



CPCA

Coalition for Police Contracts Accountability

WE NEED POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

The Mayor's Task Force said it.

The Department of Justice said it.

The communities most affected have been saying it for a long time.

Let's make it happen NOW.

The Coalition for Police Contracts Accountability (CPCA) proposes critical changes to the police union contracts and mobilizes communities to demand that new contracts between the City of Chicago and police unions don't stand in the way of holding officers accountable.

We are composed of community, policy, and civil rights organizations taking action to ensure police accountability in the city of Chicago.

THE PROBLEM

The City of Chicago cannot truly implement police accountability reforms until it eliminates the barriers written into its agreements with police unions.

Provisions written into PBPA and FOP contracts give Chicago police officers unnecessary rights and privileges that foster misconduct and codify a code of silence.

The contracts:

- Make it too hard to identify police misconduct
- Make it too easy for police officers to lie about misconduct
- Require officials to ignore or destroy evidence of misconduct
- Make it too hard to investigate and be transparent about misconduct
- Allow repeat abusers to cost taxpayers money without accountability



THE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Eliminate requirement of sworn affidavit for investigating civilian complaints of misconduct
2. Allow for filing of anonymous complaints
3. Prevent disclosure of complainant's name prior to interrogation of accused officer
4. Remove ban on offering rewards to officers that cooperate or provide information on ongoing investigations
5. Eliminate 24-hour delay on officer statements in shooting cases and create a clearly outlined process to receive statements from all officers involved in a timely manner
6. Eliminate officer's right to review and amend statements previously made to investigators
7. Eliminate need for Superintendent's authorization to investigate complaints that are 5+ years old
8. Allow past disciplinary records to be used in investigating and resolving present complaints
9. Eliminate provision requiring the destruction of police misconduct records
10. Remove constraints on how interrogators can ask questions
11. Specify that information provided to officers prior to interrogations should be a general recitation of allegations
12. Allow for the disclosure of the identities of officers who are the subject of civilian complaints.
13. Require officers to disclose secondary employment and any other pertinent information that may cause a conflict of interest in performing their duties as a sworn officer.
14. Reduce years of seniority for officers who have been repeatedly recommended for suspension because of findings of complaints filed against them.

WHY POLICE CONTRACTS?



Communities of color are the primary victims of police abuse and the structural racism within the criminal justice system. There are documented systematic patterns and practices of misconduct in the Chicago Police Department including excessive use of force, racial profiling, and deficient systems of accountability. The Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Mayor's Police Accountability Task Force (PATF) both concluded that the police union contracts pose a significant barrier to accountability and must be reformed.

We have an opportunity to make significant changes to these contracts and implement the police accountability measures that will truly make a difference in the state of our city.

If Mayor Emanuel is serious about rebuilding trust between the police and the communities they serve, he should publicly commit to making the changes recommended by the CPCA, the DOJ, and his own PATF.

ENDORSEMENTS

ACLU of Illinois • Action Now Institute • Better Government Association • BPI • BYP100 • Chicago Council of Lawyers • Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law • Chicago Urban League • Community Renewal Society • Enlace • Jewish Council on Urban Affairs • MALDEF • NAACP Chicago Westside • ONE Northside • Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) • Southsiders Organized for Unity & Liberation (SOUL) • Workers Center for Racial Justice