



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY**  
**Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

**Fourth New Items Agenda**

**for the**

**Meeting of the Board of Commissioners**

**Wednesday, May 20, 2015, 11:00 AM**

**15-3458**

**Presented by:** THOMAS J. DART, Sheriff of Cook County

**PROPOSED APPOINTMENT**

**Appointee(s):** Dr. Nneka Jones Tapia, Psy. D

**Position:** Executive Director

**Department/Board/Commission:** Cook County Department of Corrections

**Effective date:** Immediate

**Expiration date:** None

**Summary:** Pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/3-15012, Sheriff Thomas Dart appoints Dr. Nneka Jones Tapia for the position of Executive Director of the Cook County Jail. As provided in the statute, the Sheriff may appoint the Executive Director with the advice and consent of the County Board.

Dr. Jones has dedicated her entire professional career to providing advanced mental health services and psychological treatment to incarcerated people. She has worked in the Cook County Jail for over five years including the role of Chief Psychologist at Cermak Health Services where she oversaw all mental health services provided to inmates.

In 2013, the Sheriff hired Dr. Jones as a First Assistant Executive Director at the Jail. In this capacity, Dr. Jones has been integral in fulfilling the Sheriff's mission to provide thorough and ever improving mental health services to the Jail's mentally ill inmates. Her efforts have led to the establishment of the Mental Health Transition Center, enhanced programming for the mentally ill including increased education and quality of life services and more comprehensive inmate discharge planning. Dr. Jones received her Doctorate in Psychology from the Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology in 2007 and her Masters Degree in Clinical Psychology from East Carolina University.