



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

BRANDON JOHNSON
MAYOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2023-18
EXECUTIVE ORDER ON LABOR RELATIONS

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. wrote that “the coalition that can have the greatest impact in the struggle for human dignity here in America is that of the Negro and the forces of labor, because their fortunes are so closely intertwined”; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago (the “City”) seeks to promote economic justice with a commitment to racial and social justice through robust labor standards, partnership with public sector and private sector unions, community and business engagement, strategic enforcement, and innovative policy development; and

WHEREAS, the City has an obligation to advance workplace equity and to protect and expand the right to organize for all Chicagoans; and

WHEREAS, Chicago labor organizations have been at the forefront of advancing and protecting worker rights; and

WHEREAS, Illinois’ passage of the Workers’ Rights amendment enshrines union rights into the state constitution amid an increase in unionization efforts across the country; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Labor Standards within the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection is statutorily required to promote Chicago’s labor standards through outreach, education, technical assistance, and training for employers and employees; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Labor Standards found that nearly \$400 million in wages are stolen from Chicagoland workers by employers annually and that other workplace violations regularly occur, and

WHEREAS, advancing workforce equity for historically disadvantaged communities and low-income workers requires protection of workers' rights and supporting advocacy efforts to promote good-jobs policies which will have positive population-level impacts; and

WHEREAS, there is need for coordinating the City's existing resources across multiple agencies to enforce Chicago's labor standards while proactively partnering with and supporting Chicago workers and unions; and

WHEREAS, two-thirds of working people ages 16+ who are covered by a union contract are women and/or people of color; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of Chicago workers, the City finds it necessary and appropriate to create a position within the executive department to lead the City's efforts to support Chicago workers; now, therefore

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

Section 1. The above "WHEREAS" clauses are incorporated into and made an integral part of this order.

Section 2. A Deputy Mayor for Labor Relations is hereby established in the Mayor's Office and this Deputy Mayor will have such staff as are necessary for the effective functioning of this Office.

Section 3. The Deputy Mayor for Labor Relations is responsible for working with all City agencies and departments to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of Chicago; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights, including working with relevant authorities to help enforce workers' statutory rights.

Section 4. The Deputy Mayor will provide recommendations to me, with urgency, with proposals for inclusion in the City's Fiscal Year 2024 budget on programs, policies, and expenditures to support wage earners, job seekers, and retirees.

Section 5. This Order will take effect upon its execution and filing with the City Clerk.

Effective Date

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



Mayor

Received and filed May 15, 2023



City Clerk

Chicago City Clerk-Council Div.
2023 MAY 15 PM 2:30