because that's really the part of it. The FOP contract that really stops us.

Old Business

New Business

Votes

Summary of Votes taken: 1

- To approve the April meeting monthly meeting minutes

Announcement of the next 2nd District Council meeting

NEXT MEETING DATE: 6/22/34

NEXT MEETING LOCATION (if available): YMCA 3763 S Wabash Ave, Chicago, IL 60653

District Council ended the meeting at: ___ 8:05pm _____