



**Board of Commissioners of Cook County**

**Criminal Justice Committee**

**Thursday, November 10, 2022  
Public Hearing**

**10:30 AM**

**Virtual Meeting**

**NOTICE AND AGENDA**

There will be a meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County at the date, time and location listed above to consider the following:

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Authorization as a virtual public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have submitted in writing, their name, email address, phone number, subject matter, and organization (if any) to the Secretary 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Duly authorized virtual public speakers may speak live from the Commissioners reception area at 118 N. Clark Street, 5th Floor, Chicago, IL or be sent a link to virtually attend the meeting and will be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. After each speaker has completed their statement, they will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at:

<https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings> or in a viewing area at 69 W.Washington Street, 22nd Floor Conference Room F, Chicago, IL. Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not use vulgar, abusive, or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately; failure to speak to an item that is germane to the meeting, or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony. Written comments will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be posted on the meeting page and made a part of the meeting record.

[22-6399](https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings)

**COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 9/21/2022

[22-3564](#)

**Sponsored by:** STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**REQUESTING A HEARING IN THE COOK COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE JUVENILE TEMPORARY DETENTION CENTER ADVISORY BOARD - "YOUTH RE-ENTRY FROM DETENTION IN COOK COUNTY"**

**WHEREAS**, youth residents in Cook County are vital members of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 1,000 youth are held in custody at the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center ("JTDC") each year with 150-200 of Cook County's young people detained in the JTDC each day; and

**WHEREAS**, the average youth in JTDC is returned to their communities within 33 days of being admitted; and

**WHEREAS**, even short stays in detention can have serious destabilizing effects on young people's lives by interrupting their education, family life, relationships and mental well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, the Juvenile temporary Detention Center Advisory Board ("Advisory Board") was established in 2014 by the adoption of Cook County Ordinance 12-0-43; and,

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Advisory Board is to provide public recommendations to the Executive Director of the JTDC, the Chief Judge, the County Board, and the President on matters relating to policies and operations necessary in carrying out the mission, purpose, and intent of the JTDC; and

**WHEREAS**, the Advisory Board has delivered its Annual Report 2021 on youth re-entry from detention;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners request a convening of the Cook County Criminal Justice Committee to conduct a hearing regarding the 2021 Annual Report of the JTDC Advisory Board; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the hearing shall feature presentations from Advisory Board members, subject matter experts and youth with lived experiences.

**Legislative History :** 6/16/22 - Board of Commissioners - refer to the Criminal Justice Committee

[22-2783](#)

**Sponsored by:** STANLEY MOORE and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**CALLING MEMBERS OF THE COOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S MERIT BOARD TO SUPPLY MONTHLY DATA AND APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant 55 ILCS 5/3-7002 of the Counties Code, the Cook County Sheriff's Merit Board (the "Merit Board") is created by the State of Illinois as an independent statutory body charged with performing specific functions, independent of the Cook County Sheriff ("Sheriff"), related to the Sheriff's hiring, promotion, discipline, and termination of certain Sheriff's employees; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Merit Board are appointed with the advice and consent of the Cook County Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Board appropriates the funding of the Merit Board in the annual appropriation ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sheriff is tasked by the legislature to operate the County Jail, security in the Court system and public safety in general for all unincorporated areas and the County's 5.5 million residents; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/3-7006, pursuant to recognized merit principles of public employment, the Merit Board, acting independently pursuant to its statutory obligations, shall formulate, adopt, and put into effect rules, regulations and procedures for its operation and the transaction of its business; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/3-7006, the Merit Board, pursuant to recognized merit principles of public employment, must establish a classification of ranks of the deputy sheriffs in the County Police department, full-time deputy sheriffs not employed as county police officers or county corrections, and employees in the County Department of Corrections, and shall set standards and qualifications for each such rank and employee; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/3-7008, before the Sheriff may appoint any person to the following positions, the Merit Board first must certify such person as qualified for the position: deputy sheriffs in the County police department, full-time deputy sheriffs not employed as county police officers or county corrections, and employees in the County Department of Corrections; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/3-7009, before the Sheriff may promote any person to the following positions, the Merit Board first must certify such person as qualified for the promotion: deputy sheriffs in the County Police Department, full-time deputy sheriffs not employed as county police officers or county

corrections officers, and employees in the County Department of Corrections; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/3-7010, the Merit Board is charged with making appointment and promotion decisions pursuant to its statutory obligations and applying its own criteria which it considers and establishes; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/3-7012, the Sheriff may not remove, demote or suspend any county corrections officer, deputy sheriff in the County Police Department, or full-time deputy sheriff not employed as a county police officer or county corrections officer except for cause, upon written charges filed with the Board by the Sheriff, and until the Board conducts a hearing and renders a decision on the matter, except where applicable collective bargaining agreement language provides that such discipline matters with respect to covered bargaining unit members may be subject to arbitration; and

**WHEREAS**, promoting public safety, as well as accountability and confidence in Cook County law enforcement requires adequate staffing levels and the provision of adequate services in the Cook County Department of Corrections, the Cook County Sheriff's Police Department, and the Cook County Court system; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sheriff must receive from the Merit Board, on a regular basis, an adequate number of qualified certified applicants for both hire and certified candidates for promotion, to meet the Sheriff's minimum staffing needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the lack of adequate staffing levels within any of the Sheriff's Departments may cause unnecessary financial burden on the County in several forms, including the payment of overtime, and other employee benefits which may result from mandated overtime; and

**WHEREAS**, promoting public safety, as well as accountability and confidence in Cook County law enforcement requires the prompt and efficient adjudication of disciplinary proceeding pending before the Merit Board; and

**WHEREAS**, unnecessarily delayed and prolonged disciplinary proceedings before the Merit Board may cause financial burdens on the County in several forms, including unnecessary backpay caused by delay; and

**WHEREAS**, since the Merit Board is a separate statutory entity from the Sheriff's Office that promulgates its own rules and regulations and does not report to any other County agency or office, it is in the best interest of the citizens of Cook County that the County Board require the Merit Board provide the following information on a monthly basis, and provide explanatory and clarifying information, as required by the County Board:

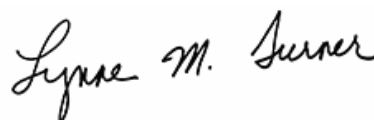
- The number of new hire applications received by the Merit Board, per month;

- The number of new hire applicants currently under consideration for certification by the Merit Board, per month;
- The number of new hire applicants certified as qualified for hire, per month;
- The average length of time it takes to make a certification decision concerning new hire applicants;
- The number of promotional candidates certified as eligible for promotion, per month;
- The number of disciplinary hearings conducted, per month;
- The number of disciplinary decisions issued, per month;
- The number of budgeted vacancies to be filled by the Merit Board within the Sheriff's Office per month.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners that the Chair and the Executive Director of the Merit Board shall provide the information outlined above to the Secretary to the County Board by the 15th day of every month for the preceding month for distribution to the County Board, and shall appear to answer questions concerning that information in a hearing before the Criminal Justice Committee of the County Board as requested; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners that, recognizing the Merit Board reports will address employment issues impacting personal and private information of a sensitive nature, and legal matters, including related to pending and/or anticipated litigation, such reports and hearings shall include both open public hearings and closed Executive Sessions.

**Legislative History :** 4/7/22 - Board of Commissioners - refer to the Criminal Justice Committee



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Secretary

Chairman: Moore  
Vice-Chairman: Johnson  
Members: Committee of the Whole