

POLICE BOARD
CITY OF CHICAGO
PUBLIC MEETING

3510 South Michigan Avenue

Chicago, Illinois

August 17, 2023

7:30 p.m.

1 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Deputy Inspector General for
2 Public Safety, Tobara Richardson.

3 DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL RICHARDSON: Here.

4 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Chief of Chicago Police
5 Department's Bureau of Internal Affairs, Yolanda Talley.

6 CHIEF OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS TALLEY: Here.

7 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Counsel to the
8 Superintendent, Dana O'Malley.

9 MS. O'MALLEY: Here.

10 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And Police Board Executive
11 Director, Max Caproni.

12 Before we proceed to the items on the meeting
13 agenda, we would like to offer our congratulations and best
14 wishes to Chief Larry Snelling on his appointment to become
15 the next Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department.

16 I got a chance to meet, ah, Chief Snelling, ah,
17 years ago when the Police Board went through the training
18 academy and he was the person who, ah, kind of led our
19 training. And, ah, I got an opportunity to kind of
20 understand how difficult, you know, some of the decisions
21 that are, that are made and he reminds me of that on a
22 regular basis. So I'm looking forward to working with, ah,
23 with you, Chief Snelling.

24 And not sure of the timing of when this will
25 happen, there's still City Council, um, but in the event

1 that this is your last meeting, Superintendent Waller,
2 again, thank you very much for leading the helm during this
3 critical period, ah, this summer. And I know you stepped
4 up to, to do this, came out of retirement to do this, and
5 so we really are appreciative of your efforts.

6 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: Thank you.

7 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: (Inaudible).

8 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Yeah, it's not -- yeah, it's
9 not. We'll have time at the end of this meeting for public
10 comments.

11 We will begin with the three agenda items related
12 to the arbitration of police discipline. First, I would
13 like to give a statement on the arbitrator's opinion.

14 As many of you are aware, an arbitrator recently
15 issued an opinion that allows Chicago police officers to
16 choose to have the most serious police disciplinary cases
17 heard by an arbitrator rather than by the Chicago Police
18 Board.

19 The arbitrator decision, if allowed to take
20 place, will be a serious setback for police accountability
21 in Chicago. This decision will drive these cases behind
22 closed doors at a time when it has never been more
23 important to increase the public's confidence in the
24 process for handling allegations of police misconduct and
25 to build greater trust between the police and the

1 communities that they serve.

2 For more than 60 years, since 1961, the Police
3 Board has had the sole responsibility for deciding cases in
4 which the superintendent of police recommends that a sworn
5 officer be discharged from the Chicago Police Department.

6 These cases range from charges of unjustified
7 police-involved shootings to other significant allegations
8 of misconduct, such as excessive force, illegal searches,
9 and sexual misconduct.

10 The public can stay informed throughout the
11 Police Board's process for considering these cases because
12 the Board places a high value on transparency and makes a
13 great deal of information available to the public. The
14 arbitration process, on the other hand, takes place behind
15 closed doors.

16 Charges brought against officers are available on
17 the Board's website. They are not made available when it's
18 arbitration. All of the Board's disciplinary hearings are
19 open to the public. Arbitration hearings are closed to the
20 public.

21 The Board takes final action on all cases in this
22 setting, in our public monthly meeting, where each Board
23 Member's vote is announced and recorded. Arbitrator's make
24 their decisions in private.

25 The Board posts on its website its written

1 decisions, which include detailed explanations of the
2 reasons for the Board's findings. Arbitrator's decisions
3 are not posted on the city's website.

4 In addition, the Board publishes monthly,
5 quarterly, and annual reports of punitive data on its
6 decisions, which enables the public to evaluate the Board's
7 work overall.

8 The members of the Police Board are a diverse
9 group of Chicagoans and we are committed to performing our
10 duties with independence, integrity, and fairness to all
11 involved. We all live in the city and come to this Board
12 from different backgrounds and professions. I believe we
13 represent the people of Chicago very well. Arbitrators, on
14 the other hand, do not have to live in the city and are a
15 much less a diverse group.

16 Police officers currently have the option of
17 requesting that either an arbitrator or a police board
18 review disciplinary suspensions of 31 days to 365 days.
19 Only one such request has been filed with the Police Board
20 since 2014.

21 Police accountability, and ultimately the people
22 of Chicago, will suffer if the most serious police
23 disciplinary cases are removed from the Police Board's
24 jurisdiction, which is what will happen if this decision is
25 allowed to stand.

1 The arbitrator's decisions will be considered by
2 the City Council. Members of the Board and I stand ready
3 to appear and provide council members with more information
4 on the Police Board and on the impact that we believe an
5 arbitrator's decision will have.

6 Next, Deputy Inspector General for Public Safety,
7 Tobara Richardson, will provide an overview of the
8 Inspector General's report and review of the Disciplinary
9 Grievance Procedure for Chicago Police Department members.

10 DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL RICHARDSON: Is everyone
11 able to hear me clearly?

12 FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes.

13 DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL RICHARDSON: Okay. In
14 2021, the Office of Inspector General, or the OIG,
15 specifically the Public Safety section, published a report
16 where we conducted a review of the Chicago Police
17 Department's Disciplinary Grievance Procedure.

18 A significant percentage of CPD sustained
19 discipline cases passed through the grievance procedure
20 system. Accordingly, it is imperative that the procedure
21 and its outcomes are transparent and accountable to CPD
22 members, as well as the public.

23 Their failures of transparency are (inaudible) in
24 accountability, threaten public trust and member's
25 confidence in the fair operation of the disciplinary system

1 as a whole.

2 So if I talk about the report in its fullness it
3 would take me well over the time that we have here. So I'm
4 going to give you all a general overview and I would
5 recommend that you go to the OIG's website, OIGChicago.org,
6 to look at the report, the full report.

7 So starting off, the report describes the
8 disciplinary grievance procedures for non-exempt CPD
9 members, which are CPD officers, sergeants, lieutenants,
10 and captains.

11 If an allegation against a CPD member is
12 sustained then the investigatory agency will recommend
13 discipline for the accused member. There is a process with
14 between there but if the Chicago Police Department goes on
15 to issue discipline after this review process, then the
16 member facing discipline may accept the discipline or
17 grieve the discipline. And when I say grieve the
18 discipline, I simply mean that they may dispute the
19 discipline.

20 Depending on the rank of the officer and the
21 recommended discipline, officers may proceed to the binding
22 summary opinion process, which is conducted by arbitrators,
23 arbitration or before the Police Board. And again, it
24 varies depending on the rank of the officer or the
25 recommended discipline.

1 If you look at the report, we have a handy chart
2 in the report where you can look at the rank of the
3 officer, what the recommended discipline was, and it will
4 tell you the various actions that that CPD member may have.

5 With this inquiry, we set out to determine the
6 extent to which discipline issued to sworn CPD members
7 changed as a result of the grievance process and we also
8 identified justifications offered by arbitrators for why
9 they made their decisions to reduce, eliminate, or maintain
10 discipline for the grievance.

11 This review excluded considerations of the
12 automatic, non-waivable reviews by the Police Board for
13 which the MCC provides, where the recommended discipline is
14 more than 365 days or where separation is recommended. In
15 those instances, currently that automatically goes before
16 the Police Board and can't be waived.

17 OIG reviewed the results of disciplinary
18 grievances resolved within a three-year period. During
19 that timeframe, we looked at 370 disciplinary grievances,
20 which were resolved or settled during that timeframe.

21 This accounted for approximately 52 percent of
22 all cases eligible for grievance. Because not all
23 sustained disciplinary cases are eligible for grievance,
24 that number is actually 39 percent out of the total number
25 of sustained disciplinary cases. So 52 percent of all

1 cases where grievances were possible and 39 percent where
2 discipline was sustained.

3 And as a result we reached a number of findings.
4 The first finding was that more than half of all eligible
5 cases were grieved. Of those grieved, 78 percent resulted
6 in discipline that was either reduced or eliminated. The
7 reduction of issued discipline is the most frequent outcome
8 for all grievance pathways except arbitration. For
9 arbitrations, the most frequent outcome is a complete
10 elimination of the discipline.

11 Regarding factors identified by arbitrators, we
12 looked at the binding summary opinions decided by
13 arbitrators. When discipline was reduced the most common
14 factors were the officer history, (inaudible), and no
15 deterring effect of penalty, which reflects arbitrator's
16 assessment of the issued discipline as unduly harsh and
17 warranting reduction.

18 When discipline was eliminated, the factors --
19 the most frequently cited factor, was insufficient evidence
20 of investigation. The other commonly cited factors in
21 cases where discipline was eliminated suggest that
22 arbitrators believed that the issued discipline was
23 unwarranted.

24 Last, when arbitrators maintained issued
25 discipline, arbitrators most commonly cited factors that

1 supported the basis for discipline, such as sufficient
2 evidence investigation and (inaudible) and rejected
3 arguments for reducing discipline -- for reducing
4 discipline, citing factors such as union grievance
5 arguments, unreasonable, and seriousness of offense
6 aggravated.

7 Our second finding is that the disciplinary
8 grievance procedure lacks transparency. When a sworn
9 member grieves the issued discipline, there is typically no
10 -- typically no public information about any of the facts
11 of the case.

12 Arbitration awards are not published by the city
13 as a matter of course. The Illinois Freedom of Information
14 Act, or FOIA, makes the final outcome of arbitrations in
15 which discipline imposed, accessible to the public. But
16 Illinois FOIA law permits withholding all records where no
17 discipline is imposed.

18 Even where discipline is imposed, records other
19 than the final outcome of arbitrations could be still
20 withheld. So for example, facts not readily available to
21 the public include how the final discipline changed from
22 the issued discipline and the arbitrator's rationale for
23 any changes from the issued discipline.

24 The Police Board is the exception to the lack of
25 transparency because the Police Board publishes the

1 outcomes of its cases on its website, as you just heard.

2 I'm not going to spend a lot of time talking
3 about settlements but currently, neither CPD nor the
4 Department of Law publicly report grievances that reach a
5 settlement between the parties.

6 The OIG recommended that CPD and DOL make
7 information about disciplinary grievances procedure cases
8 and the outcomes of binding summary opinions, arbitrations,
9 and settlements publicly available in a manner that
10 protects privacy. This is important given that
11 arbitrations have precedential value and can hold weight in
12 future cases.

13 So essentially, what I'm saying is when
14 arbitrators make decisions, they also look at their prior
15 decisions and that's where the weight or the importance of
16 those decisions come into play. However, those decisions
17 and the rationale for those decisions aren't publicly
18 available.

19 Our report includes a third finding regarding the
20 settlement process, which finding a lack of transparency
21 and consistency. The settlement process includes
22 reductions in discipline and removal of rule violations
23 from member's records.

24 Again, I'm not going to spend a lot of time on
25 the settlement process. However, I will say as far as

1 statistics are concerned that out of the cases we looked
2 at, 92 percent of the cases resolved by settlement resulted
3 in reduced discipline. And so, it was a total of 79 cases
4 that were resolved through settlement. Again, 92 percent
5 resulted in reduced discipline. Two out of the 97 cases --
6 79 cases resulted in discipline being eliminated. And four
7 out of the 79 settlement cases resulted in the discipline
8 being maintained.

9 The last and fourth finding is that the
10 disciplinary grievance outcomes are shaped by a very
11 limited number of decisionmakers. The requirement that the
12 union and the Department of Law on behalf of CPD mutually
13 agreed to an arbitrator may explain the high reoccurrence
14 of arbitrators selected to resolve binding summary opinions
15 in arbitrations.

16 This ultimately has lead to three individuals who
17 are neither members of the department or nor any
18 investigating agency having the final say in an
19 overwhelming majority of cases and that percentage was
20 about 90 percent of the cases that we looked at.

21 And again, you can look at the report; we lay out
22 the information in more detail. Additionally, you'll be
23 able to see charts with a breakdown of those numbers. And
24 we refer to the arbitrators in the report as Arbitrators A,
25 B and C.

1 Moreover, judicial review of arbitrator's
2 decisions is extremely limited. Accordingly, these three
3 individual arbitrators have a great deal of power
4 concerning discipline served by CPD members and their
5 decisions are highly unlikely to be disturbed on subsequent
6 review.

7 If the Circuit Court of Cook County looks at one
8 of the arbitrator's decisions, they give great deference to
9 the arbitrators and so that's why it's highly unlikely that
10 even if a decision made by an arbitrator goes before the
11 Circuit Court of Cook County that any change will happen.

12 As a result, OIG recommended that the Department
13 of Law and CPD work with the unions representing CPD's
14 sworn members to expand the pool of eligible arbitrators
15 and review why they're having so few arbitrators
16 responsible for a large majority of grievance resolutions
17 is consistent with a fair disciplinary process.

18 In conclusion, a transparent disciplinary process
19 is foundational to the operation of the police
20 accountability system. Such transparency in the
21 disciplinary process is an entitlement of both CPD members
22 and the public. Thank you.

23 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. This evening,
24 we're pleased to have with us Walter Katz, who will speak
25 on police discipline, arbitration, and transparency. Mr.

1 Katz is currently Vice President of Criminal Justice at
2 Arnold Ventures. He has an extensive background in police
3 accountability and oversight and has served as Deputy Chief
4 of Staff for Public Safety in the administration of Mayor
5 Rahm Emanuel. Walter?

6 MR. KATZ: Yeah, good evening, everybody. And --

7 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Hold on one second, Walter.

8 MR. KATZ: Sure.

9 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: No, we can't hear you. Let's
10 see, let's see. Can you say something now and let's see?

11 MR. KATZ: How's that?

12 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: No, all right. Walter,
13 we're, we're going to come back to you.

14 MR. KATZ: Okay.

15 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: If you can just hold tight
16 for a minute, we'll come back to you. In the meantime,
17 while we're waiting on this, is there a motion to approve
18 the drafts of the minutes of the Board's public and closed
19 meetings held on July 20th?

20 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: So moved. Paula Wolff.

21 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Second. Mareile Cusack.

22 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor, please say aye
23 and raise your hand.

24 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

25 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any opposed?

1 (NO RESPONSE.)

2 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: The motion passes.

3 Our next regular public meeting will be held
4 Thursday, September 21st, at 7:30 p.m. This meeting will
5 be here -- held in person here at Chicago Public Safety
6 Headquarters.

7 The Board meets in executive session to consider
8 various matters. Those discussions are closed to the
9 public as authorized by sections 2(c)(1), (4), (11), and
10 (21) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

11 Information on matters discussed in the executive
12 sessions is included in the minutes of the meetings posted
13 on our website.

14 Is there a motion to close future executive
15 sessions as authorized by these sections of the Open
16 Meetings Act?

17 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: So moved. Paula Wolff.

18 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Second. Mareile Cusack.

19 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor?

20 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

21 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any opposed?

22 (NO RESPONSE.)

23 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: The motion passes.

24 The Police Board hears cases when the
25 Superintendent -- Walter, we are -- we are waiting for the

1 technical difficulties; we haven't forgotten about you.

2 The Police Board hears cases when the
3 Superintendent files charges recommending that an officer
4 be discharged from the Chicago Police Department for
5 violating CPD rules.

6 The Board is authorized by the Open Meetings Act,
7 as discussed in the closed meeting one police disciplinary
8 case. We will now take final action in this case.

9 Regarding case number 21PB2991, the
10 Superintendent filed charges against Police Officers
11 Melvina Bogard and Bernard Butler, recommending that they
12 be discharged from the Chicago Police Department for rule
13 violations stemming from their stop at -- their stop and
14 Bogard shooting of a person in the CTA subway station on
15 February 28th, 2020. Bogard resigned from the CPD prior to
16 the hearing on the charges.

17 First, is there a motion to grant the
18 Superintendent's motion to withdraw the charges against
19 Bogard because the Board no longer has jurisdiction due to
20 her resignation from CPD?

21 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Paula Wolff. So moved.

22 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Mareile Cusack. Second.

23 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor?

24 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

25 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Oh, wait, wait, wait. I'm

1 sorry, I'm sorry. I can't do it that way. I will now call
2 on members of the Board for their votes. Wolff.

3 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Aye.

4 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Block.

5 BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Aye.

6 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Carr-Favors.

7 BOARD MEMBER CARR-FAVORS: Aye.

8 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Cusack.

9 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Aye.

10 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Doorley.

11 BOARD MEMBER DOORLEY: Aye.

12 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Montes.

13 BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.

14 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Eaddy, if you can raise your
15 hand cause I'm not sure that we can see you. Eaddy.

16 BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Aye.

17 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Okay. Give me a thumb's up.

18 Okay, all right. Safakas. I don't -- okay, we've got a --
19 we've got a hand up. Okay, great. And I vote in favor of
20 the motion.

21 Voting in favor, Board Members Wolff, Block,
22 Carr-Favors, Cusack, Doorley, Eaddy, Montes, Safakas and
23 myself. The motion passes by a vote of 9 to 0.

24 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Next, is there a motion to
25 find Police Officer Bernard Butler guilty of certain

1 charges stemming from this incident and to suspend him
2 without pay for one year?

3 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: So moved, Paula Wolff.

4 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Second. Mareile Cusack.

5 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: I will now call on members of
6 the Board for their votes. Wolff.

7 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Aye.

8 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Block.

9 BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: I oppose the motion.

10 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Carr-Favors.

11 BOARD MEMBER CARR-FAVORS: Aye.

12 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Cusack.

13 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Aye.

14 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Doorley.

15 BOARD MEMBER DOORLEY: I oppose the motion.

16 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Montes.

17 BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.

18 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Eaddy.

19 BOARD MEMBER EADDY: I oppose the motion.

20 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thumbs up?

21 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: No, he opposes the motion.

22 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Oh, no, no, no. Okay, I'm
23 sorry. Eaddy, you oppose the motion. Is that --

24 BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Yes, I did.

25 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: -- accurate? You opposed the

1 motion.

2 BOARD MEMBER EADDY: I opposed the motion.

3 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And Safakas.

4 BOARD MEMBER SAFAKAS: I oppose the motion.

5 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Safakas, do you oppose the
6 motion? If you can give me a hand up?

7 BOARD MEMBER SAFAKAS: (Inaudible).

8 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Okay. Safakas opposes the
9 motion. And I vote in favor of the motion.

10 Voting in favor are Board Members Wolff, Carr-
11 Favors, Cusack, Montes, and myself. Board Members Block,
12 Doorley, Eaddy, and Safakas oppose the motion. The motion
13 passes by a vote of 5 to 4.

14 Is there a motion to adopt a written findings and
15 decision and dissent that have been reviewed by all Board
16 Members who participated in the case?

17 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: So moved. Paula Wolff.

18 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Second. Mareile Cusack.

19 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor?

20 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

21 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any opposed?

22 (NO RESPONSE.)

23 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: The motion passes.

24 The written decision in this case will be entered
25 as of today's date, sent to the parties, and posted on the

1 Board's website.

2 There's also one announcement of a rule in a
3 disagreement case this evening. Board Member Block will be
4 making this announcement.

5 BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: I was randomly selected from
6 the Police Board's membership to consider one matter on
7 which the Chief Administrator of the Civilian Office of
8 Police Accountability and the Superintendent of Police did
9 not agree regarding the discipline of a lieutenant.

10 In request for review number 23-04, the Chief
11 Administrator recommended that Lieutenant Michael Keeney be
12 discharged from them Chicago Police Department for
13 discharging his firearm at a person in violation of CPD's
14 general orders.

15 The Superintendent proposed that the allegation
16 be classified as unfounded and that no discipline be
17 imposed on Lieutenant Keeney.

18 After considering the matter, it is my opinion
19 that the Superintendent did not meet the burden of
20 overcoming the Chief Administrator's recommendation for
21 discipline.

22 My decision that the Superintendent did not meet
23 his burden should not be interpreted as an indication that
24 the Chief Administrator's recommendation is correct or
25 justified by the available evidence. Rather, it is merely

1 my determination that because of the heightened burden
2 imposed on the Superintendent at this phase of the case, a
3 hearing is necessary.

4 A copy of the written opinion will be posted on
5 the Board's website.

6 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you.

7 When a person who applies to become a Chicago
8 police officer is removed from the eligibility list due to
9 results of a background examination, that person has the
10 right to appeal to the Police Board.

11 The Board, as authorized by the Open Meetings Act
12 as discussed in the closed meeting, has several appeals.
13 We will now take final action in these appeals.

14 Is there a motion to affirm the decision to
15 disqualify the applicant for the following appeals: 23 AA
16 17 through 20?

17 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Paula --

18 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And --

19 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Oh, I'm so sorry.

20 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And reverse -- oh, no, no,
21 no, that's, that's good enough.

22 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Okay. Paula Wolff. So
23 moved.

24 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Mareile Cusack. Second.

25 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: I now call on members of the

1 Board for their votes. Wolff.

2 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Aye.

3 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Block.

4 BOARD MEMBER BLOCK: Aye.

5 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Carr-Favors.

6 BOARD MEMBER CARR-FAVORS: Aye.

7 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Cusack.

8 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Aye.

9 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Doorley.

10 BOARD MEMBER DOORLEY: Aye.

11 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Montes.

12 BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.

13 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Eaddy, if you can give us the
14 thumbs up? Safakas. Thumbs up? All right. And I vote in
15 favor of the motion. Voting in favor are Board Members
16 Wolff, Block, Carr-Favors, Cusack, Doorley, Eaddy, Montes,
17 Safakas, and myself. The motion passes. The written
18 decisions of these appeals will be entered as of today's
19 date, sent to the parties, and posted on the Board's
20 website.

21 Walter, let's see if you can unmute; let's see if
22 we can hear you now. They're doing some technical
23 adjustments.

24 MR. KATZ: Sure. Can you hear me now?

25 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: No, we still can't hear you

1 so we're going to -- we're going to continue.

2 Next up, I have the Superintendent's report.

3 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: I think I have --

4 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Hold on, hold on one second,
5 (inaudible).

6 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: I think I have --

7 I have --

8 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: No, it's not working.

9 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: No, it's not
10 working. Okay. All right, thank you.

11 All right, good evening to all Police Board
12 members and community members present for this month's
13 meeting.

14 On Sunday, Mayor Brandon Johnson named Chief
15 Larry Snelling, who heads our Bureau of Counterterrorism,
16 as the next Superintendent to lead the Chicago Police
17 Department.

18 Though we are a few weeks out from his
19 confirmation, I would be remiss if I didn't take this
20 opportunity to congratulate him. I know firsthand what an
21 incredible honor and opportunity it is to be asked to lead
22 the Chicago Police Department, especially during this time.

23 And that's all I have.

24 FEMALE SPEAKER: (Inaudible).

25 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: This one works.

1 This one works.

2 FEMALE SPEAKER: Yeah, that one's great.

3 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: That one works?

4 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: Yeah.

5 I know firsthand what an incredible honor and
6 opportunity it is to be asked to lead the Chicago Police
7 Department, especially during these times. And I've been
8 fortunate, not only to witness Chief Snelling's impressive
9 career, but also to have worked alongside him.

10 When I first assumed the role of Interim
11 Superintendent, I said I was committed to serving this city
12 with integrity, professionalism, and respect. That's never
13 changed.

14 But I want to tell all of you that Chief Snelling
15 demonstrates the same ideas every day and works on behalf
16 of every community in Chicago. I know he will always work
17 to make this department stronger and our city safer.

18 And the same goes for First Deputy Superintendent
19 Bill Bradley, who recently announced his plans to retire in
20 September. I've known Bill nearly my entire career and
21 remain proud to call him a fellow officer. But more than
22 that, he's my friend. I join the Department in wishing him
23 well in this next chapter.

24 Since our last meeting, our city played backdrop
25 to the National Homeland Security Conference -- okay, sorry

1 -- for the National Security Conference. 2023 marked the
2 first year in this Conference's 18-year history that was
3 held in Chicago and it was a resounding success.

4 We hosted law enforcement, security, special
5 intelligence, and emergency management agencies from across
6 the United States. We learned from one another and shared
7 best practices and innovations in public safety. That
8 proved beneficial as our officers prepared to keep
9 residents and visitors safe during large, high-profile
10 events in the city.

11 Many officers gave up one or two of their days
12 off and worked consecutive weekends to cover Lollapalooza
13 at the beginning of the month and the annual Bud Billiken
14 Parade and picnic last weekend. I'm grateful, in fact I'm
15 more than grateful, for their skill and dedication.

16 This month, our Department also helped close out
17 ceremonies for our public service internship program and
18 our Youth District Advisory Council Summer Leadership
19 Institute, as those programs came to an end.

20 I got the chance to meet with these groups of
21 young people during the summer and discuss what policing
22 and safety means to them. They (inaudible) inner-office
23 and community-based projects connected with sworn-in
24 civilian department members and learn about day-to-day
25 operations across the PD.

1 Engaging with youth and young adults and
2 fostering relationships is one of the most vital components
3 of making and keeping neighborhoods safe. That's why we'll
4 join community members and local leaders tomorrow to cut
5 the ribbon on the new Rusu-McCartin Boys & Girls Club on
6 the west side. It's next door to the new Public Safety
7 Training Center, to not only connect youth and department
8 members, but also expose those young people to careers in
9 public service and public safety.

10 Our officers are already involved in a wide array
11 of new programming and outreach across our city. Districts
12 in this club will not only bring more opportunities and
13 resources to the communities we serve, the men and women of
14 the Chicago Police Department always work to engage with
15 families, youth, and businesses to build trust and grow
16 relationships.

17 When it comes to protecting our communities, we
18 know collaboration and communication go hand in hand.

19 Thank you.

20 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All right. Let's see. Let's
21 try with Walter. Walter, can you come on off of mute?

22 MR. KATZ: Sure, let's try this again. Yeah.

23 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All right, all right, it's
24 working.

25 MR. KATZ: Hey, it worked.

1 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Right. CAN-TV, can you hear?
2 Okay. All right, Walter.

3 MR. KATZ: Thank you, Chairman. I appreciate the
4 invitation to appear before the Police Board this evening.

5 Now, I'm really open to any questions you may
6 have but I just want to, you know, provide this caveat that
7 I am here speaking on my behalf and not any other
8 particular entity.

9 But I'm happy to talk this evening a little bit
10 about what we've learned, you know, nationally about
11 discipline arbitration and especially the issues of
12 transparency because the city of Chicago is not the only
13 city that has grappled with this very issue of the
14 interplay between state law between arbitration rules,
15 which to a lot of lay people may seem arcane, as well as a
16 collective bargaining agreement and even the interplay with
17 the Consent Decree.

18 And there are other cities which have that exact
19 same constellation of issues trying to resolve, which
20 unfortunately, tend to fall on the side of a lack of
21 transparency.

22 I also want to say that I make no opinion
23 whatsoever about interim award by arbitrator where the
24 award decided that Section 8 of the IL PLRA dictates that
25 interest arbitration is an option for any final disputes

1 with a represented or covered employee.

2 But really, the implications of that have come up
3 in two different ways. The first being, my understanding,
4 that since then the FLP has moved to transfer all pending
5 cases before the Police Board to request arbitration. And
6 the second, of course, is the issue which was raised just
7 recently in the subsequent interim award, which found that
8 the city's proposal that the arbitration be public is not
9 consistent either with precedent or with the way that
10 arbitration is managed.

11 And this is an issue that I have -- I do have
12 experience with. In 2019, the city of Seattle, which had
13 been in Consent Decree for a number of years, was close to
14 completing or getting into compliance. There's one
15 significant outstanding issue and that was the question of
16 the grievance of discipline decisions.

17 At that point, the city of Seattle passed an
18 ordinance, which would have modified the arbitration
19 process and made it more transparent. And also, in fact,
20 created essentially the equivalent of this Board in front
21 of us this evening with a form of a public board, which
22 would hear final discipline cases, which came from the
23 Office of Police Accountability, OPA, in Seattle.

24 That turned into a controversy, which was opposed
25 by the officers' union in Seattle. And the consulting

1 firm, 21st Century Police Solutions, or 21CP, was asked to
2 review the discipline arbitration process or the discipline
3 process in general in the city of Seattle.

4 So I was part of that team that reviewed not only
5 the state law in the state of Washington, their collective
6 bargaining agreement, the Consent Decree, as well as
7 arbitration rules.

8 We also conducted a survey of large police
9 departments across the country. We sent a 14-question
10 survey to each of the 70 members of the Major Chiefs
11 Association -- Major Cities Chiefs Association of America,
12 MCCA. Of those 70, 39 responded and from that we could
13 learn what were different processes that existed for a
14 covered employee to be able to grieve a discipline
15 decision.

16 And they ranged from most typically on the west
17 coast the civil service division or an arbitration process
18 or a choice. There was one example of a civilian oversight
19 board which had that authority, specifically the city of
20 San Francisco.

21 But what really drove down on was what happens
22 when there is arbitration? Is there transparency? And by
23 transparency, we really mean three different things.

24 Number one, is the hearing transparent itself? Is
25 it open to the public? Number two, are the findings

1 transparent? Is there public reporting out of the
2 findings? Number three, is there a requirement that the
3 opinion of the arbitrator be made public, which may or may
4 not include a transcript of the proceedings themselves.

5 In our survey, we found quite a bit of variation.
6 There was actually a surprising number of cities - of the
7 39 respondents, I believe there were six cities - which did
8 have arbitration that had some form of openness to the
9 public of the hearing itself. And then about half the
10 respondents, the opinion itself was posted to the public.

11 So when we refer back to the 2021 report by the
12 Public Safety Inspector General, which was discussed
13 earlier this evening, it talks about some of those
14 recommendations of greater transparency.

15 So what you have in front of you are really two
16 things going on. Number one, the opinion itself, which
17 says that arbitration from heretofore is an option for
18 covered employees, for officers and other sworn staff. And
19 number two, that those hearings under arbitration rules are
20 not open to the public.

21 I think, you know, that is concerning for those
22 people who believe, like I do, in the importance of
23 transparency. The process is now less transparent.

24 But where does one change that? And that's some
25 of the challenge in front of folks in the city right now

1 because for the most part, public employees are covered by
2 state law and covered by the language in Section 8, which
3 talks about arbitration as the final place where decisions
4 about discipline or interest can be made. And then there's
5 provisions in the American Arbitration Association about
6 such arbitration hearings are made in private. So there's
7 that constellation I was talking about before.

8 So I really don't have any strong suggestions to
9 make other than to make these observations and say that if
10 there's any issues in particular, you know, assuming that
11 the arbitrator's decision was the legally correct one, then
12 it is really a matter of state law and what state law
13 requires, not only in terms of arbitration being the
14 ultimate place where such discipline issues go but also
15 whether or not such hearings should have a degree of
16 transparency.

17 And there are questions to ask though about the
18 reporting out, about the data that is reported, who is
19 responsible for reporting that out. I think these are all
20 challenges that have to be contemplated now, which were not
21 necessarily issues that were contemplated during the time
22 of the negotiation of the Consent Decree in 2018 and 2019.

23 Lastly, I'll say there's a couple of other issues
24 to be aware of that we came across in the work that we did
25 in Seattle.

1 I think the data, which was raised by the
2 Inspector General, are quite significant with the
3 percentage of cases that are reduced or where discipline is
4 completely eliminated.

5 We found issues in the work we did in Seattle in
6 looking at arbitration around the west coast with
7 transparency, as we've talked about, with the selection
8 process, this very narrow pool of arbitrators, apparently
9 only three here, despite it being such a large city, is not
10 unusual. We, as a result, found significant issues with
11 arbitrator diversity that generally the diversity that we,
12 for example, see on this Police Board is not reflected in
13 who are arbitrators.

14 There's also issues with the quantum of proof.
15 We found that there's a reference, in fact, even in the
16 arbitrator's opinion here about just cause and that is just
17 cause that the findings reached by the city -- that the
18 city is just cause for the findings that were reached and
19 the discipline decision that they made.

20 However, that phrase, "just cause," is often not
21 specified. It's often not specified in law and it's often
22 not specified in the collective bargaining agreement. So
23 it's actually a rather vague standard, which probably an
24 experienced arbitrator would say, "No, it's not vague
25 whatsoever."

1 But a number of legal scholars have looked at it
2 and said that just cause language is vague enough to create
3 a lot of issues in terms of predictability and
4 accountability for officers. And I refer you to some of
5 the scholarship from Loyola of Los Angeles -- Loyola of
6 Chicago Law School Professor, Stephen Rushin, R-u-s-h-i-n,
7 who has written extensively about that issue.

8 So I know I'm going on for a couple of minutes
9 here; I probably covered a range of issues. I think
10 there's some significant questions that the city has to now
11 grapple with. And just as an observer, putting aside any
12 opinion I may have about the award itself, I think it's not
13 difficult to say that this is a major step backwards for
14 transparency. But I would say there's other factors to
15 take into account; of course, consistency, due process, as
16 well.

17 So I'm happy to answer any questions but thank
18 you so much for having me talk to you for a couple of
19 minutes.

20 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Testing. Okay. Thank you
21 very much, Walter. We really appreciate your thoughtful
22 summary and balance the thoughts on this issue.

23 Is there (inaudible) -- all right.

24 Next we will have our Chief Administrator, COPA
25 Chief Administrator, Andrea Kersten.

1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR KERSTEN: Thank you. Good
2 evening, I will try to be brief tonight because we've had a
3 lot of important material already presented and I know that
4 there's public comment that we're still waiting for.

5 I also want to take this opportunity in the event
6 that this is Interim Superintendent Waller's last Police
7 Board meeting with us, just to publicly say thank you for
8 your service to the city.

9 When you spoke about your intention to serve with
10 integrity, that is something that I think has been on full
11 display from my purview and my role and I appreciate your
12 partnership. We certainly don't always agree or see eye-
13 to-eye on everything but the level of candor and the
14 willingness to discuss things we disagree on and to
15 hopefully learn from one another, that's something that's
16 been invaluable to me, even in the short period of time
17 that you've been in this role, and certainly something that
18 I know your successor intends to carry forward, as well,
19 which I think is to the betterment of our entire city,
20 including our respective departments, so thank you.

21 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: Thank you.

22 CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR KERSTEN: My monthly updates
23 usually are pretty statistically driven so I'll just note
24 that in July we received 348 complaints and notifications;
25 78 of those were retained under our jurisdiction. And once

1 again, the highest complaint type, 30 percent of those
2 complaints, were improper search or seizure or Fourth
3 Amendment violations.

4 There were two officer-involved shootings in the
5 month of July, as well.

6 And we closed a lot of cases. I spoke before the
7 Board a few months ago about our timeliness initiative,
8 which officially launched in July. And so, dozens and
9 dozens - in fact, over 200 cases that were exceedingly old
10 and aging and involving lower-level infractions - have now
11 been closed, some of which with remedial or training
12 recommendations made for officer's conduct, but not
13 disciplinary outcomes.

14 So looking forward to that continued work as our
15 caseload begins to become more manageable. When I started
16 as Chief, it was around 1,800 cases and today it's about
17 1,100. So that's a pretty significant reduction and more
18 of that to come.

19 I'll also just note that we had over 30 community
20 engagements in the month of July alone. So we continue,
21 although we're a small but mighty department, to be very
22 present in the communities that we serve and that's
23 something that I'm incredibly proud of and often have the
24 opportunity to speak more wholistically in community
25 meetings and other settings about the work of COPA and CPD

1 more broadly. It's one of the many opportunities that we
2 can be able to sort of promote our shared interests as a
3 broader public safety system working on behalf of our city.

4 Lastly, there's been a lot said about arbitration
5 and the state of the FOP contract, which may lead to
6 potential changes in our disciplinary process. I certainly
7 couldn't speak with the level of expertise that you've
8 already heard tonight so I'm not going to belabor this
9 point but I want to add just a couple of small things.

10 When we talk about accountability and public
11 safety more broadly, you know, the section of this system
12 that the arbitration process falls in is really the only
13 part of our broader police accountability system that's
14 completely untouched by the reforms of the Consent Decree.

15 So when you look at this Board, you look at COPA,
16 you look at CPD itself, even if you look at the Office of
17 Inspector General, as entities, we all have requirements
18 under that Consent Decree; things that include additional
19 training, expertise, guidelines that kind of ground the way
20 that we do our work.

21 None of those apply in the context of an
22 arbitration. So I just want to note that arbitrators
23 themselves don't receive any -- they're not required to
24 have any specialized training about departmental directives
25 or about any of the reform principles that all of us that

1 sit before you in these roles are asked to uphold.

2 The other piece about our arbitration that I
3 think is important for the public to understand is
4 timeline. There isn't one. When it comes to COPA's
5 investigations, I'm accountable when our investigations
6 take too long. I have to come and answer to that.

7 When it comes to the Police Board, there are
8 rules that set out how long you all have to decide your
9 disagreement cases and you're on the clock once the hearing
10 starts, etc. Arbitration doesn't operate under any set
11 timeline or standards for when they deliver results.

12 And I'll just give one quick anecdotal example
13 here that there's a really high profile case that the
14 Police Board had part of it because one officer faced
15 separation as a result of his conduct and many other
16 officers had lesser discipline that ended up being
17 arbitrated.

18 I personally testified in that arbitration
19 hearing in May of 2022. We have not received a result from
20 that arbitration yet and the Police Board has already
21 concluded its work and decided on discipline with respect
22 to the separation case.

23 So again, there is no consistency or
24 accountability around the timing of the arbitration
25 decisions, as well, which I think is a detriment to what we

1 are all seeking to accomplish, which is holding officers
2 accountable, yes, but also making sure that discipline can
3 be imparted so the officers that are returning to the job,
4 they can learn from their mistakes, and then they can move
5 on and become productive officers for the Department.

6 The arbitration process as it stands now often
7 lags in its ability to do that in a timely manner, so I
8 just wanted to add those two notes. Thank you.

9 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you, Chief. At this
10 time, I will call upon members of the public who signed up
11 in advance to speak. To ensure we have time to hear from
12 all speakers, there's a two-minute time limit.

13 Mr. Blakemore, I know you didn't sign up to speak
14 but do you want to speak?

15 MR. BLAKEMORE: Yes, Sir.

16 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All right, I'm going to ask
17 you to speak first because, as you're walking around and
18 speaking on your video --

19 MR. BLAKEMORE: (Inaudible).

20 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Well, hold on, hold on, Mr.
21 Blakemore, it's disturbing --

22 MR. BLAKEMORE: No, it's (inaudible).

23 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: It's disturbing everyone
24 else.

25 MR. BLAKEMORE: (Inaudible).

1 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Okay, but it's disturbing
2 everyone else. So if I --

3 MR. BLAKEMORE: (Inaudible).

4 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: -- could ask you --

5 MR. BLAKEMORE: (Inaudible).

6 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Okay. Would you like to
7 speak?

8 MR. BLAKEMORE: Thank you.

9 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All right.

10 MR. BLAKEMORE: I'm appalled, (inaudible).
11 Appalled. A city -- a city like Chicago and only have
12 about seven people, citizens. You have more on this Board
13 than you have out here, citizens. There's something wrong
14 here. Mr. Blakemore, what motivated you to come out here?
15 What motivated you? I was needed out here. And (inaudible)
16 out here to see this dog and pony show. I couldn't believe
17 it. And (inaudible).

18 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All right, thank you, Mr.
19 Blakemore.

20 Sorry about all the technical difficulties, we're
21 going to work to get this resolved for next month.

22 Next speaker, Joan Norfleet. I'm going to stand
23 at a distance.

24 MS. NORFLEET: I'll make it brief; I have a
25 written statement. First of all, good evening --

1 (CHORUS OF GOOD EVENING.)

2 MS. NORFLEET: -- (inaudible) and President Gian
3 Foreman. (Inaudible).

4 I had prepared a statement called, "We All Need a
5 Key Card." I'll just read it first.

6 Imagine if starting right now a key card was
7 necessary any police station in the city of Chicago. If
8 you wanted to file a report, report a crime, provide
9 technical and critical information about (inaudible)
10 activities, no doubt you would be outraged because you
11 don't have a key card.

12 You would protest that your right to access this
13 necessary life-sustaining taxpayer supported resource was
14 now being abridged. Cries of violated and denied Fifth and
15 Fourteenth Amendment and due process would be heard all
16 over the city.

17 Well, I cannot safely and comfortably enter the
18 doors of the Fourth, the Third, the Sixth, the 22nd, the --
19 I went all the way up to the 11th; I went all over.

20 Why? It's because currently the disgraceful,
21 obtrusive, unhygienic, offensive, nonproductive staging and
22 housing for long-term, more than 48-hour, holding of
23 persons in the lobby, foyers, restrooms, and campuses of
24 our police station exist.

25 Personal property is stacked up to the ceiling,

1 clothes are being laundered inside and outside, hung on
2 blue and white CPD barricades. The children are running
3 afoot, panhandling to (inaudible), drug sales, unlicensed
4 vehicles are parked outside our station and being used as
5 God only knows.

6 Because of this, I and other citizens are not
7 able to safely and comfortably enter our police stations,
8 nor is this a healthy environment for our officers to
9 conduct business. Are limited resources are now being
10 charged with having to maintain and work through this
11 chaos.

12 We have lost our key card and our key card is our
13 common sense. I am asking the police department to please
14 encourage the mayor and the city council to enforce -- hold
15 up -- to immediately stop housing persons in the police
16 station for long-term periods. This is not a productive
17 and satisfying conclusion, nor how would we feel if we were
18 entering a place that we thought was a safe harbor, the
19 city of Chicago, and this is what we were confronted with;
20 this is what was offered to us.

21 We've lost our key card; we lost our common
22 sense. And I encourage you, please encourage that they
23 choose another option. Thank you.

24 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. Our next speaker,
25 Matt Brandon.

1 MR. BRANDON: I can just do it from here and I
2 think everyone can hear me. I came out (inaudible) for
3 Superintendent Waller. I even put on a suit this evening
4 to make sure that I fit the moment.

5 But I just came out on behalf of all the
6 community groups that we represent to say thank you. Thank
7 you for coming out of retirement and stepping in. I know
8 that morale was down a little bit, you know, and it was
9 important that a man like you came at a time like this.
10 And we really appreciate you and we wish you nothing but
11 the best, you know that.

12 This arbitration piece, I agree. I heard George
13 Hathway say it; it's absolutely wrong to take the authority
14 away from the police force and put it in the hands of
15 arbitrators. Somebody said that arbitration is mutual
16 agreement; it's not. It's agreement by elimination. The
17 unions start out with the (inaudible) most favorable to
18 them. The police department, of course, starts out with
19 what's most favorable to them and then you strike and you
20 get an arbitrator (inaudible) somewhere in the middle.

21 But arbitrators still have a vested interest
22 because they get paid to do that. So I know a lot of
23 arbitrators in my day; I don't think they (inaudible).
24 (Inaudible). But I just hope that there's some way to
25 reconsider that and change that and (inaudible) and give

1 transparency back to the public.

2 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. Our next speaker
3 is Donna Oliver.

4 MS. OLIVER: Superintendent Waller, Committee
5 Members. This is a thank you letter for Commander Courts
6 and I wanted to tell him thank you and your team of
7 sergeants and officers for ensuring a safe neighborhood for
8 the 59th Street block during the Fourth of July activities.

9 These activities included excessive amounts of
10 illegal fireworks, loitering, and disrespect of personal
11 property. Not only were the officers patrolling from start
12 to finish, but their Commander drove by several times
13 checking on his officers. Teamwork.

14 I want the officers to know that without their
15 presence, the remaining homeowners could kiss their homes
16 goodbye because of the fireworks. I am one of the
17 homeowners who happened to be fourth generation homeowner.
18 I have experienced the entire Englewood community at its
19 best and now its worst.

20 The officers need to know that everyone does not
21 hate the police. Our organizations - Communities Organized
22 to Win, Operation Neighborhood Safety, Talking Trash,
23 Together We Can, Together We Will - are the communities who
24 have come together to promote the safety of our communities
25 and our officers.

1 My home will always be a home with open arms for
2 our officers. Why? Because it was once the home of two of
3 our most past outstanding officers, Sergeant Garland Davis,
4 Sergeant Officer Frank.

5 Again, thank you again for your dedicated
6 services to serve and protect. As always, we promote the
7 bread of our community. If we sit down and break bread
8 together, we will always be together.

9 Thank you again, Superintendent Waller. I can't
10 hand you this; that's a (inaudible) bag. You might have to
11 fight over that, so but thank you for your service --

12 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: Thank you.

13 MS. OLIVER: -- and being there.

14 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: I appreciate
15 that.

16 MS. OLIVER: We feel protected because of you.

17 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: Thank you.

18 MS. OLIVER: You can't have it. Okay. All
19 right. Okay.

20 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: Thank you.

21 MS. OLIVER: Thank you.

22 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: I appreciate it.

23 MS. OLIVER: It's fresh baked bread and it's,
24 it's buttered up.

25 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: All right, thank

1 you.

2 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Yeah, you're going to get in
3 trouble for that bread. Our next speaker is CeCe Edwards.
4 Cede.

5 MS. EDWARDS: Yes, Sir. Yes. Good evening,
6 Board. And I want to just say thank you, Superintendent
7 Waller. I really, really -- our community is heartfelt to
8 see you go but we know that you made a difference for us,
9 for us on 75th Street. We had 300 people descend on 75th
10 and St. Lawrence last weekend and Commander -- well, it was
11 Watson, Commander Blanche just took over, but he was able
12 to get the troops down here and get these people out of it
13 -- out of the area but it still was really quite difficult.

14 But just think, if we can have those two
15 (inaudible) meet, we could have had him in there earlier,
16 okay? There was one. Number two, I was on my way here and
17 I'm a little upset, okay, so bear with me. But I was on my
18 way here and I went to the Hyde Park McDonald's to use the
19 washroom before I came here. And while I was in there, a
20 man ran in, in the back, and shot one of the workers inside
21 the McDonald's while I was there.

22 And it was just a traumatic experience for me and
23 I'm a former officer and it still is -- it's just
24 overwhelming me right now. And the officers responded
25 immediately, they were there, the ambulance was there, but

1 we need to take -- untie the hands of our officers so that
2 they can do their job and getting these people with these
3 guns and getting them off our streets.

4 Thank you so much, the Board, and thank you,
5 Superintendent Waller, for your service.

6 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: I'm sorry that you had that
7 experience. Next speaker, Kim Green.

8 MS. GREEN: Good afternoon -- good evening. My
9 name is Kimberly Green and I live along the border of the
10 Third and the Sixth District on East 75th Street.

11 Public safety and quality of life is a big
12 concern for the residents along the 75th Street corridor.
13 In 2021 and 2022, residents met on many occasions with the
14 Former Alderman Rod Sawyer regarding measures to increase
15 the public safety and allow the Third and the Sixth
16 District to curb the violence by preventing robberies,
17 carjackings, reduced quality of life issues, etc.

18 During that time, the alderman ordered two POD
19 cameras in mid-2022 to be installed by OEMC. We are now in
20 the third quarter of 2023 and there are still no cameras.

21 I had to request FOIAs from CPD, then OEMC and
22 finally, CDOT, to finally find an answer of where these
23 cameras are. And guess what? They're out of stock.

24 So it's very important that we have these POD
25 cameras. The Third District -- the Third District's

1 current new strategic plan includes heavy dependence on POD
2 cameras. Without them, they can't do their jobs.

3 So we need to be safe. We need to have peace of
4 mind and be able to get sleep and, and just have mental,
5 mental health.

6 So I respectfully plead for your help to advocate
7 for us to get these two POD cameras that were ordered and
8 paid for, promised to us in the Sixth Ward. Thank you.

9 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you.

10 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: Ghian, can I
11 speak to that?

12 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Yes.

13 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: The alderman,
14 75th Street, we went out there last weekend, we brought
15 both commanders are working on plans for the 75th Street.
16 I'll speak to him. He's a new alderman so I'll speak to
17 him as far as the cameras and see what we can do.

18 And as far as that young man that was shot, he is
19 in stable condition so he seems that he's going to be okay.
20 All right.

21 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. Rita Pritchett.

22 MS. PRITCHETT: (Inaudible).

23 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All right, I know. Come on,
24 come on, come on.

25 MS. PRITCHETT: Good evening, everyone. My name

1 is Rita Pritchett; I'm a retired Chicago police officer.

2 I am happy to be able to have made the
3 acquaintance of Superintendent Waller. He's always been a
4 gentleman. For a while, I was a chaplain with the police
5 department and I saw him oftentimes at funerals for the
6 officers and he was always so kind and so engaging; just
7 who he is.

8 I think that the scripture teaches that you
9 should know them by the fruit they bear. He bears good
10 fruit and I would just like to make this little
11 presentation to him, if I may.

12 INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WALLER: Thank you.

13 MS. PRITCHETT: Thank you.

14 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All right. And our final
15 speaker, Mr. Robert Moore. At this time, all people who
16 signed up in advance have been called upon and our meeting
17 is concluded.

18 Is there a motion to adjourn?

19 VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: So moved. Paula Wolff.

20 BOARD MEMBER CUSACK: Second. Mariele Cusack.

21 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor?

22 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

23 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Opposed?

24 (NO RESPONSE.)

25 PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All right, motion passes.

1 Thank you very much. Be safe.

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1 Certification

2 I, Adrea Knoll, an experienced transcriber, did transcribe
3 the attached proceedings.

4 The attached is an original and verbatim transcription of
5 the said proceedings, within the limits of the quality of
6 the recording, containing the full text of the recording.

7 I further certify that I am neither a party to this case
8 nor a relative or employee of any party to this case. I
9 was not present at the recording sessions and have no way
10 of personally guaranteeing the accuracy of the recordings.

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By: Adrea Knoll

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