

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Thursday, November 14, 2013

## Clerk Mendoza joins with open government movement leaders TONIGHT to help crack the Chicago Municipal Code

Chicago City Clerk Susana A. Mendoza will join national and local leaders from the open government movement on Thursday evening to discuss her role in maintaining the City of Chicago Municipal Code and her vision for an open and accessible Office of the City Clerk.

OpenGovChicago hosts monthly meetups to work on a variety of projects to turn the vast amount of data created by the City of Chicago into practical apps and programs that help residents and anyone else who interacts with the City.

Clerk Mendoza said her tenure in Office has been marked by a drive to apply smart policies to make government more efficient and transparent.

"The Office of the Clerk needed to be modernized and I was elected to Office on a pledge to do that. The open government movement is an important partner in achieving that goal. My hope is that these types of meetings serve as a starting point as we work toward making the Municipal Code and other documents much more usable for the general public," she said.

Additional scheduled guests include:

- <u>Carl Malamud</u>, President and Founder of <u>Public.Resource.Org</u> and a national leader in the open government movement;
- <u>Waldo Jaquith</u>, an Open Government Technologist who is <u>leading an effort to test the Open Data</u> <u>Institute model for open data standards in the United States</u>;
- <u>Seamus Kraft</u>, Executive Director of the <u>OpenGov Foundation</u>. Kraft will talk about the <u>Chicago Decoded</u> <u>website</u> his foundation created using existing Municipal Code PDFs from the City.

The OpenGovChicago event is scheduled for 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, November 14, 2013 in the Millennium Room - 5th Floor of the <u>Chicago Cultural Center</u>, 78 E Washington St., Chicago. Click here to read more, *http://bit.ly/1i9xXay*.

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## About City Clerk Susana A. Mendoza

Elected in 2011, City Clerk Susana Mendoza is the first woman ever elected to the office. Her office is responsible for maintaining official City government records, including more than 1,000 pieces of legislation at each City Council meeting, distributing approximately 1.3 million vehicle stickers and residential parking permits, issuing City business licenses and licensing all dogs in the City of Chicago. City Clerk Mendoza is committed to improving her office by making it the most technologically savvy, user-friendly and efficient City Clerk's office in the country. For more information about the Office, visit <a href="www.chicityclerk.com">www.chicityclerk.com</a>. You can also find the Chicago City Clerk's Office at <a href="www.facebook.com/chicityclerk">www.facebook.com/chicityclerk</a>, <a href="www.twitter.com/chicityclerk">www.twitter.com/chicityclerk</a> and <a href="www.youtube.com/chicityclerk">www.youtube.com/chicityclerk</a>.