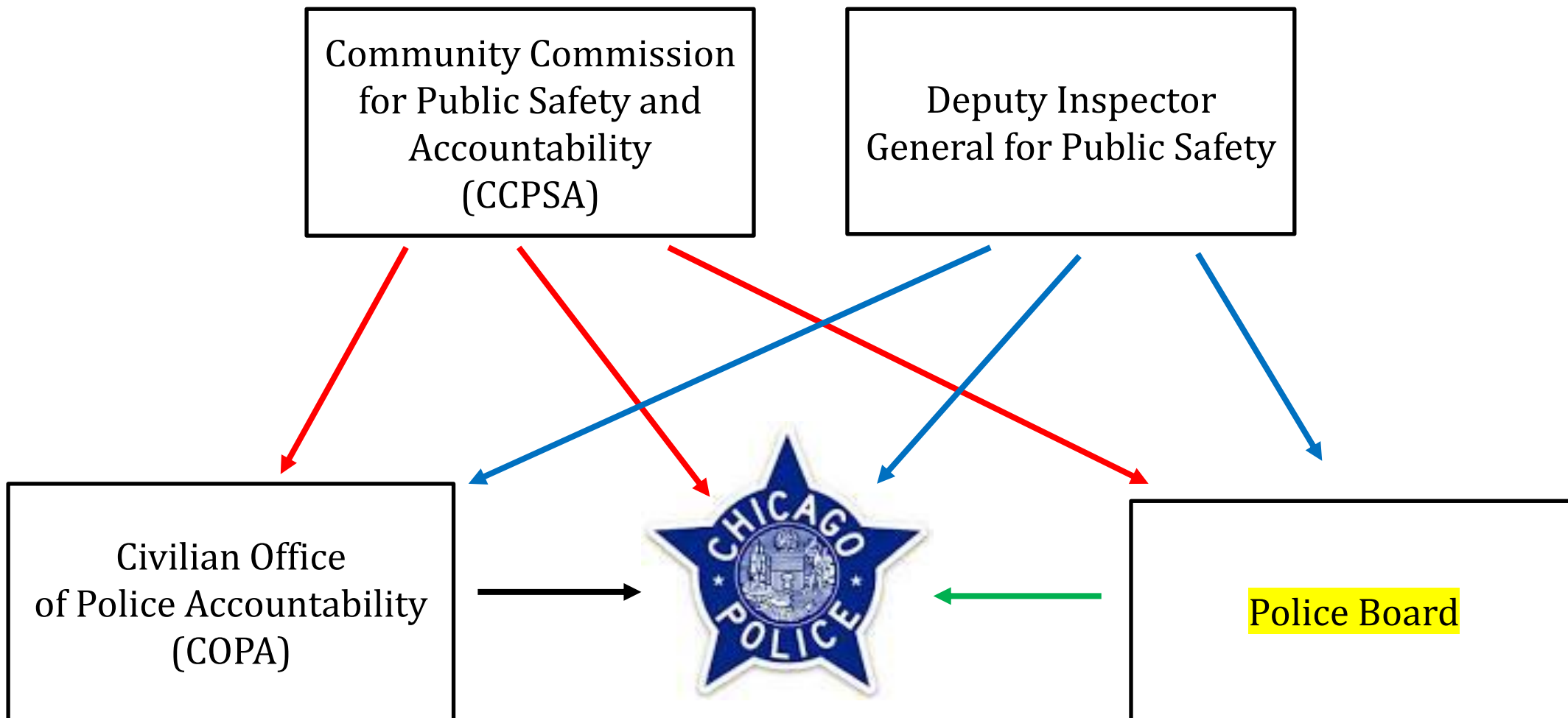




# Civilian Oversight of Police in Chicago





## **Powers and Responsibilities of the Police Board**

- I. Decide disciplinary cases brought against sworn officers of the Chicago Police Department
- II. Decide appeals by disqualified applicants to become a Chicago police officer
- III. Adopt the Rules and Regulations for the governance of the Chicago Police Department
- IV. Make policy recommendations to CPD
- V. Hold monthly public meetings that provide a unique opportunity for community engagement with the CPD Superintendent and civilian-oversight leaders



## **Police Board Members**

- Nine Board members—all civilians who live in Chicago
- Nominated for appointment by the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability (CCPSA)
- Appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council
- Five-year term; may be reappointed; removal only for just cause



## **Police Disciplinary Cases: Disagreements between COPA & CPD**

- When the COPA Chief Administrator and the Superintendent of Police do not agree regarding the discipline of a CPD officer, and the Superintendent is proposing less or no discipline, the matter is referred to one Police Board member.
- The Board member is randomly selected, reviews the recommendations of COPA and CPD, and then rules on the disagreement.
- Each ruling is announced at a public meeting and the opinion is posted on the Board's website.

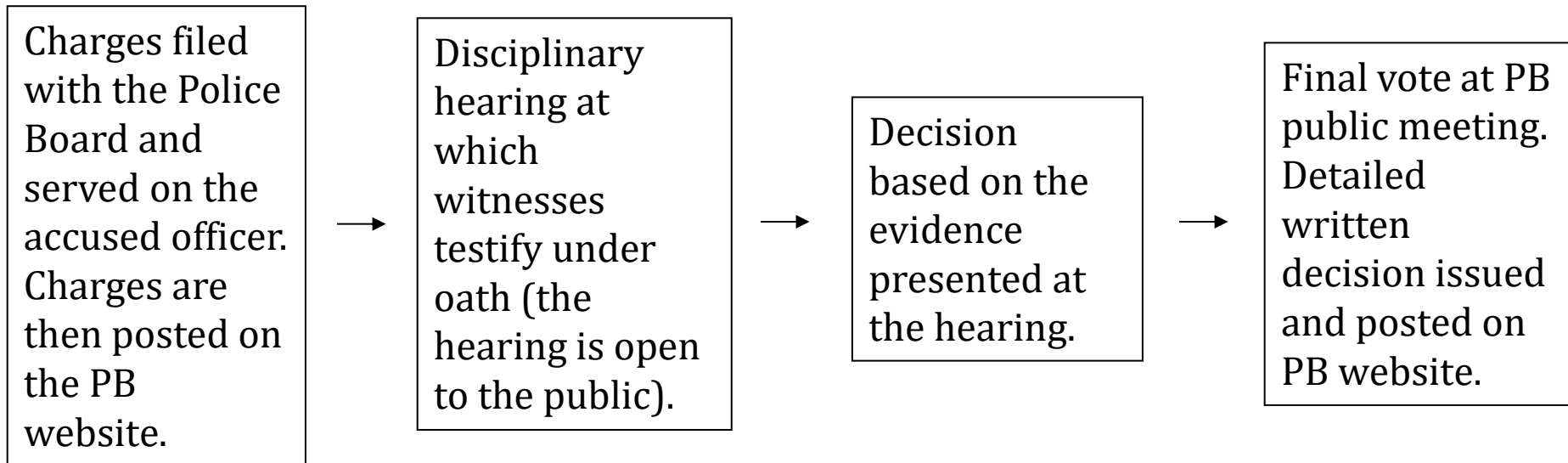


Chicago Police Board

## Police Disciplinary Cases: Discharge Cases

- The disciplinary recommendation is to discharge an officer from the Chicago Police Department.
- The role of the Board is to be **impartial** and make decisions **based on the evidence** made part of the record at the disciplinary hearing.

### Police Board Process for Deciding Discharge Cases





## **CPD Applicant Appeals**

- When a person who applies to become a Chicago police officer is removed from the eligibility list by the Office of Public Safety Administration due to the results of a background investigation, the applicant has a right to appeal the disqualification decision to the Police Board.
- The applicant must show by a preponderance of the evidence that the disqualification decision was in error.
- The role of the Board is to conduct an independent and thorough review of the appeal and then either affirm the disqualification decision or reinstate the applicant to the eligibility list.



## **CPD Rules and Regulations**

- Police Board is responsible for adopting the rules and regulations for the governance of the Chicago Police Department.
- These rules and regulations establish the general goals and duties of CPD members and set forth the rules of conduct every officer is required to follow.
- The current rules and regulations are available at [Chicago.gov/PoliceBoard](http://Chicago.gov/PoliceBoard)
- The Board is committed to using an open process with extensive community engagement when revising or adopting new rules and regulations.



## **Policy Recommendations**

- As the Board decides police disciplinary cases, it may recognize the need for improvements to CPD policies.
- The Board has the authority under the Municipal Code and the Consent Decree to make policy recommendations to the Chicago Police Department.
- These recommendations will be posted on the Board's website along with CPD's responses.





## **Monthly Public Meetings**

- Police Board public meetings provide a unique opportunity for community engagement with the CPD Superintendent and civilian-oversight leaders.
- All meetings are live-streamed and televised by CAN-TV.
- The communication at the meetings is not just one-way. Significant time is set aside at every meeting for members of the public to raise questions and offer comments, and we want you to know that all Board members place great importance on your input as we carry out our responsibilities.



## **Consent Decree on Policing in Chicago**

- The Police Board has made significant progress by putting in place reforms in the areas of police accountability and transparency.
- Of the 14 paragraphs the Police Board is responsible for implementing, the Independent Monitor found the Board to be in full compliance with the requirements of 11 paragraphs and in preliminary compliance with 3 paragraphs.
- Board members have or will be completing training on use of force, 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment law governing stops and searches, impartial policing, community outreach, and other topics.



## **Update on Arbitration of Discharge Cases**

- In March 2024, the Circuit Court of Cook County confirmed that Chicago police officers (Fraternal Order of Police members) have the right to choose to have discharge cases heard by an arbitrator rather than the Police Board. The case is now before the Illinois Appellate Court.
- Almost all FOP members (13 of 15) with cases before the Board have chosen arbitration.
- No new cases against FOP members have been filed with the Board since the March 21 Circuit Court ruling.
- Cases against CPD supervisors are proceeding.



## **Police Board Website**

**[www.Chicago.gov/PoliceBoard](http://www.Chicago.gov/PoliceBoard)**

- Police Discipline
- Public Meetings
- Consent Decree
- CPD Applicant Appeals
- News