



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

BRANDON JOHNSON
MAYOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2026-3

**ESTABLISHING THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE
REDUCTION, THE MAYOR'S GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION ADVISORY
COUNCIL, AND A CITYWIDE FRAMEWORK FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY,
VIOLENCE PREVENTION, AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

WHEREAS, gun violence continues to cause profound harm to individuals, families, and communities throughout Chicago, contributing to trauma, family disruption, reduced educational attainment, economic instability, disinvestment, and diminished quality of life; and

WHEREAS, for more than a decade, Chicago residents, survivors of violence, grassroots organizations, community violence intervention practitioners, and faith leaders have advocated for the creation of a permanent and publicly accountable structure to coordinate the City's violence reduction efforts and ensure sustained investments in communities most impacted by gun violence; and

WHEREAS, faith leaders associated with Live Free Illinois and other faith-based and community organizations have helped lead a citywide movement calling for the creation of a permanent Office of Gun Violence Reduction grounded in community accountability, public transparency, long-term investment, and the belief that every neighborhood deserves access to the resources necessary to prevent violence, support healing, and create pathways to safety and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, during the administration of Mayor Brandon Johnson, the City of Chicago has experienced significant reductions in homicides, shootings, robberies, and other forms of violent crime, including the fewest homicides recorded in Chicago in more than half a century, demonstrating that coordinated investments

in community violence intervention, youth opportunity, victim services, behavioral health, economic opportunity, and strategic public safety interventions can save lives and strengthen communities; and

WHEREAS, these reductions have been achieved through a community-centered approach to public safety that recognizes that violence is not solely a law enforcement challenge, but also a public health, economic, and community development challenge requiring coordinated action across government, community-based organizations, faith institutions, philanthropy, and residents; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to institutionalize, preserve, strengthen, and expand this community-based violence reduction model so that successful strategies are sustained beyond any individual administration and remain accountable to the communities most impacted by violence; and

WHEREAS, the existing Mayor's Office of Community Safety and the Chicago Department of Public Health participate in the Government Alliance for Safe Communities to coordinate gun violence reduction investment in policy across the state, county and city governments; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor recognizes that the establishment of a permanent City department tasked with gun violence reduction would require legislative action by the City Council and that it is therefore necessary to establish an Office within the Mayor's Office to coordinate violence reduction efforts and prepare for the eventual creation of such a department; now, therefore,

I, Brandon Johnson, Mayor of the City of Chicago, do hereby order as follows:

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT.

There is hereby established within the Mayor's Office the Office of Gun Violence Reduction.

The Office shall serve as the City's central coordinating office for gun violence reduction, violence intervention, victim services and community safety investments.

SECTION 2. POWERS AND DUTIES.

The Office shall:

- 1) Coordinate a citywide community-centered public safety and public health strategy to reduce gun violence and lead intergovernmental coordination related to violence reduction;
- 2) Develop and implement a comprehensive violence reduction strategy;

- 3) Coordinate City investments, including coordinating funding to delegate agencies related to gun violence reduction, violence intervention, victim services, behavioral health, youth development, reentry, housing stabilization, or community safety;
- 4) Assess and recommend strategies to maximize the effectiveness of gun violence reduction investments;
- 5) Coordinate place-based violence reduction initiatives in neighborhoods experiencing disproportionate levels of gun violence;
- 6) Support community violence intervention organizations and neighborhood-based safety initiatives;
- 7) Coordinate victim assistance, trauma recovery, and emergency relocation services;
- 8) Collect, analyze, and publicly report data related to gun violence and violence reduction initiatives;
- 9) Conduct policy analysis and make recommendations regarding violence prevention and community safety;
- 10) Develop recommendations regarding the structure, powers, responsibilities, and staffing of a future Department of Gun Violence Prevention; and
- 11) Perform such additional duties related to gun violence reduction as the Mayor may direct.

SECTION 3. LEADERSHIP.

The Office shall be led by the Deputy Mayor for Community Safety who will also hold the dual title of Executive Director of Gun Violence Reduction. The Executive Director shall appoint a Deputy Director, which shall be a full-time position dedicated to executing the requirements of this Executive Order.

SECTION 4. STAFFING AND ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL.

To facilitate immediate implementation of this Executive Order, the Mayor will reassign personnel from City departments including but not limited to the Department of Public Health and the Department of Family and Support Services to support the work of the Office of Gun Violence Reduction.

The Office shall include, at a minimum, the Executive and Deputy Directors and the following personnel assigned by the Mayor:

- 1) Data and Performance Manager;
- 2) Administrative Coordinator;
- 3) Community Resource Liaison;

- 4) One or more Interagency Strategy Coordinators;
- 5) One or more Community Engagement Specialists; and
- 6) Such additional personnel as may be assigned by the Mayor.

Employees assigned to support the Office shall remain employees of their home department or agency and shall continue to be subject to all applicable collective bargaining agreements, personnel rules, and departmental policies.

Employees assigned to support the Office shall have a dual-reporting relationship and shall:

- 1) Report programmatically and operationally to the Executive Director of the Office of Gun Violence Reduction regarding responsibilities undertaken pursuant to this Executive Order; and
- 2) Continue to report administratively to their respective department head, or designated supervisor regarding personnel, budgetary, and departmental matters.

The Executive Director shall coordinate the work of all assigned personnel related to this Order and may establish cross-departmental teams, working groups, and project assignments necessary to carry out the purposes of this Executive Order.

All City departments, shall cooperate with requests from the Executive Director for personnel support, information sharing, strategic planning, program implementation, and other activities necessary to fulfill the mission of the Office subject to all applicable collective bargaining agreements, personnel rules, and departmental policies.

SECTION 5. FIVE-YEAR GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION STRATEGY.

Within twelve months of the effective date of this Executive Order, and every five years thereafter, the Office shall publish a Five-Year Gun Violence Reduction Strategy.

The Strategy shall:

- 1) Assess the needs of every community area;
- 2) Identify priority neighborhoods;
- 3) Establish measurable goals and performance indicators;
- 4) Identify strategies addressing the root causes of violence;
- 5) Establish a Victim Safety and Emergency Relocation Strategy;

- 6) Establish community healing and trauma recovery initiatives;
- 7) Identify violence prevention outreach efforts;
- 8) Establish community crisis response protocols; and
- 9) Recommend improvements to coordination across government and community stakeholders.

SECTION 6. COMMUNITY SAFETY PRIORITY ZONES.

The Office shall identify Community Safety Priority Zones and coordinate comprehensive place-based investments and interventions within such zones.

SECTION 7. REPORTING AND TRANSPARENCY.

The Office shall publish monthly public reports regarding violence reduction investments and activities.

The Office shall publish an annual report no later than April 1 of each year.

Reports, audits, recommendations, dashboards, and performance measures shall be publicly available to the fullest extent permitted by law.

SECTION 8. TRANSITION TO A CITY DEPARTMENT TASKED WITH GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION.

It is the policy of the City of Chicago to support the establishment of a permanent City department tasked with gun violence reduction through ordinance.

This Executive Order shall remain in full force and effect unless amended or rescinded by a subsequent Executive Order, or until such time as the City Council establishes a City department tasked with gun violence prevention or substantially similar department or agency by ordinance.

In addition to its operational responsibilities, the Office shall serve as the City's planning and transition body for a future City department tasked with gun violence reduction and shall be responsible for:

- (a) Developing recommendations regarding the structure, staffing, powers, and duties of a future such department;
- (b) Evaluating existing violence prevention, violence intervention, victim services, and community safety functions across City government and identifying functions appropriate for transfer to a future such department;

- (c) Developing administrative, operational, budgetary, and governance plans necessary to facilitate the creation of a future such department;
- (d) Identifying opportunities to consolidate and coordinate violence reduction functions currently distributed across multiple City departments and agencies;
- (e) Conducting community engagement regarding the design and priorities of a future such department; and
- (f) Preparing transition plans to facilitate the orderly transfer of personnel, records, programs, grants, contracts, functions, and responsibilities upon the establishment of a City department tasked with gun violence prevention.

Upon creation of such a department by ordinance, the Office shall serve as the transition body responsible for implementing the transfer plan and ensuring continuity of operations.

SECTION 9. INTERDEPARTMENTAL GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION CABINET.

(a) Establishment. There is hereby established an Interdepartmental Gun Violence Reduction Cabinet chaired by the Executive Director of Gun Violence Reduction.

(b) Membership. The following departments shall designate senior representatives to participate:

- 1) Department of Family and Support Services;
- 2) Department of Public Health;
- 3) Department of Housing;
- 4) Department of Planning and Development;
- 5) Office of Emergency Management and Communications;
- 6) Chicago Police Department;
- 7) Civilian Office of Police Accountability;
- 8) Office of Public Safety Administration;
- 9) Office of Equity and Racial Justice; and
- 10) Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability.

The Mayor may designate, or invite the participation of, additional representatives including representatives from sister agencies whose participation would advance the purposes of this Executive Order, such as Chicago Public Schools and the Chicago Park District.

(c) Responsibilities. The Gun Violence Reduction Cabinet shall coordinate and advance the City's violence reduction strategy by:

- 1) Aligning violence prevention, intervention, public health, youth development, and community safety efforts across City departments and agencies;
- 2) Identifying priorities and recommending coordinated strategies, investments, and policy actions to reduce violence and promote community safety;
- 3) Monitoring implementation of gun violence reduction initiatives and reviewing progress toward Citywide violence reduction goals;
- 4) Facilitating data sharing, strategic planning, and collaboration among City agencies, community organizations, and other stakeholders; and
- 5) Advising the Mayor on policies, programs, and resource allocation necessary to advance violence reduction and community safety objectives.

(d) Coordination with Advisory Council. A representative of the Cabinet shall brief the Mayor's Gun Violence Reduction Advisory Council on a quarterly basis regarding the Cabinet's activities.

SECTION 10. MAYOR'S GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION ADVISORY COUNCIL.

(a) Establishment. There is hereby established a seventeen-member Mayor's Gun Violence Reduction Advisory Council.

(b) Membership. The Council shall include representatives from the coalition of community-based organizations, faith leaders, violence prevention practitioners, survivors, researchers, philanthropic partners, and other stakeholders with expertise in violence prevention, intervention, victim services, restorative practices, public health, and community safety that have longstanding expertise in gun violence reduction.

The Mayor may appoint representatives from relevant City Departments as *ex officio* Members of the Council.

At least nine members shall reside in neighborhoods disproportionately impacted by gun violence.

(c) Terms. Members shall serve for terms of two years and may be reappointed. Members shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed. Any vacancy shall be filled by the Mayor for the remainder of the unexpired term. Members serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and may be removed by the Mayor at any time. Members will serve without compensation, except that reasonable transportation,

childcare, and participation expenses may be reimbursed, contingent upon funding availability.

(d) Chairperson. The Mayor shall designate a Chairperson of the Council. The Chairperson shall convene meetings, coordinate the work of the Council and perform such other duties as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of SECTION 10 of this Executive Order.

(e) Responsibilities. The Council shall:

- 1) Advise the Violence Reduction Cabinet and the Office of Gun Violence Reduction on violence reduction strategies, policies, programs, and investments;
- 2) Provide recommendations regarding the coordination of violence prevention, intervention, victim services, public health, youth development, and community safety initiatives;
- 3) Identify emerging violence trends, community needs, implementation challenges, and opportunities to strengthen the City's violence reduction efforts;
- 4) Facilitate communication, collaboration, and information sharing among community-based organizations, faith leaders, survivors, researchers, philanthropic partners, and other stakeholders engaged in violence reduction work;
- 5) Review and provide recommendations regarding the implementation and effectiveness of violence reduction initiatives and investments;
- 6) Assist the Gun Violence Reduction Cabinet and the Office of Gun Violence Reduction in ensuring that City violence reduction strategies remain informed by community experience, evidence, and best practices; and
- 7) Advise and provide recommendations regarding the establishment and implementation of a permanent City department tasked with gun violence reduction, if authorized by City Council,

(f) Quorum and Recommendations. A majority of appointed members shall constitute a quorum. The Council shall strive to act by consensus. When a vote is necessary, recommendations shall be approved by a majority of members present and voting.

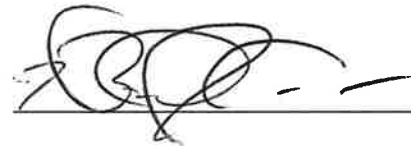
(g) Meeting Frequency. The Council shall convene at least quarterly and at such other times as may be determined by the Executive Director of the Office of Gun Violence Reduction, or the Executive Director's designee.

(h) Working Groups. The Council may establish committees or working groups as necessary to carry out its responsibilities.

(i) Administrative Support. The Office of Gun Violence Reduction shall provide administrative and staff support to the Council.

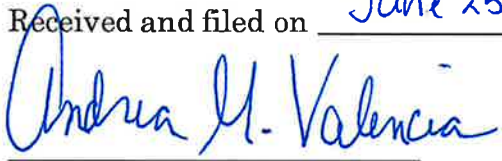
SECTION 11. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Executive Order shall take effect upon its execution and filing with the City Clerk.



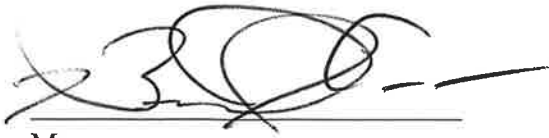
Mayor

Received and filed on June 25, 2026



City Clerk

Chicago City Clerk-Council Div.
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A stylized, cursive handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mayor

A cursive handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ciera Bates-Chamberlain".

Ciera Bates-Chamberlain

A cursive handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leiana Peterson".

Leiana Peterson