



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

Law Enforcement Committee

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

9:45 AM

**Cook County Building, Board Room,
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

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 public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have submitted in writing, their name, address, subject matter, and organization (if any) to the Secretary 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Duly authorized public speakers shall 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 be germane to a specific item(s) on the meeting agenda, and the testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. 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.

16-6053

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 7/13/2016

[16-5229](#)

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CREATING A SOCIAL MEDIA GANG TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, gang violence in Cook County has devastated too many communities; and,
WHEREAS, much of the gun violence in Chicago and suburban Cook County has its origins in gang activity; and,
WHEREAS, police across the region have expressed frustration and stemming gang-related violence;

and,

WHEREAS, many of the long-standing structures of street gangs in Chicago have eroded or broken down in recent years, creating a challenge for law enforcement when it comes to effectively combatting the criminal activity of gangs; and,

WHEREAS, gangs are located throughout the city of Chicago and suburban Cook County; and,

WHEREAS, there exist numerous, documented examples of communication and planning among and between gangs on social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and others; and,

WHEREAS, studies undertaken and findings published by Columbia University Professor Desmond Patton have shown a connection between online threats and offline violent incidents in Chicago; and,

WHEREAS, homicide is the second leading cause of death for young people; and,

WHEREAS, 90 percent of teenagers use the internet regularly; and,

WHEREAS, there exist numerous, documented examples of gangs and gang-affiliated individuals using social media for the purposes of selling drugs and the pursuit of other illegal activities; and,

WHEREAS, there exist numerous, documented examples of gangs recruiting new members online; and,

WHEREAS, there exist numerous, documented examples of offline conflicts between gang members being escalated via online platforms; and,

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility and duty of this Board of Commissioners and County government to use all of the resources at its disposal to investigate the root causes of deadly violence in Cook County and enact policies designed to reduce that violence to the greatest extent possible;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that there be established a taskforce composed of the necessary parties to study gang interactions with the assistance of the Cook County Sheriff's Department on social media in order to better equip law enforcement to end gang operations; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that the Task Force created herein shall consist of six members, appointed in the following manner:

- (1) A designee of the Cook County Sheriff
- (2) The Chair of the Human Relations Committee of the Cook County Board of Commissioners
- (3) The Chair of the Criminal Justice Committee of the Cook County Board of Commissioners
- (4) A designee of the President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners
- (5) A designee of the Cook County State's Attorney; and,
- (6) A designee of the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that the Cook County Social Media Gang Task Force, created herein, shall meet not less than three times within a six month period following the enactment of this resolution; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that the Cook County Social Media Gang Task Force shall, after having met in the manner and with the frequency described in the foregoing paragraph, furnish a report to the Cook County Board of Commissioners outlining a recommended strategy for a reduction in violence instigated on social media platforms.

Legislative History : 9/14/16 - Board of Commissioners - refer to the Law Enforcement Committee

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Matthew B. DeLeon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping underline.

Secretary