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Good Evening and Welcome to Beat 2432 of the 24 th Police District ,

We thank you for holding this forum in our neighborhood.

We welcome the opportunity to express our opinions , ideas, and suggestions. I am sure that you have heard many complaints about the police department in other forums. I feel that it is important for you to hear that there are positive opinions concerning our police department.

My name is Patrick Kenny. I am the **CAPS** Beat Facilitator for this beat. I serve as a community liaison between the police department and area residents. As a Beat Facilitator, I was selected to attend training sessions at the police training academy. I was given first - hand experience in the training program that recruits must complete. I was quite impressed with the rigorous nature of the training program. It also served to remind me of the difficult task of a police officer.

Rogers Park is probably the most ethnically diverse area of Chicago. This is a strength , but can also present some challenges. I am pleased to report that the 24 th District officers have shown sensitivity to the concerns of area residents.

Commander Nieves , along with Sgt. Sisk and his **CAPS** staff , have begun innovative programs to deal with urban policing. They have encouraged resident participation. They actively seek out resident involvement in crime reduction activities. In spite of a high population density, the 24 th District is a safe place to live.

Certain areas of the district have active gang populations. Rival gangs are present in our district. This has led to sporadic violence. The 24 th District officers have made significant progress in reducing the occurrence of these incidents. Local residents are actively involved in supporting police activity. The **CAPS** program is strong in Rogers Park.

As a retired Chicago Public School teacher and principal, I realize that every organization has strengths and weaknesses. I knew many excellent teachers and some that were not so good.

The police department is no different. I believe that the overwhelming majority of officers perform extremely well in a most difficult job. They are to be commended and appreciated for what they do for us. They take pride in the service that they provide. I am sure that they want their fellow officers to reflect this pride.

I believe that the goal of this Task Force is to make recommendations to improve the Chicago Police Department.

I present the following for your consideration :

1.) Closely examine all complaints against officers.

* Body cameras and dash mount cameras need to be universal.

(The words and actions of all parties would be recorded).

2.) Nobody likes a “ snitch ” , but there have to be ways for fellow officers to anonymously suggest investigation of an officer.

“ Bad apples ” hurt the reputation of fellow officers.

3.) “ Where there's smoke , there's fire ”. If an officer has MULTIPLE complaints about improper actions, remove him from active service with direct contact with the public. (desk job ?)

In rare situations, consider dismissal.

4.) Reduce the paperwork that the American Civil Liberties agreement has created. Filling out forms is not active patrolling.

5.) Find a way to break the “ NO SNITCH ” practice that is widespread in certain areas of the city. Intimidation of residents hinders the effectiveness of police efforts to reduce crime.

6.) Get the judicial system to support the police department. "Slap on the wrist" judges do not help to reduce crime. Setting a high bond would at least keep the accused off of the streets.

Listen to what local residents have to say and consider their concerns when sentencing is to be determined.

7). Get the State's Attorney's office to strongly support police work.
"Throw the book" at repeat offenders.

Bring the strongest charges possible for violent offenders.

Thank you again for your efforts to improve the Chicago Police Department and its procedures.

Every Chicago resident will benefit from your deliberations.

I look forward to reading your recommendations.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patrick J. Kenny". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Patrick J. Kenny

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