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**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**  
IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS  
(CHAIRPERSON)  
TRANSPORTATION  
(VICE-CHAIRPERSON)  
BUDGET  
COMMITTEES AND RULES  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WAY

## **COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT JULY 2025**

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City of Chicago Rules of Order, the **Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights** submits the following Monthly Report for July 2025.

### **REFERRED MATTERS**

**Or2025-0017810**: Chicago Police Department, Office of Emergency Management and Communications, and Mayor's Office to provide City Council with all reporting data and communications related to any police presence at Intensive Supervision Appearance Program BI Inc. Building on June 4, 2025

**R2025-0017562**: Call for examination on recent alleged violations of free speech and due process rights

### **REPORTS AND MATERIALS RECEIVED BY THE COMMITTEE**

1. July 1 2025 Committee Meeting / Subject Matter Hearing Notice
2. July 1 2025 Committee Meeting / Subject Matter Hearing Agenda of Matters
3. 'Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights July 1, 2025 Meeting Presentation' from the Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights
4. 'Office of Emergency Management and Communications June 4th Presentation' from the Office of Emergency Management and Communications
5. 'Chicago Police Department Response June 4, 2025' from the Chicago Police Department
6. 'Civilian Office of Police Accountability Welcoming Ordinance Presentation' from the Civilian Office of Police Accountability
7. Memorandum provided by the Chicago Police Department
8. July 24 Committee Meeting / Subject Matter Hearing Notice
9. July 24 Subject Matter Hearing Revised Notice

10. July 24 2025 Agenda of Matters
11. July 24 Revised Agenda of Matters
12. Memorandum provided by the Department of Law
13. 'Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights July Report' provided by the Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights
14. 'Office of Immigrant, Migrant and Refugee Rights Presentation on the African Diaspora Engagement Council' provided by the OIMRR

## **WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT**

In order of date received

1. From Jill Dollinger

*Recently there was a drive by shooting on Albany across from the shelter. I attended a CAPS meeting on June 3 on Albany with officers from the 17th district. I ride my bike through this area of Albany and Winona often to visit family on Troy. Many migrants that are in the shelter park their cars, sleep in their cars, work on their cars and party around their cars and on other peoples cars on Albany and Winona. Since the shooting occurred, there was a camera placed on the south east corner of Foster and Albany. This seems to have helped a little but there is still loitering. The neighborhood has tried to communicate the safety concerns with the migrants to the 33rd Alderperson and the 39th Alderperson but don't see any resolution to their complaints. The police say that they can only do so much and that if the neighbors continue to see safety concerns to keep calling. The neighbors are frustrated because it seems like the migrants don't care and the Alder people don't care. What information are the migrants given to learn how to respect the area around them. Concerns by the neighbors are:*

- 1. Loitering on the streets of Albany, Winona and around the foot bridge that leads to the park from Albany and Winona. Often times drinking and smoking around the foot bridge.*
- 2. Safety of migrant children.*
- 3. Migrant disposal of trash around the river on Albany and Winona.*
- 4. Open fires in the parks adjacent to Albany and Winona.*
- 5. Prostitution*
- 6. Their own safety.*

*Thank you*

2. From Nina Sedeño at the Latino Policy Forum

*Good morning, Chairperson Vasquez and members of the Committee. My name is Nina Sedeño, Senior Immigration Policy Analyst for the Latino Policy Forum, a non-profit policy and advocacy organization working to advance and empower Latino and immigrant communities throughout Illinois. I am also the proud granddaughter of Mexican, Irish, and Italian immigrants.*

*I stand before you today, representing the Forum, to urge a YES vote on Order 0017810, which calls on the Chicago Police Department, OEMC, and the*

*Mayor's Office to release all data and communications related to CPD's presence at the ISAP building on June 4, 2025.*

*The actions by ICE that day were harrowing and unacceptable. Like many of you, I watched as masked individuals armed with rifles harassed peaceful protestors and disappeared community members in front of their children. Meanwhile, CPD stood by—and, according to eyewitnesses, set up a perimeter. That raises serious questions: Why were they there? Who or what were they protecting? And more importantly, did their actions violate the Illinois TRUST Act and Chicago's Welcoming City Ordinance?*

*Welcoming policies like the TRUST Act and Welcoming City Ordinance make communities safer, healthier, and more economically vibrant—but only if they are enforced, when those in power are held accountable, and when there is trust between law enforcement and communities. That's why the Forum joins others in calling for a formal investigation by the Attorney General's Office, with findings made public. Thank you to our guests for being here today to help answer the questions of this Committee and the public.*

*Finally, the Forum would like to uplift the individuals who were disappeared that day and the nearly 20,000 people in Chicago who are monitored by ICE technology every day. Whether it's an ankle monitor or a phone app, this constant surveillance causes real and lasting harm— stress, anxiety, and fear. We call for more humane alternatives to detention and a future where all people, regardless of immigration status, are treated with dignity and have access to opportunity. Let's use our voices to advocate for comprehensive immigration reform.*

*Thank you.*

3. Director, Founder, Gretchen Moore:

*I have been helping Latin Immigrants in my retirement for 16 years. There is one earth and nature made us a variety of nationalities and religions. Detention camps were made, WWII to host Japanese who had never even gone to Japan. For America to refuse to welcome people on our continent from Latin nations is unconscionable. My mother, a journalist during WWII shared that 1945 president Truman sent over 2 million migrants back as he thought the soldiers coming from the Pacific would want the farming jobs because the farmers were short of help picking corn in Iowa, fishing on the Mississippi Delta, Apples in Michigan, and Fruit in California. So, the result was it took 5 years for farmers short of help, and many went bankrupt as there was not enough American workers to fill the job. I share this because I doubt that most people realize this happened. Back then, my immigration attorney grandfather, Tom Skemp, felt very strongly that immigration should have been worked on and that we should welcome our neighbors from the South in our continent. Do humans, through our bias, never learn a lesson?? The national home builders association building new homes have shared with me if we continue to send men back, the price of homes is going to rise 30 to 40%.*

## **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

### **COMMITTEE MEETING / SUBJECT MATTER HEARING: JULY 1, 2025**

On July 1, 2025 at 10am, the Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights held a Committee Meeting and Subject Matter Hearing in the Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall.

#### **ROLL CALL**

A quorum was established.

The following members were present: Chair Vasquez (40), Alderperson Dowell (03), Alderperson Gutierrez (14), Alderperson Rodriguez (22), Alderperson Fuentes (26), Alderperson Taliaferro (29), , , Alderperson Quezada (35), Alderperson Knudsen (43), Alderperson Manaa-Hoppenworth (48), Alderperson Hadden (49)

Due to extenuating circumstances, Vice Chair Taylor (20), Alderperson Cruz (30), and Alderperson Cardona (31), requested to attend the Committee Meeting virtually in accordance with Rule 59 of the City Council's Rules of Order. Alderperson Rodriguez moved to allow Vice Chair Taylor, Ald. Cruz, and Ald. Cardona to attend virtually; with no objections, the motion passed.

The following members were not present: Rodriguez Sanchez, Rossana (33)

The following non-members were present: Alderperson Walter Burnett (3), Alderperson Sigcho-Lopez (25)

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following public speakers were each given three minutes to provide their testimony:

- Jordan Esparza-Kelly, CAIR Chicago
- Nina Sedeño, Latino Policy Forum
- Keighty Ward, LiteracyWorks (Adult Literacy Programs in Chicago)
- Zhinya Polozova, Warehouse Workers for Justice
- Amy Huamani, Brighton Park Neighborhood Council
- Sophia Shin, HANA Center
- Carson Wang, ASian Americans Advancing Justice Chicago
- Sarah Huang, Pui Tak Center
- Tenoch Rodriguez, The Resurrection Project
- Mark Kuehner, First Immanuel Lutheran Church
- Cecilia Mendoza, National Immigrant Justice Center
- Inci Narvaez, Instituto del Progreso Latino
- Romya Simone Tantesley, Communities United
- Fred Tsao, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

## THE COMMITTEE ADDRESSED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

### **MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT**

1. Approval of the March 2025 Rule 45 Report  
**Recommended to Pass: Passed by the Committee**

### **RECOMMENDED TO PASS**

2. [Or2025-0017810](#): Chicago Police Department, Office of Emergency Management and Communications, and Mayor's Office to provide City Council with all reporting data and communications related to any police presence at Intensive Supervision Appearance Program BI Inc. Building on June 4, 2025 Recommended to Pass - Passed by Committee  
**Recommended to Pass: Passed by the Committee**

### **SUBJECT MATTER HEARING**

A Subject Matter Hearing on the City response to the mass detention incident on June 4, 2025 at the 2245 S. Michigan Intensive Supervision Appearance Program BI Inc. Building

- The following attended to provide testimony at the subject matter hearing:
  - Dr. Chenetra Washington, Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC)
  - Glen Brooks, Director, Community Policing, Chicago Police Department (CPD)
  - Michael Milstein; Deputy Director, Office of Equity and Engagement & Office of Victim Services, CPD
  - Mariann McKeever, Assistant Director - 911 Operations, OEMC
  - Garien Greatwood, Deputy Mayor of Community Safety
  - Beatriz Ponce De León, Deputy Mayor, Office of Immigrant, Migrant and Refugee Rights (OIMRR)
  - Deborah Witzburg, Inspector General (OIG)
  - Lakenya White, Interim Chief Administrator, Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA)
  - Angie Snell, Acting General Counsel, COPA
- Chair Vasquez introduced Or2025-0017810, including a summary of the events of June 4, 2025, and the Committee's understanding of whether any investigation, whether internal or independent, had yet been conducted.
- Dr. Chenetra Washington, OEMC and Director Glen Brooks, CPD provided testimony of the communications and dispatch process and subsequent internal analysis of the incident at June 4, 2025 ISAP BI Building, as well as internal trainings in both CPD and OEMC on the Welcoming City Ordinance, including frequency, curriculum and any metrics for measurement
- IG Deborah Witzburg provided testimony of the OIG's understanding of the Welcoming City Ordinance investigative authority.
- Lakenya White provided testimony on COPA's understanding of Welcoming City Ordinance investigative authority.

Chair Vasquez asked for a motion for a voice vote on the order; Alderperson Quezada so moved. In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes had it.

A complete recap of the meeting can be found at  
<https://vimeo.com/showcase/8928487/video/1096716165>

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Vasquez asked for a motion to adjourn. Alderperson Fuentes so moved. Hearing no objections, Chairman Vasquez adjourned the meeting.

#### **SUBJECT MATTER HEARING: JULY 24, 2025**

On July 24, 2025 at 10am, the Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights held a Subject Matter Hearing in the Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall.

#### **ROLL CALL**

A quorum was established.

The following committee members were present in person: Chairman Vasquez (40), Alderperson Gutierrez (14), Alderperson Rodriguez (22), Alderperson Fuentes (26), Alderperson Taliaferro (29), Alderperson Cruz (30), Alderperson Cardona (31), Alderperson Rodriguez Sanchez (33), Alderperson Quezada (35), Alderperson Manaa-Hoppenworth (48), Alderperson Hadden (49).

Due to extenuating circumstances, Vice Chair Taylor (20) requested to attend the Committee Meeting virtually in accordance with Rule 59 of the City Council's Rules of Order. Alderperson Rodriguez Sanchez moved to allow Vice Chair Taylor to attend virtually; with no objections, the motion passed.

Alderperson Dowell (3) and Alderperson Knudsen (43) were absent.

The following non-members were present: Alderperson Sigcho-Lopez (25).

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following public speakers were each given three minutes to provide their testimony:

#### **THE COMMITTEE ADDRESSED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS**

##### **SUBJECT MATTER HEARING**

1. A Subject Matter Hearing on [R2025-0017562](#)

- The following attended to provide testimony at the subject matter hearing:
  - Ed Yohnka, Director of Communications and Public Policy, ACLU
  - Cecilia Mendoza, Associate Director of government relations, NIJC
  - Marissa J. Arrez, First Deputy, Mayor's Office of Immigrant, Migrant, and Refugee Rights
  - Nneka Obasi, Senior Analyst, Office of Immigrant, Migrant and Refugee Rights, Mayor's Office
- Chairman Vasquez introduced the subject matter hearing
- Chairman Vasquez introduced Ald. Rodriguez-Sanchez (33) to introduce the resolution and speakers
- Ed Yohnka, Director of Communications and Public Policy provided testimony from the ACLU regarding the denial of due-process and other legal infractions conducted by ICE and the Trump Administration
- Cecilia Mendoza, Associate Director of government relations, provided testimony on behalf of NIJC regarding warrantless detentions and other legal infractions the administration has conducted in order to crack down on immigrants.
- Marissa J. Arrez, First Deputy, Mayor's Office of Immigrant, Migrant, and Refugee Rights provided testimony on IMRR's efforts to support immigrants, such as Know Your Rights trainings.

2. A subject matter hearing on the City and Committee's recent efforts to support immigrant and refugee communities in Chicago.

- Chair Vasquez provided an update from the Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights on its activities over the past quarter to support immigrants and refugees in light of the ongoing attacks from the Trump administration, including Know Your Rights trainings, immigration briefings for immigrant serving organizations, and the development of a guide for municipal offices to support constituents who have been detained by ICE.
- Nneka Obasi, Senior Analyst, Office of Immigrant, Migrant and Refugee Rights provided an update on IMRR's efforts to support African diaspora immigrants and refugees.

## ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Vasquez asked for a motion to adjourn; Alderperson Quezada so moved. Hearing no objections, Chairman Vasquez adjourned the meeting.