

**City of Chicago**  
**COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**MEETING MINUTES**

MEETING TYPE	Regular Meeting
MEETING DATE	Thursday, October 27, 2022
MEETING LOCATION	Kennedy-King College
TIME CALLED TO ORDER	7:00 pm

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner Name	Present or Absent / In-Person or Remote
<b>Rev. Dr. Beth Brown</b>	Present, In-Person
<b>Anthony Driver, Jr. – President, Chair</b>	Present, In-Person
<b>Oswaldo Gomez – Vice President</b>	Present, In-Person
<b>Yvette Loizon</b>	Present, In-Person
<b>Cliff Nellis</b>	Present, In-Person
<b>Remel Terry</b>	Present, In-Person
<b>Isaac Troncoso</b>	Present, In-Person

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes.

AGENDA

- I. President Driver called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Commission.
- II. President Driver called the roll and established the quorum.
- III. The Commission held a public comment session. Public comment may be viewed at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page: [www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpa](http://www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpa).
- IV. Business

President Driver explained that the Commission will conduct its work primarily via its recently established committees, each comprised of two Commissioners. Each Commissioner will serve on two to three committees.

**ACTION ITEM #1: CONFIRMATION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

A motion was made and seconded to confirm the following committee assignments:

- The Executive Committee:  
President Driver and Vice President Gomez.
- The Chicago Police Department Budget and Resource Allocation Committee:  
President Driver and Vice President Gomez.
- The Policy Review and Development and Consent Decree Compliance Committee:  
Commissioners Loizon and Terry.
- The Community Policing Committee:  
Commissioners Nellis and Troncoso.

- The Chicago Police Department Goal-Setting and Performance Assessment Committee:  
Commissioners Brown and Nellis.
- The Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) Committee:  
Commissioners Brown and Loizon.
- The Police Board Committee:  
Commissioners Loizon and Troncoso.
- The Noncitizens Advisory Council Committee:  
Commissioner Brown and Vice President Gomez.
- The Community Engagement Committee:  
Commissioners Nellis and Terry.
- The Ad Hoc Police Superintendent Search Committee:  
President Driver and Commissioner Terry.

President Driver asked for debate. There was none. President Driver called for a vote.

**Aye:** Brown, Driver, Gomez, Loizon, Nellis, Terry, Troncoso

**Nay:** /

**Motion Passes.**

#### V. Committee Reports

##### **Police Board Committee Report**

Commissioner Troncoso presented the report. He began by describing the role of the Police Board in police accountability work, specifically citing its function in police firings and hearing allegations of serious misconduct when COPA and the CPD Superintendent disagree on a final ruling. He then discussed how the creation of the Commission impacts the process for selecting members of the Board. Specifically, the Commission is required by law to provide a list of three candidates from which the Mayor makes a final selection. Commissioner Troncoso stated that three Police Board seats are currently vacant, and the Commission has established an open selection process for reaching its list of three candidates. The goal is to provide Chicagoans from all communities with a voice, and to have a Police Board that is representative of the entire city. Applications for the Police Board were posted on the Commission's website, [www.Chicago.gov/ChicagoCommunityCommission](http://www.Chicago.gov/ChicagoCommunityCommission). The applications were in English and Spanish. The deadline for submissions was November 20. Commissioner Troncoso stated that the Committee was making progress on its other responsibilities, such as reviewing the performance of the Police Board President, and has had its first meeting with the current Board President. He ended by announcing that the Committee is considering making recommendations regarding the one-person Police Board decision-making power, where, in cases where COPA and the Superintendent disagree about discipline, a single Board member has the power under law to make a unilateral decision on officer discipline.

##### **Noncitizen Advisory Council Committee Report**

Vice President Gomez presented the report. He explained that this Committee's role is to create the Noncitizen Advisory Council, which the ordinance creating the Commission explicitly requires. He discussed the importance of this Council and announced that

applications were available on the Commission's website. Applications were in English and Spanish, and they were due on November 20.

### **COPA Committee Report**

Commissioner Brown presented the report. She explained the role of COPA in police accountability work, with the authority to investigate cases involving police misconduct and making recommendations about officer discipline. COPA is also charged with investigating all instances where a police officer fires a gun and all instances where a person is seriously injured or dies in police custody. Commissioner Brown then described the Commission's oversight role with COPA, which includes hiring and removing the COPA Chief Administrator, the setting of COPA's priorities on an annual basis, and yearly reviews of COPA's progress in advancing those priorities. The Committee has met with the Chief Administrator and some of her senior leadership team, with plans for an in-depth briefing. Commissioner Brown ended by noting that COPA does not hold public meetings; in order to provide the public with a forum to better understand COPA's work, the Commission invited the Chief Administrator to the meeting and will ask her questions later in the agenda.

### **CPD Goal-Setting and Performance Assessment Committee Report**

Commissioner Nellis presented the report. He discussed the Commission's responsibilities with goal-setting for CPD and announced that starting in December, the Committee will work to set goals and expectations for CPD and the Superintendent. The Committee plans to consult with the consent decree monitor, the public safety arms, and community-based organizations. Members of the public will have opportunities to interface with this process. The Committee will share out information eventually on these opportunities. The Committee's goal is to develop a set of final goals and expectations for CPD by the end of January, to be made public. Commissioner Nellis encouraged members of the public to weigh in on these goals and expectations, and to send input in writing. He emphasized the importance of identifying goals that are tied to performance measures.

### **CPD Budget and Resource Allocation Committee Report**

Commissioners Gomez and Driver presented the report. Vice President Gomez began by discussing the Committee's work to review the proposed 2023 budget, which is set for a vote by the City Council on November 7. The Committee has monitored City Council hearings on department budgets, spoken with policing experts and members of CPD, and held a special meeting to receive information from CPD Superintendent Brown. He encouraged members of the public to continue sharing their ideas and questions by emailing [CommunityCommissionPublicComment@cityofchicago.org](mailto:CommunityCommissionPublicComment@cityofchicago.org). The Commission will deliver comments and questions to the City Council ahead of its vote on November 7. Vice President Gomez noted that the Superintendent committed to providing requested data to the Commission, and the Commission is planning to make additional requests. President Driver then spoke, stating that the Commission had serious concerns that persist after the special meeting with Superintendent Brown. In particular, the Committee is concerned about response times and inadequate staffing at the times crime and violence occur the most, and the extent to which communities are being policed by officers who are unfamiliar with the area. He emphasized the importance of a data-driven strategy to reduce violence rather than an ad hoc, reactionary approach. He then listed the following concerns of the Committee:

- Adequacy of staff resources for roll-out of a citywide community policing program
- Sufficient numbers of patrol officers working in the same places and times to develop community relationships
- Patrol officers working with the same supervisors for enough time to develop relationships and succeed at their work

- Disparities in response times that impact communities of color
- Allocation of patrol officers to correlate with times and places of peak violence
- Effectiveness of assigning patrol officers to centralized units versus specific communities to achieve public safety goals
- Infrastructure for data-driven decisions about resource allocations
- Resource sufficiency for assessing training efforts
- CPD efforts to address the causes of officer attrition
- CPD efforts to identify and address the drivers of police misconduct
- CPD acknowledgement that non-policing strategies are integral to public safety, and how to achieve these investments

## VI. Reports and Updates

President Driver welcomed COPA Chief Administrator Andrea Kersten, who was invited to provide information on COPA's work.

Chief Administrator Kersten delivered an opening statement. She reviewed COPA's vision for police accountability and described its role, makeup, mandates, and activities. She explained that the mandates include specific investigations and reviewing and responding to complaints, as well as larger policies for improving transparency and addressing police misconduct, such as the documentation of video transmissions. COPA is staffed by civilians who hold a wide range of backgrounds. She discussed COPA's focus for 2023 to conduct policy research and analysis, which is aimed at making recommendations to CPD on how to improve and reform CPD and to address the source of recurring complaints that COPA receives each year in order to reduce the number of those complaints over time.

Commissioners questioned Chief Administrator Kersten about the following issues:

- COPA's case management system;
- Cases in which the CPD Superintendent disagrees with findings;
- COPA's process for making policy recommendations to CPD;
- How COPA has used data to help CPD prevent complaints;
- Trends in discipline findings in relation to decisions by the CPD Bureau of Internal Affairs (BIA);
- Barriers to investigations;
- Consent decree compliance;
- COPA's budgetary capacity for achieving its 2023 goals;
- Historical shifts in complaint and investigation data;
- Fourth Amendment investigations;
- COPA's relationship with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office and its interaction with litigated cases of police misconduct as well as settlements and other court-based accountability pathways;
- The process for prioritization of investigations;
- How COPA arrives at disciplinary recommendations;
- Reporting on police misconduct for credibility issues of officers as criminal case witnesses;
- How COPA's new policies and procedural safeguards impact its responses to cases;
- How COPA communicates with the public; and
- How anonymous cases are protected to prevent retaliatory conduct by officers.

Members of the public can listen to the specific questions and responses in the video recording of the October 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, which is available at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page: [www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa](http://www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa).

VII. Announcement of the Next Regular Meeting

President Driver announced that the next regular meeting will take place on November 14, 2022 at 6:30 pm. He gave a reminder about the opportunity to run for District Councils.

TIME MEETING WAS ADJOURNED: 8:11 pm