



18th Police District Council

Brad Kessler, Karen Kane, Bob Johnson

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October 24, 2023

Honorable Mayor Brandon Johnson
121 North LaSalle Street, Room 500
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Mayor Johnson,

As the 18th Police District Council, we are writing to formally express our constituency's requests for additional police officers, the full staffing of all beats in the district with consistent officers, and an improvement in 911 response times.

In the past two years, the 18th district has experienced a 35% increase in victims of robberies and a 36% increase in aggravative batteries. We firmly understand the need for several long-term investments in social supports and mental health care, but we must meet the criminal moments of today. To combat senseless and ruthless robberies, batteries, and thefts, the 18th District Police needs additional resources.

We all understand that public safety is the cornerstone for the enduring success of any neighborhood, and it is required for the economic viability of the 18th District: the home to museums, hospitals, schools, retail centers, hotels, parks, and Navy Pier.

Together, we agree in the need to lift community voice. Giving voice to the concerns of residents in the 18th Police District is an important responsibility of our District Council, and we have listened intently through community meetings, neighborhood organizations, countless conversations, and a survey. The survey's outcomes provided a resounding and unified response.

As of October 23rd, our survey, which was released on September 26th, has received responses from over 1,800 residents of the 18th Police District and over 2,000 residents in total.

- Over 97% of respondents from the 18th District support a stronger presence of Chicago Police Officers walking a beat or driving down their neighborhood streets.
- Over 97% of respondents from the 18th District support increased staffing of Chicago Police Officers to greatly improve response times to 911 calls.
- Over 92% of respondents from the 18th District support consistency in the Chicago Police Officers assigned to their neighborhoods rather than bringing in Police Officers from other neighborhoods.

The results speak emphatically. The residents of the 18th District strongly support a 2024 Police Budget that provides for strong staffing of the 18th Police District. We hope that you share our constituency's concerns, and we look forward to partnering with you in this work. We are ready to meet to further discuss our constituency's concerns.

We ask that we are included by your administration in the budgeting decisions that impact the 18th District Police, and that the 18th District is fully staffed with officers that are consistently detailed to the same beat.

Sincerely,

The 18th Police District Council: Brad Kessler, Karen Kane, Bob Johnson

cc: Aldermen within the 18th District
2nd Ward Alderman Brian Hopkins
27th Ward Alderman Walter Burnett
32nd Ward Alderman Scott Waguespack
42nd Ward Alderman Brendan Reilly
43rd Ward Alderman Timmy Knudsen

Superintendent Larry Snelling
Deputy Chief Jon Hein
18th District Commander Michael Barz