



CITY OF CHICAGO



COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL - ROOM 200
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

ALDERMAN PAT DOWELL
CHAIRMAN

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Date: March 5, 2021

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, ETHICS AND
GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT, AND PUBLIC SAFETY
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT
JUNE 2020**

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City Council Rules of Order, the Joint Committee on the Budget and Government Operations, Ethics and Government Oversight, and Public Safety submits the following Monthly Rule 45 Report for June 2020.

**Date, Time &
Location of
Meeting:**

On June 23, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., the Joint Committee on the Budget and Government Operations, Ethics and Government Oversight, and Public Safety held a meeting via video conference, in Chicago, Illinois.

Attendance:

The following members were virtually present at the June 23, 2020 Joint Committee on the Budget and Government Operations, Ethics and Government Oversight, and Public Safety Meeting: Chairman Dowell (3), Chairman Taliaferro (29), Chairman Smith (43), Vice-Chairman Martin (47), Vice-Chairman Osterman (48), Vice-Chairman Silverstein (50), King (4), Hairston (5), Sawyer (6), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Sadlowski-Garza (10), Thompson (11), Lopez (15), Moore (17), Curtis (18), Taylor (20), Brookins (21), Rodriguez (22), Tabares (23), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Ervin (28), Reboyras (30), Cardona (31), Waguespack (32), Rodriguez Sanchez (33), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Nugent (39), Vasquez (40), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Tunney (44), Gardiner (45), Cappleman (46), and Hadden (49).

The following member(s) were not present at the June 23, 2020 Joint Committee on the Budget and Government Operations, Ethics and Government Oversight, and Public Safety Meeting: Cardenas (12), Quinn (13), O'Shea (19), Austin (34), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), and Reilly (42).



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The following non-members were virtually present at the June 23, 2020 Joint Committee on the Budget and Government Operations, Ethics and Government Oversight, and Public Safety Meeting: La Spata (1), and Sigcho-Lopez (25).

The Joint Committee on the Budget and Government Operations, Ethics and Government Oversight, and Public Safety addressed the following items:

1. Inspector General's Audit of the Juvenile Intervention Support Center (JISC)

SUBJECT MATTER HEARING, NO VOTES TAKEN

Chairman Smith called the virtual meeting to order pursuant to applicable law and determination that attendance by remote means is necessary because an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent due to the declared public health disaster cause by COVID-19, the meeting is conducted by video conference. Chairman Smith took a roll call to establish a quorum and a quorum was established. Chairman Smith opened the floor to begin the public comment period and explained the procedures for public comment. With no one signed up to speak, Chairman Smith concluded the public comment period.

Chairman Smith moved to item 1 on the agenda, the Inspector General's Audit of the Juvenile Intervention Support Center (JISC). Chairman Smith explained the order of testimony and introduced each speaker: Inspector General Joe Ferguson, Deputy Mayor of Public Safety Susan Lee, Cathy Burgos from the Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department, Chicago Police Department (CPD) Deputy Chief of Detectives Migdalia Bulnes, and Department of Family Support Services (DFSS) Commissioner Lisa Morrison Butler. Each speaker then read their statements into the record.

Following the reading of the statements, Chairman Smith opened the hearing up for questions and comments from committee members followed by non-members. Chairman Taliaferro expressed his disappointment that the current structure of the JISC was unsuccessful in its core mission and was hoping to hear solutions for fixing the juvenile diversion program. Deputy Chief Bulnes reiterated the commitment of CPD to Chicago's youth. Deputy Mayor Lee clarified that they are looking to replace the DFSS funding for the JISC. Chairman Dowell asked about DFSS' new youth diversion programming focus moving forward. DFSS Commissioner Morrison Butler said they are targeting youth aged 14 to 24 engaged in active gang or click involvement, high risk and/or victimized youth, which combines a lot of their other older programs into one best in class program. SGA was getting \$500,000 and the new



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program is receiving \$4,725,000. Deputy Mayor Lee said the difference between DFSS and the Office of Public Safety's programs is, while there is similar profile of risk, the target age groups are different, with the Public Safety team having no age limits. Inspector General Ferguson stated they are not involved in the discussions for setting up replacement JISC programs. Ms. Burgos stated their youth program serves about 2,000 children, and their budget is \$16 million for all child diversion and other programming. Deputy Chief Bulnes stated they serve 3,000 children a year. DFSS stated Chicago now spends about \$16 million a year on similar youth services to Miami-Dade. Chairman Smith inquired about the interdepartmental conversations for youth diversion programs. Deputy Mayor Lee explained how her department is coordinating future programming. DFSS clarified that other departments like CPS and Cook County were part of the JISC process previously and they dropped off leaving only SGA and the Police, which isn't sufficient for meeting the needs of the youth served by the JISC. Alderman Martin had multiple questions that had to be answered Through the Chair, and asked about the staffing process. Deputy Chief Bulnes discussed the change in hiring to targeting officers who have a background in youth and how they are adding training for JISC officers to better prepare them to work with youth. Alderman Waguespack asked for CPD to commit to making JISC data more transparent. Deputy Chief Bulnes discussed looking for a new facility and the reforms to the existing JISC station. Ms. Burgos stated the Miami Dade diversion program is not run by police. For civil cases, if a child completes the program, nothing gets entered into the criminal justice system. For criminal cases, the charge goes in the system and if the youth completes the program they can apply for expungement or sealing of records. Alderman Cappleman inquired if the DFSS RFP requires licensed clinicians to do assessments. DFSS Commissioner Morrison Butler stated it does not and then explained what it does require. Assistant DFSS Commissioner Angela Rudolph then discussed the RFP's wholistic approach to helping a youth, which includes whole family services. Mariah Van Ermen took the place of Deputy Mayor Lee and answered Alderman Nugent's questions about defining the mission of the new youth diversion programs. Inspector General Ferguson added multi-agency programs need clear leadership for success. Ms. Burgos said in Miami Dade all the agencies came together in the beginning to set up the program, so they all were invested to stay in the program. DFSS Commissioner clarified their youth division budget comes from the corporate budget. Aldermen Thompson and Hadden expressed their concerns with the shift in DFSS use of funding without informing City Council. Aldermen Hadden asked why so many program partners dropped off, but DFSS could not provide an answer. Aldermen Rodriguez asked why CPD insists on arresting low level offenders. Deputy Chief Bulnes said they don't insist on arrests, but because they are the only department left running the JISC that is what they are left with. Alderman Rodriguez also asked what happens to youth that are arrested that aren't referred to the JISC. DFSS Deputy Commissioner Rudolph answered that JISC only sees a small percentage of arrested youth, and they want to continue to engage youth to divert them from a law enforcement



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outcome. Deputy Chief Bulnes said they work with other partners to refer youth depending on the offense. Alderman Vasquez expressed his frustration that minority youth have more interactions with police than their non-minority counterparts, and asked how to make the juvenile justice system more equitable. Alderman Vasquez also wanted to know more about holding JISC officers accountable for their work within the JISC. Alderman Taylor asked numerous Through the Chair questions and about the demographic makeup of Miami Dade County. Ms. Burgos answered that Miami Dade is 60% Hispanic, 20% African American and 20% other.

Chairman Smith stated that there was no further business before the Committee and asked for a motion to adjourn by the same roll call vote as was applied to determine quorum. Alderman Thompson moved to adjourn. The Joint Committee on the Budget and Government Operations, Ethics and Government Oversight, and Public Safety adjourned at 1:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Pat Dowell
Chairman, Committee on the
Budget and Government Operations

Chris Taliaferro
Chairman, Committee on Public Safety

Michele Smith
Chair, Committee on Ethics
and Government Oversight