

PUBLIC MEETING
June 15, 2023

POLICE BOARD
CITY OF CHICAGO
PUBLIC MEETING

3510 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Thursday, June 15, 2023
7:30 p.m.

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APPEARANCES:

MEMBERS OF THE POLICE BOARD:

GHIAN FOREMAN, President (via video conference)

PAULA WOLFF, Vice President

STEVEN BLOCK

AJA CARR-FAVORS

MAREILÉ CUSACK

NANETTE DOORLEY (via video conference)

MICHAEL EADDY (via audio conference)

JORGE MONTES

ANDREAS SAFAKAS

ALSO PRESENT:

FRED WALLER, Interim Superintendent of the Chicago
Police Department;

ANDREA KERSTEN, Chief Administrator of the Civilian
Office of Police Accountability;

DEBORAH WITZBURG, Inspector General for the City of
Chicago;

YOLANDA TALLEY, Chief of Chicago Police Department's
Bureau of Internal Affairs;

DANA O'MALLEY, General Counsel to the
Superintendent;

MAX CAPRONI, Executive Director of the Police Board;

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

1 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: I am not Ghian Foreman.
2 Good evening. I'm Paula Wolff, and I am the vice
3 president of the Police Board, and I'm calling the
4 Police Board's June 15th public meeting to order.

5 We thank you CAN-TV for covering this
6 meeting. It is being broadcast on Channel 27 and
7 live streamed at CAN-TV.org on the CAN-TV app. And
8 we know this gives a lot of access to people in the
9 community who can't necessarily make it to our
10 public meetings. So thank you very much.

11 President Foreman and Board Member
12 Michael Eaddy are each unable to attend this meeting
13 in person because of work-related conflicts. Board
14 Member Doorley cannot be here because she is ill.
15 We hope she will feel better soon. They wish to
16 attend via video or audio conference. Is there a
17 motion to permit them to do so?

18 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: So moved.

19 BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Second.

20 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you. All in favor
21 say aye.

22 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

23 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Any opposed?

24 (NO RESPONSE.)

1 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: The motion passes.

2 Thank you.

3 In addition to the Police Board
4 members, we have the following City officials here
5 with us this evening. Interim Superintendent of
6 Police, Fred Waller. Welcome, Superintendent.
7 Thank you and congratulations.

8 Chief Administrator of the Civil
9 Office of the Police Accountability, Andrea Kersten.
10 Thank you.

11 Inspector General, Deborah Witzburg.
12 Thank you.

13 The Chief of Chicago Police
14 Department Bureau of Internal Investigations --
15 Affairs, I'm sorry, Yolanda Talley.

16 CHIEF TALLEY: Thank you.

17 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: And general counsel to
18 the Superintendent, Dana O'Malley.

19 GENERAL COUNSEL O'MALLEY: Good evening.

20 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: We will proceed to the
21 items on this meeting's agenda. And I apologize. I
22 am neither as gracious or charismatic as Ghian, but
23 I will do my best. We'll have time at the end of
24 the meeting for public comments.

1 Is there a motion to approve the
2 draft of the minutes of the Board's public
3 meeting -- closed meeting held on May 18?

4 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: So moved.

5 BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Second.

6 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: All in favor, say aye.

7 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

8 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Any opposed?

9 (NO RESPONSE.)

10 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you. The minutes
11 are approved.

12 Earlier today, the Board, as required
13 by the Open Meetings Act, met and considered minutes
14 and recordings of all the past closed meetings to
15 determine whether the meeting for confidentiality
16 still exists. The Board members unanimously agreed
17 that it continues to be necessary to keep
18 confidential those recordings of the past proposed
19 meetings and portions of the minutes.

20 The Board makes publicly available
21 portions of the closed meeting -- meeting minutes.
22 These minutes are included in the blue book that's
23 posted on the Board's website in advance of each of
24 the public meetings, and you can find them there.

1 The next regular public meeting is
2 Thursday, July 20th, at 7:30 here. It will be held
3 in person at the Chicago Public Safety Headquarters.

4 The Police Board meets in executive
5 session to consider various matters. These
6 discussions are closed to the public as authorized
7 by Section 2(c)(1) 4, 11, and 21 of the Illinois
8 Open Meetings Act. The information that is
9 discussed in the executive sessions is included in
10 the minutes of the meetings posted on our website.

11 Is there a motion to close future
12 executive sessions as authorized by these sections
13 of the Open Meetings Act?

14 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: So moved.

15 BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Second.

16 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: All in favor?

17 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

18 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Any opposed?

19 (NO RESPONSE.)

20 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you. Motion
21 passes.

22 The next item on the agenda is the
23 police disciplinary cases. These are final actions.
24 The Police Board as authorized by the Open Meetings

1 Act has considered in closed meeting two police
2 disciplinary cases. The Board will now take final
3 action on these cases.

4 Regarding case number 21PB3000, is
5 there a motion to find Sergeant Alex Wolinski guilty
6 of charges stemming from the search of Anjanette
7 Young's residence and discharge him from the Chicago
8 Police Department?

9 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: So moved.

10 BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Jorge Montes. I second.

11 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: I will call on members
12 of the Board for their votes.

13 Foreman. I see him raising his hand
14 signifying aye.

15 Block.

16 BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Oppose the motion.

17 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Carr-Favors.

18 BOARD MEMBER CARR-FAVORS: Aye.

19 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Cusack.

20 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Aye.

21 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Doorley.

22 Nanette, did you get on?

23 BOARD MEMBER DOORLEY: Aye.

24 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: I believe she's

1 recorded as opposing this motion. Montes.

2 BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.

3 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: And Safakas?

4 BOARD MEMBER SAFAKAS: I oppose the motion.

5 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: And I vote in favor of
6 the motion.

7 Voting in favor of the motion are
8 Board Members Foreman, Carr-Favors, Cusack, Montes,
9 and myself. Board Members Block, Doorley, and
10 Safakas vote against the motion. The motion passes
11 by a vote of five to three.

12 Is there a motion to adopt the
13 written findings and decisions and dissent that have
14 been reviewed by all Board members that participated
15 in the case?

16 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Mareilé Cusack. So
17 moved.

18 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Is there a second?

19 BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Second.

20 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Board member Montes
21 seconds the motion. All in favor?

22 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

23 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Any opposed?

24 (NO RESPONSE.)

1 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: The motion passes.

2 Regarding the next case, which is
3 21PB2990. Is there a motion to find Police Officers
4 David Taylor and Larry Lanier not guilty of using
5 deadly force without justification, guilty of
6 failing to timely activate his body-worn camera and
7 suspend each officer without pay for ten days?

8 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Mareilé Cusack. So
9 moved.

10 BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Second.

11 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: I will now call on
12 members of the Board for their vote. Foreman?

13 President Foreman votes aye.

14 Block.

15 BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Aye.

16 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Carr-Favors.

17 BOARD MEMBER CARR-FAVORS: Aye.

18 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Cusack.

19 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Aye.

20 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Doorley.

21 BOARD MEMBER DOORLEY: Aye.

22 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Doorley votes aye.

23 Montes.

24 BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.

1 VICE PRESIDENT WOLF: Safakas.

2 BOARD MEMBER SAFAKAS: Aye.

3 VICE PRESIDENT WOLF: And I vote in favor of
4 the motion.

5 Voting in favor are Board Members
6 Foreman, Block, Carr-Favors, Cusack, Doorley,
7 Montes, Safakas, and myself. The motion passes by a
8 vote of 8 to 0.

9 We now have Chicago Police Department
10 applicant appeals. I'm sorry.

11 Thank you, Member Block. Is there a
12 motion to adopt the written findings from the case
13 we just voted on and the decision that's been
14 received by all Board members who participated in
15 the case?

16 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Cusack. So moved.

17 BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Montes. Second.

18 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: All in favor?

19 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

20 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Any opposed?

21 (NO RESPONSE.)

22 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: The motion passes.

23 The written decision in the cases on
24 which the Board took final action this evening will

1 be entered as of today's date, sent to the parties,
2 and then posted on the Board's website.

3 You can count that as my mistake of
4 the night, Ghian.

5 Move on to the final actions of the
6 public -- I'm sorry. This is the appeals.

7 The Police Board, as authorized by the
8 Open Meetings Act, has considered in closed meetings
9 several appeals from applicants for Chicago police
10 officer position who have been removed from the
11 eligibility list due to the results of a background
12 examination. The Board will now take final action
13 on these appeals.

14 Is there a motion to adopt the appeals
15 officer's findings and recommendation and affirm the
16 decisions to disqualify the applicants for the
17 following appeals: 21-17 and 23-1 through 23-08?

18 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Cusack. So moved.

19 BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Second.

20 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: We have a motion and a
21 second. I will now call on members of the Board for
22 their votes. Foreman.

23 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Aye.

24 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Foreman says aye.

1 Block.

2 BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Aye.

3 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Carr-Favors.

4 BOARD MEMBER CARR-FAVORS: Aye.

5 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Cusack.

6 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Aye.

7 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Doorley.

8 BOARD MEMBER DOORLEY: Aye.

9 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Doorley says aye.

10 Montes and Safakas.

11 BOARD MEMBER SAFAKAS: Aye.

12 BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.

13 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And I vote in favor of the
14 motion.

15 Voting in favor are Board Members
16 Wolff, Block, Carr-Favors, Cusack, Doorley, Montes,
17 Safakas, and myself. The motion passes.

18 The written decisions of these appeals
19 will be entered as of today's date, sent to the
20 parties, and posted on the Board's website within
21 five business days.

22 We are fortunate and pleased to have
23 with us tonight the City's Inspector General,
24 Deborah Witzburg, who will provide an overview of

1 her office's recent report, enforcement of the
2 Chicago Police Department's rules against false
3 reports.

4 Just to put this in context, the
5 Inspector General has the opportunity to review all
6 of the activities for the parties that are part of
7 the police accountability process and does a draft
8 report, shares with each of the parties. We can
9 respond to it, and then she issues a final report.
10 And we see that this is an important part of the
11 accountability process, because it holds a mirror up
12 to what's happening within the system.

13 Inspector General.

14 INSPECTOR GENERAL WITZBURG: Good evening.
15 Thank you very much. Thank you, Vice President
16 Wolff.

17 I appreciate the invitation to be
18 here today to talk about the project that we've done
19 looking at the enforcement of the Chicago Police
20 Department's Rule 14; that is the rule against false
21 reports.

22 This project is mandated by the
23 Consent Decree that was entered in Illinois Versus
24 Chicago.

1 The Office of the Inspector General and
2 its Public Safety section has a number of specific
3 obligations pursuant to the Consent Decree.

4 The study of enforcement of Rule 14 is one of
5 those.

6 And so with this inquiry, we set out
7 to do three things. We set out to look at whether
8 the Police Department's rule against lying, whether
9 violations of that rule are appropriately pursued,
10 punished, and published. That is whether the
11 investigating agencies pursue Rule 14 violations
12 when necessary and appropriate, whether CPD members
13 who are found to have violated the rule are
14 appropriately punished by separation from the Police
15 Department, and whether information about those
16 disciplinary actions is appropriately published;
17 that is shared among the agencies involved and the
18 prosecutorial authorities who need that information.

19 We reached a number of high-level
20 findings, and the full report is available online,
21 and I encourage people to read it. We'll do sort of
22 a high-level summary here.

23 Our first finding is that CPD members
24 with a history of having violated Rule 14, that is

1 people who have been found at final adjudication to
2 have violated the rule, remain with the Department
3 and remain in positions where their credibility and
4 trustworthiness is vital to their ability to do
5 their jobs. This is a really critical piece of why
6 Rule 14 is so important.

7 I will say here before we talk more
8 about this finding that in my view, thorough and
9 adequate and consistent enforcement of Rule 14, the
10 rule against lying, is foundationally important for
11 two reasons. The first is that it is critical to
12 build in trust between the Police Department and the
13 community. We cannot ask people in the community to
14 trust the Police Department that lets people get
15 away with lying.

16 The second is that it's that
17 enforcement, enforcement of the rule, is vital to
18 the Police Department's ability to function
19 effectively as a law enforcement agency.

20 Members of the Police Department who
21 are found to have lied cannot testify in court.
22 They can't be witnesses in a criminal prosecution.
23 They can't keep people safe if they can't prosecute.
24 So it's critical that we have police officers out

1 doing police work who are then able to testify in
2 court in the prosecution of the crimes that are at
3 issue in that police work.

4 So this first finding that the
5 Department has members who remain on the job and in
6 positions where they might not be called upon to
7 write police reports and to testify in court. We
8 found that the agencies do not consistently ensure
9 that members who have violated Rule 14 are separated
10 from the Department, with over a hundred active or
11 recently active members who have histories of
12 violating Rule 14.

13 We found that among those members --
14 among those active members who have violated the
15 rule, there are patrol officers, there are
16 detectives, there are people serving on federal task
17 forces, all in positions where, again, their
18 trustworthiness and credibility is critical to their
19 ability to do their jobs.

20 Our second finding is that the
21 processes in place for sharing information about
22 members who have been found to have violated Rule 14
23 lack rigor and appropriate controls. That has to do
24 with whether the agencies involved are well equipped

1 to make sure that they share information about
2 members who have violated Rule 14 with prosecuting
3 authorities and whether they track the information
4 that is shared.

5 Finally, we looked at the policies,
6 practices, and documents, templates in place at the
7 Bureau of Internal Affairs and at COPA and found
8 that there are missed opportunities to ensure
9 appropriate enforcement of Rule 14. Those have to
10 do with ensuring that investigators, people
11 conducting police misconduct investigations,
12 consider violations of Rule 14 when appropriate and
13 document their analyses relating to potential
14 violations of the rule, so that those are visible
15 as a matter of record in this case.

16 Our report includes a number of case
17 studies where we look not only at these policy-level
18 issues, but we look at specific cases, specific
19 examples that have played out around these issues.
20 Just by way of a few examples, we include case
21 studies where investigating agencies recommended
22 discipline less than separation for members who are
23 found to have violated Rule 14, a case in which the
24 Police Board decided on discipline less than

1 separation for a violation of Rule 14. We saw
2 examples of Rule 14 violations which had been found
3 being expunged from the record of the members
4 accused. We found members with Rule 14 histories
5 serving actively, as I mentioned, in patrol and as
6 detectives. We found cases of CPD members
7 testifying in court after having been found to have
8 violated Rule 14, and we found cases in which the
9 investigating agencies had, in fact, made findings
10 of fact that members had made false statements but
11 had not pursued Rule 14 violations as a disciplinary
12 matter.

13 We made a number of recommendations,
14 including and foremost among them, that the
15 agency -- the investigating agencies recommend
16 separation when they find a member to have violated
17 Rule 14; that the Police Department pursues
18 separation for those members, and that the Police
19 Board uphold those separations.

20 We recommend that if members with Rule
21 14 histories are to stay with the Department, the
22 Department review their assignments to limit, to the
23 extent possible, the risks associated with the Rule
24 14 histories. We recommend improvements to the

1 accuracy and completeness of the records around
2 which members have violated Rule 14. And, finally,
3 that the investigating agencies improve their
4 processes and policies to ensure the thorough and
5 well-documented analysis of Rule 14 where it might
6 be applicable. Each of the agencies, the Police
7 Department, COPA, and the Police Board responded to
8 our recommendations. We very much appreciate the
9 partnership and its work, and we look forward to
10 continuing to work together. Thank you.

11 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you. Are there
12 comments or questions on the presentation, either
13 first from anybody at the table? Anybody in the
14 public, you can speak during the period that we have
15 open to the public.

16 I just had one question, which I
17 think is incorporation of one of the comments that
18 we made in response to your report. I think all of
19 us who had been working under the Consent Decree,
20 and we've been working a lot more closely since the
21 Consent Decree, feel as if we've made improvements
22 in the way that we function. I'm just curious over
23 what period of time you were looking at these cases
24 and whether it would be useful to break up the

1 findings by the time period that you were examining.
2 Maybe this is just reflecting, Ghian. I think we
3 made a lot of improvements.

4 INSPECTOR GENERAL WITZBURG: I appreciate the
5 question. I think -- I agree. I think that there's
6 reason to be hopeful about recent improvements, and
7 I know that there was some discussion, the Police
8 Board case specifically that is cited as a case
9 study in the report, wherein the Police Board
10 decided upon a discipline less than separation for a
11 member who had violated Rule 14. That was a case
12 decided in May of 2018. I think an inquiry that
13 looks at changes over time is a really important
14 one.

15 Worth noting here that it was in 2008
16 that the Police Department announced its commitment
17 to consistently pursue separation for members who
18 violated Rule 14.

19 And so while I think incremental
20 improvement over time is really important, I also
21 think there is a little bit of a Rubicon in 2008.
22 And I think that in some important ways, everything
23 that has happened since then is in this modern era
24 of the treatment of Rule 14.

1 And to be clear, all of the agencies
2 involved, COPA, and the Police Board, and the Police
3 Department, have clearly stated a policy commitment
4 to separating members who have lied. All of the
5 agencies involved have clearly articulated what I
6 think is the appropriate and commendable view that
7 lying disqualifies people from being a member of the
8 Chicago Police Department.

9 As I say, I appreciate and commend
10 all of the agencies and policy statements. What we
11 are looking at here in these case studies is whether
12 in practice we are meeting those commitments --
13 those policy commitments.

14 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you. I
15 appreciate your answer.

16 Any other comments or questions?

17 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Yes, I'll make a comment.

18 VICE PRESIDENT WOLF: Ghian, can you speak up a
19 little bit?

20 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: I'll try. This better?

21 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you.

22 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: We, the Police Board, COPA,
23 the IG, and CCPSA all have policy-making authority,
24 and so we certainly have the ability to make

1 recommendations.

2 I think one of the things that we
3 recommended in our feedback is that our legislators,
4 our aldermen take a look at this as well. I know
5 that we do have some of the aldermen who look at the
6 CAN-TV sessions. So this is something that, you
7 know, all of the agencies responsible for this have
8 an opportunity to take a look at it and make some
9 recommendations that would be policy-related things.
10 So I'll just kind of leave it at that.

11 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Okay. Thank you,
12 Ghian. Appreciate that.

13 Anyone else? Okay. We have a report
14 from the COPA Chief Administrator.

15 CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR KERSTEN: Thank you. I
16 would like to take just a moment to also maybe
17 comment a little on some of the broader context
18 around the Inspector General's work in this report.

19 First of all, we have tremendous
20 respect for the work of that office. We are made
21 better by the recommendations that are often put
22 forth by specifically the Public Safety Inspector
23 General. And what I do want to make very clear is,
24 and I would encourage people, to read the responses

1 from all of the impacted agencies that received
2 these recommendations, because I always think that
3 the context behind some of what has been recommended
4 or been stated is truly important. And what I want
5 to add to that is there are things that we will need
6 to admit as agencies that we got wrong. There's
7 times where mistakes are made, and there are also
8 times where people can look at the same set of facts
9 or situations or occurrences and have a different
10 opinion.

11 Tonight's Police Board rulings on
12 other discipline cases highlight that. You know,
13 COPA made recommendations with respect to an
14 officer-involved shooting that the Police Board
15 certainly didn't agree with.

16 There are times where in one of the
17 case studies that was pointed out in the Inspector
18 General's report we determined that an officer made
19 a false statement, but what is required in order to
20 prove a Rule 14 is that those statements must be
21 made willfully, and we didn't feel that there was
22 any demonstrated evidence that the officer made
23 those statements willfully, intentionally, on
24 purpose. And that's the difference between an

1 accurate police report, a sloppy police report, and
2 a lie in a police report.

3 And, in fact, the way that we
4 approach that particular case was something that we
5 learned from looking at former cases brought by the
6 Inspector General's Office, particularly in the
7 Laquan McDonald murder, and used other rules in
8 order to get at that kind of conduct when Rule 14
9 couldn't be proven in our estimation.

10 And so, respectfully, I just want to
11 make clear that we take very seriously. As
12 Inspector General Witzburg mentioned, I personally
13 was interviewed during the preparation of this
14 report, and I take very seriously the responsibility
15 that I hold as chief administrator of this agency to
16 make sure that officers are being truthful. But we
17 also are tasked with making sure that we can meet
18 our burden of proof, and that is not always the
19 case. And so certainly we can have a difference of
20 opinion from the Inspector General's Office. We can
21 have debate. We can become better because of those
22 conversations, and also we can admit when we get
23 things wrong, and that occurred as well in some of
24 the findings of the Inspector General's Office.

1 So with that, I want to say, again, I
2 truly appreciate the work of that office. It's not
3 always comfortable being reviewed, but it reminds us
4 accountability is literally in the name of the
5 agency that I lead, and that accountability applies
6 to us as well. It's not just something we project
7 on to the Chicago Police Department or expect of
8 them. We have to live that out also.

9 So I appreciate your work, Inspector
10 General Witzburg, and with that I will just give
11 some brief updates as far as what COPA's statistics
12 looked like next month.

13 So as I typically report out on, we
14 received a number of complaints. 309 complaints and
15 notifications in total were received in the month of
16 May at our agency. Only 55 of those remained under
17 COPA as being our jurisdiction.

18 Again, as I typically report out on,
19 the highest type of complaint we received was
20 improper search or seizure, or your Fourth Amendment
21 allegations. We had two officer-involved shooting
22 notifications that occurred during the month of May.
23 So there's two separate officer-involved shootings
24 that occurred with the CPD members. And then COPA

1 also concluded five officer-involved shooting
2 investigations. A large sustained case rate, it was
3 around 42 percent of the total cases that were
4 closed. And in addition to that, we also had three
5 different video releases, one of them was for our
6 transparency obligations. One of them was
7 particularly significant, because it was a fatal
8 officer-involved shooting. And, you know, we don't
9 talk a lot about sort of COPA's process for working
10 with families when we have to put forth videos like
11 that to the public, but that is something that we
12 take very seriously and make sure that impacted
13 parties, the families who have lost loved ones
14 during these incidents, have the opportunity before
15 their videos are posted online for media or the
16 world to see, have the opportunity to come into our
17 agency, view those in private, ask whatever
18 questions they need to ask about the process, and at
19 least have a moment before their loss and their
20 family's tragedy becomes worldwide information.

21 So we had a particularly challenging
22 video viewing with the last fatality that occurred,
23 and I am tremendously appreciative of my talented
24 and dedicated staff. No one in the investigations

1 unit works with the video releases, because we want
2 to remain separate from that work with the family.
3 But our community engagement, our communications
4 team, it's powerful work that they do and it's
5 really important work they do to walk along families
6 throughout this process. And I want to take a
7 moment to recognize the toll that takes on our staff
8 and how much we appreciate the service that they
9 give to the families and ultimately to our City
10 engaging in that work every month. Thank you.

11 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you.

12 Interim Superintendent Waller, would
13 you give your report, please?

14 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: Thank you.

15 Good evening to all Police Board members and
16 community members present for this month's meeting.

17 As Interim Superintendent, I am
18 honored to speak on behalf of the Chicago Police
19 Department and represent our hard-working officers.

20 Our police officers come from all
21 backgrounds and represent diverse cultures and faith
22 traditions from around the world.

23 As residents themselves, they are
24 dedicated to the people in communities that make our

1 City what it is.

2 That's why I was proud to welcome
3 Chicago's newest officers into the profession at our
4 most recent graduation and promotion ceremony.

5 Just last week, a class of 261
6 recruits took an oath to serve and protect. I know
7 it's an oath they will always treat with the utmost
8 importance and integrity.

9 In their class, 31 percent are women
10 and almost 80 percent identify as persons of color.
11 That's a nod to the efforts of our recruitment and
12 retention team led by Chief Yolanda Talley. Thank
13 you, Yolanda.

14 We are dedicated to attracting good
15 candidates and assuring officer wellness to making
16 this Department stronger.

17 So far this year, the Chicago Police
18 Department has hired a total of 335 new police
19 officers. And that's an uptick. That's great.

20 As the summer season and all the
21 festivities that come with it get underway, this
22 cannot be more important.

23 Officers remain in high visibility,
24 and we will continue to have personnel at fixed

1 posts in and near high-traffic areas. We are
2 prepared and ready to adjust resources and expand
3 patrol where needed. But I want to be clear, that
4 the Chicago Police Department works to enhance
5 public safety, doing everything every season in
6 every neighborhood.

7 Already officers have been on hand
8 for a number of neighborhood festivals and Memorial
9 Day weekend events, including parades and the Sueños
10 Music Festival. We had also great success working
11 with the community partners to ensure support and
12 safety during the Puerto Rican Day festival and
13 parade. We didn't have any major incidents. And
14 these next few days, we are anticipating another
15 busy, yet safe, weekend filled with events.

16 In addition to Pride Fest and
17 Juneteenth activities, many families will get
18 together for Father's Day celebrations, and then
19 we'll then gear up for the Pride Parade at the end
20 of the month and the first of the NASCAR street race
21 heading into the 4th of July.

22 Residents should be able to enjoy all
23 the City has to offer, wherever it's offered.

24 The men and women of this Department

1 will never stop working to engage with families,
2 youth, businesses, as we rebuild trust and grow
3 relationships. And I will close with this. We know
4 that the safety of our City will always impact the
5 future of our City. Thank you.

6 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you for all you
7 do personally and on behalf of you and all of your
8 officers. Thank you for a very good presentation of
9 what you got ahead of you this summer. Thank you.

10 I will now call on members of the
11 public who have signed up in advance to speak. To
12 make sure we have time to hear from each of our
13 speakers, there is a two-minute time limit on
14 comments.

15 So the first speaker is Chris Gentry.
16 Chris Gentry here?

17 Carol Waitse.

18 MS. WAITSE: Good evening. My name is Carol
19 Waitse. I'm a Woodlawn resident. I also serve as
20 the facilitator for Beat 321 in the 3rd District.
21 I'm also president of the Minerva Block Club. I'm
22 also a board member for the network of Woodlawn.

23 I'm here to share with you the 3rd
24 District Grand Crossing Chicago Police Department

1 has had a vacant position for community relations
2 professional that has remained unfilled for several
3 months, if not for a year.

4 As community policing plays a vital
5 role in CPD strategy, I'm here to urgently seek your
6 awareness, involvement, and commitment to resolve
7 this vacancy.

8 I and other 3rd District community
9 policing stakeholders enjoy and maintain an active,
10 accessible, and collaborative partnership with
11 Commander Watson, the Together We Can initiative,
12 our DCOs, as well as other officer liaisons. They
13 are truly a model to be followed; however,
14 stretching our officers beyond their current
15 policing priorities is not a desirable solution, but
16 it's where we are. Uniformed officers do not have
17 the adequate resources or the skill-set to drive
18 community engagement. They simply cannot fulfill
19 the total responsibilities of both roles, nor should
20 they.

21 Therefore, I am here to ask what is
22 the plan to hire community relations professionals
23 for the 3rd District?

24 We demand and deserve the presence of

1 a paid community engagement professional who is
2 qualified and experienced to collaborate with our
3 motivated community.

4 We kindly request your urgent
5 assistance in resolving this vacancy.

6 Your support is necessary for the
7 success of our community policing efforts. Thank
8 you for your time.

9 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you.

10 Superintendent Waller, is this something that you
11 know the answer to, or is there someone to whom we
12 can connect Ms. Waitse so she can find out what the
13 timing is on filling this position?

14 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: I can get back
15 to her on that. I don't know the answer as we speak
16 right now, but I can get that to her.

17 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you. If you want
18 to go through Max Caproni, Executive Director of the
19 Police Board, we can do that. However works best.
20 Thank you very much.

21 Cece Edwards.

22 MS. CECE EDWARDS: Good evening. Good evening,
23 Board members. And, Vice President Wolff, it was a
24 pleasure to meet you. And also congratulations to

1 Interim Superintendent Waller.

2 I'm a retired probation officer, and
3 I used to work at 51st and Wentworth. So I really
4 had memories as soon as I realized who you were.
5 And so I just want to say congratulations to you.
6 And I also want to thank my officers and commanders
7 at the 3rd and the 6th District, Commander Tate and
8 Commander Watson. Their efforts are very much
9 appreciated in our community, and we support them.
10 We also know that our officers are also part of our
11 community. A lot of them do live in the area. So
12 we are like a family, you know. We want to maintain
13 that relationship. But both the districts border
14 75th Street corridor, and I have delivered you some
15 articles -- an article by Block Club Chicago that
16 just recently came out, and it tells you the saga
17 and the perils and the public safety threat that we
18 are under.

19 Last year, Mayor Lori Lightfoot came
20 out, Superintendent Brown. We had a -- it was like
21 50 shots rang out. And so this is something
22 unusual, because I've lived in Park Manor-Chatham
23 all my life, since I was a little girl. So it is a
24 beautiful neighborhood. A lot of historic history.

1 We have Al Capone's house in the area. I know it's
2 getting late. But we do have it in the area. Just
3 sold for like, I think, about 400,000. So we have a
4 lot of properties that have been rehabbed and
5 revitalized, and they're selling in that area in
6 that range. So we want to maintain, you know, the
7 stability and the complexity of our neighborhood.
8 And also we want to talk about, number one, we need
9 to collaborate 3rd and 6th District. We had a big
10 meeting with Commander Tate and Commander Watson
11 just a couple of days ago.

12 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: A few more minutes.

13 MS. CECE EDWARDS: Okay. Our enforcement is a
14 must. We must have that. It's critical.

15 The second phase is the SDSC cameras.
16 They've been on hold for over 12 months. We need
17 them now. We need them right now on 75th and
18 Prairie and 75th and St. Lawrence. That immediate
19 assistance can protect us. The cameras were also
20 allegedly paid for already by former administration.
21 So we need to get that checked out. It's very
22 critical to our safety.

23 We also request more police staffing,
24 3rd and 6th District. We like to do enforcement.

1 Ticketing and towing from Thursday through Sunday,
2 Commander Waller. We have residential permit
3 blocks. People can't even park. It's terrible.
4 It's really horrific.

5 Now, personally I witnessed the
6 shortage of officers at the 6th District. I was
7 there in the third watch with the watch commander.
8 I will be concluding. So I would like to ask that
9 we do get those officers. Maybe some of the new
10 recruits that you have just witnessed being sworn in
11 can be assigned or we can get probation officers.
12 We can also get maybe Cook County Sheriff. We've
13 had them come into the area and help us.

14 So we wanted to know from the NASCAR
15 event how you're going to shore up those forces and
16 not take away Tier 1, Tier 2 district manpower.
17 That's something we'd like to know, and how you're
18 going to to integrate it with what we already have
19 today. And thank you. I'm finally done. Thank you
20 so much.

21 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: That's going
22 to be a combination of, unfortunately, cancelling
23 some day days off, and some officers have already
24 signed up to have their days off canceled, so that's

1 a good thing. So they are volunteering. I was
2 commander of the 6th District. And I know the
3 problems along 75th Street, and I worked then a lot
4 of with Glenn Evans who was commander at that time.
5 So we get a lot of good things along 75th Street
6 corridor. And I know Watson and Tate. I want to do
7 some of the same things if they haven't already.

8 The 6th District probably has one of
9 the highest amounts of officers in the City. And
10 one thing they have a lot pilot programs there, so
11 we send them off. In fact, my daughter is an
12 officer in the 6th District. She just became a
13 full-fledged policeman. So we are sending officers
14 to the 6th District. And probably need to take a
15 look at what the amount of officers and resources we
16 have in the 3rd District. But those are two
17 districts, because they border each other, they do
18 have to work together, and that 75th Street corridor
19 is a concern. It always has been. But I'll talk to
20 those two commanders after this meeting.

21 MS. CECE EDWARDS: And maybe we can find out
22 about our cameras. That's just so critical and can
23 help and can help both the districts, too, deal with
24 serious crime. Thank you so much.

1 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you. Marquetta
2 Blake. Ms. Blake.

3 Ameena Matthews.

4 Jennifer Edwards. She made it.

5 MS. JENNIFER EDWARDS: Good evening, everyone.
6 We have been passionately speaking for our officers
7 in our districts, and I'm going to follow up with
8 what Ms. Edwards -- no relation, but it would be
9 nice. That said, that we commend Commander Tate and
10 Commander Watson, and Commander Milmine in the 4th
11 District, because all those areas touch. They're
12 doing the best that they can. We appreciate them,
13 and we want to mention them as often as we can. We
14 try to go to as many CPD meetings. We just went to
15 COPA. We try to know everybody and know what's
16 going on.

17 But because of the Consent Decree and
18 because of involvement with the community, we find
19 that that's very important. So that's why we do
20 this. We can sit at home because we're all retired,
21 okay, but we don't.

22 I want to mention about what Cece is
23 saying, too, about our officers being sent to the
24 NASCAR and wherever else. Hopefully -- at one time,

1 we had the Cook County Sheriffs come out to our
2 areas. If you can encourage them to come again and
3 not take our officers, it would be very good.

4 I spoke to an officer the other day
5 that said he had two days off, and he was so tired.
6 You know, we try to do a personal thing with them,
7 see how they're doing, how their families are, their
8 kids. We know their names. And when I hear that, I
9 feel a little bit upset about it.

10 A couple of days ago, a car -- and I
11 think it was because of the cars that were on 75th
12 Street. A police car stopped a car. You know,
13 there are a lot of running lights, running stop
14 signs and whatever. So it was right in front of my
15 house. I was afraid for the people in the car, and
16 I was afraid for the officers. I watched how they
17 approached, and I said, What am I going to do if
18 these officers get shot? So if they're tired, if
19 they're worn out. We need some more help. Okay.

20 So I wanted to mention that to you,
21 Superintendent Waller. You know, we begging again.
22 Cook County Sheriff, State Police, whatever. Thank
23 you so much.

24 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you very much.

1 Matt Brandon.

2 MR. BRANDON: Good evening, President Foreman,
3 Vice President Wolff, members of the Board. One of
4 my favorite chiefs, Talley, Dana, and
5 Superintendent. I was going to talk about something
6 else until I heard about Rule 14, and it kind of
7 stuck in my craw a little bit.

8 Police officers have a hard job and,
9 of course, they should not lie. They should never
10 lie. I think that when things happen out here on
11 the street that are sometimes in a matter of
12 seconds, you know, people come to certain
13 conclusions in their minds about how those things
14 occurred, and how they relay them to you may seem
15 like a lie to you, but it may be all the truth to
16 him. So you have to be careful in how you think
17 about our officers out here when you think that they
18 lie. I mean let's think about it. We have a
19 president who lies, a senator who lies, congressmen
20 who lie, aldermen who lie. So the only difference
21 in this instance is that we want to rain havoc down
22 on the heads of police officers who lie.

23 Police officers should not lie. I
24 will say that again, they should not lie. But I

1 just ask that those of you who sit in judgment of
2 police officers take the time -- take the time to
3 decipher what it is that they say and compare it to
4 what it is that they have encountered and what
5 they've had to do. Thank you. Kind of bugged me
6 for a minute.

7 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: You have about 30
8 seconds left.

9 MR. BRANDON: I just said hello. Didn't I?
10 Real quick. We do want to tell you that we'd like
11 to make a suggestion to the Superintendent's office
12 and maybe it would go through Glen Brooks. I'm not
13 sure. But we want the people who are out here on
14 the street with the Police Department -- and believe
15 me, I come out here every day to be able to have
16 access to the watch commanders. So I'm putting
17 together a proposal that I want to submit to your
18 office, Superintendent, because we don't always
19 trust OEMC to get the message through, and we depend
20 on the Police Department.

21 Thank you, Vice President, for the
22 extra time.

23 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you for being
24 respectful of the time. Do you want to respond to

1 that, Superintendent?

2 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: Yeah. I
3 appreciate that, Matt. I know you've been in some
4 tough places. Everybody doesn't handle stress well,
5 and we all have different levels. As you said, no
6 policeman should lie. And there are times when
7 stress kind of maybe might muddy it up a little bit.
8 But no policeman should lie. And one thing that a
9 former Superintendent said that -- I forget the
10 quote, but it's the lie is worse than the truth. So
11 telling the truth and face the consequences of that.

12 But I just want to say that how much
13 I appreciate you all, that dedication and the
14 concerns that you guys show each and every -- even
15 from before when I was doing the Police Board when I
16 was a chief many times, I just want to tell you how
17 much I appreciate you guys, and your voices will be
18 heard and access to the watch commander, we will
19 figure out a way to get things done.

20 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Vice President Wolff, since
21 you guys can't hear me very well, I was going to ask
22 if somebody can go back over what the chief was
23 saying about willful, to kind of go over this issue
24 of willful intent around the Rule 14. I think that

1 that's something we discuss a lot, and it can be
2 helpful to explain that kind of some of the
3 deliberations that we have to make around that issue
4 of willful.

5 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: I think President
6 Foreman is asking somebody to speak to this question
7 of willful intent around lying. I don't know,
8 Inspector General, would like to speak to that?

9 INSPECTOR GENERAL WITZBURG: I sure will. The
10 collective bargaining agreements, which those are
11 the union contracts between members of the Police
12 Department and the City, require, as Chief Kersten
13 mentioned, in order for a member of the Police
14 Department to have violated Rule 14, they must have
15 made a statement which is false, willful, and
16 material. That it must matter, be relevant to a
17 fact under investigation, and it must be made
18 willfully. Those are the three elements of a Rule
19 14 violation. And, in fact, it is the fact that
20 there are those separate elements that really
21 underscores the importance of having well-documented
22 analyses of whether Rule 14 applies and has been
23 violated in a disciplinary case where it may be at
24 issue.

1 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: President Foreman, is
2 that sufficient for you?

3 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Yes. Thank you.

4 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Okay.

5 MS. JENNIFER EDWARDS: I just want to know,
6 does that mean case-by-case basis?

7 INSPECTOR GENERAL WITZBURG: Yes.

8 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: So the Police Board,
9 for example, would look at all of those three
10 elements when we are taking on a case and determine
11 whether this case demonstrates the three elements
12 were present.

13 MS. EDWARDS: Thank you.

14 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you. Robert
15 More. Mr. More.

16 I don't see Mr. More here. Thank
17 you. All members of the public who signed up to
18 speak have been called, and we thank them all for
19 participating.

20 Is there a motion to adjourn?

21 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: So moved. Mareilé
22 Cusack.

23 BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Second.

24 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: All in favor say aye.

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(CHORUS OF AYES.)

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Any opposed?


(NO RESPONSE.)

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Thank you all for coming. Have a safe and wonderful next month, and we'll see you here with our president back in the chair.

(WHEREUPON, the proceedings were adjourned at 8:18 p.m.)

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS:
2 COUNTY OF C O O K)
3

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

12
13 
14

15 MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, CSR
16 License No. 084.002740
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