



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Virtual Meeting**

**Consent Agenda**

**Thursday, November 19, 2020, 10:00 AM**

**Second Set**

[20-5487](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), JOHN P. DALEY, ALMA E. ANAYA, FRANK J. AGUILAR, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL CALENDAR OF REGULAR COUNTY BOARD MEETINGS AND CONSENT CALENDAR MEETINGS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2021**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Chapter 2, Article III, Division 2, Section 2-107, the Cook County Board of Commissioners shall hold regular meetings pursuant to an annual calendar adopted by resolution of the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, although Chapter 2, Article III, Division 2, Section 2-107(h)(3), states that the Cook County Board of Commissioners shall also hold standing Consent Calendar meetings, the current health crisis has impacted regular scheduling of these meetings; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 2.02 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, every public body shall give public notice of the schedule of regular meetings at the beginning of each calendar or fiscal year and shall state the regular dates, times and places of such meetings

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County shall hold its regular meetings of the Board at 10 a.m. in the Cook County Board Room, Room 569, Cook County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois or by remote means as permitted by the Open Meetings Act on the following dates during 2021:

Thursday, January 28, 2021  
Thursday, February 25, 2021  
Thursday, March 18, 2021  
Thursday, April 15, 2021  
Thursday, May 13, 2021  
Thursday, June 24, 2021  
Thursday, July 29, 2021  
Thursday, September 16, 2021  
Thursday, October 7, 2021  
Thursday, November 4, 2021  
Thursday, December 16, 2021

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County shall hold its regular meetings of the Rules Committee and Finance Committee, respectively, at 9:30 a.m. in the Cook County

Board Room, Room 569, Cook County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois or by remote means as permitted by the Open Meetings Act on the Wednesdays immediately preceding the regular board meetings.

[20-5587](#)

**Sponsored by:** SCOTT R. BRITTON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PALATINE BUSINESSMAN JOHN S. TRAGAS**

**WHEREAS,** John S. Tragas passed away peacefully on October 13, 2020 after a courageous battle with brain cancer at the age of 67; and

**WHEREAS,** John was born on November 2, 1952 in Magoula, Greece; and

**WHEREAS,** John was 14 years old when he immigrated to America with his parents and brother in 1966; and

**WHEREAS,** John was married to oncology nurse Claudette for 42 years and together raised their three daughters, Diana, Maria, and Christina; and

**WHEREAS,** John and his brother opened their first restaurant, The Charm Restaurant, in Chicago in 1972 and continued to operate it until 1989; and

**WHEREAS,** John was passionate about the restaurant business and opened another family restaurant in Arlington Heights before eventually finding the location for Café 14 in Palatine in February of 1991 and quickly established itself as a community staple; and

**WHEREAS,** John, Claudette, Diana, Maria, and Christina were all involved in the day to day operations of Café 14; and

**WHEREAS,** Café 14 is open for all-day breakfast and lunch, serving patron favorites such as omelets, crepes, and paninis; and

**WHEREAS,** John's welcoming personality brought many customers to Café 14 where he knew the regular patrons by name and often referred to them as extended family members; and

**WHEREAS,** John was known for his love of people and zeal for life, often saying, "You only have one life, live it!"; and

**WHEREAS,** Café 14 celebrated its 20-year milestone in 2011, an event that was attended by local

dignitaries, locals and regulars alike, proving Café 14's importance in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, John was the proud owner of Café 14 for 29 years and an active member of the Palatine Chamber of Commerce.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, honors the life and contributions of John S. Tragas, and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he has made to the citizens of Cook County, Illinois and joy he brought to the community he served; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to the family of John S. Tragas.

[20-5629](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **HONORING DR. LAKSHMI FOR HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Lakshmi is currently the Neurology Chair at Cook County Health and has been practicing for over 9 plus years and;

**WHEREAS**, Throughout Dr. Lakshmi's career at Cook County Health, she began focusing on the possibilities of creating a stroke center to address the disparities and improve the health of patients, many of whom are young adults; and

**WHEREAS**, With the launch of the Stroke Center in 2016, which features a team-based approach. Clinicians work collectively together to treat patients who have had a stroke. The overall goal is to prevent future occurrences of stroke while providing comprehensive prevention plans; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Warrior always knew she wanted to be a doctor. After the birth of her second child she received her master's degree from John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Warrior maintains a high standard by holding people around her accountable. She has opened doors for people that look like her-whether they're women or people of color; and

**WHEREAS**, On, November 6, 2020, Dr. Lakshmi Warrior was featured in Crain's Chicago as one of their 40 under forty. This annual publication of 40 people under the age of forty recognizes the next generation of leaders in Chicago; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Warrior is proving herself to be a great leader, as Chair of Neurology at Cook County Health, but also Medical Director of the Stroke Program at John H. Stroger Hospital; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Warrior will continue to shatter glass ceilings by proving to her children that they too can achieve greatness, it gives Cook County great pride to recognize one of our very own gems; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, hereby honor and recognize Dr. Lakshmi Warrior for her contribution to the viability of Cook County; and

[20-5479](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, JOHN P. DALEY, BRANDON JOHNSON and KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**CALLING FOR A HEARING OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE LENGTH OF STAY OF DETAINEES FOR THE COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND ITS EFFECT ON JAIL POPULATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Department of Corrections (CCDOC) has seen a drastic decrease in the number of detainees over the last 7 years to almost half of the prior over 10,000 average daily population; however as of November 2020 there are still over 8,600 detainees in custody including over 5,300 detainees housed inside the jail and over 3,200 in Community Corrections, which includes those on Electronic Monitoring (EM); and

**WHEREAS**, over 75% of detainees housed inside the jail are Black and over 15% are Latino, and over 72% of detainees in Community Corrections are Black and over 18% are Latino; and

**WHEREAS**, contributing greatly to these reductions have been pre-trial criminal justice reforms led by community leaders and the leadership of this administration and from the different stakeholders of the criminal justice system whether it be the Chief Judge, the Sheriff, the State's Attorney, the Public Defender, the Clerk of the Court etc.; however, laudable as these accomplishments are, there is more work that can and must be done to reduce the jail population especially for those detainees who have been incarcerated for extended periods of time; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of detainees are presumed innocent and awaiting trial or are in custody while their case works its way through the court system; and

**WHEREAS**, currently 20% of detainees have a length of stay from 181 days to 1 year and 20% from 1 to 2 years, or 40% of the detainees in the CCDOC have been in custody for up to 2 years; additionally there are 232 detainees in custody for 3 to 4 years, and another 285 detainees in custody for 5 years or more all the way up to 10 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sixth Amendment right to a speedy trial enshrined in the Constitution and that the Supreme Court held as one of those fundamental liberties that the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment makes applicable to the states, and stems from the legal maxim that justice delayed is justice

denied both for the defendant and the injured party; and

**WHEREAS**, data from all parts of the criminal justice system, from law enforcement, jail administrators, judges, court administrators, to prosecutors and defenders, are vital to understanding the full scope of the factors contributing to jail populations and should be routinely analyzed for ways to more efficiently process their cases and thereby reduce the length of stay of detainees; and

**WHEREAS**, some of the factors that can affect length of stay of detainees include but are not limited to the following: multiple cases, drawn out cases for the benefit of the detainee, change of judges, cases “stuck” in the system, loss or change of private attorney, public defender or state’s attorney, and mental health of the detainee; and

**WHEREAS**, in Cook County, it is estimated that up to 1/3 of inmates being held in the county jail have a mental illness on a given day, making the jail Illinois’ and one of the nation’s largest mental health facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, it costs on average \$143 per day to house an inmate at the Cook County jail that number jumps to upwards of \$200 and sometimes far more for an inmate with a mental illness, due to the costs of medication and the extra supervision and care that are required to support them; and

**WHEREAS**, their cases tend to clog the courts with largely minor offenses that in turn lengthens the jail time for everyone, costing county taxpayers millions of dollars more every year, which doesn’t include the associated court costs that put a strain on the entire criminal justice system in Cook County; and

**WHEREAS**, public safety accounts for \$1.3 billion of the County’s \$6.18 billion FY2020 budget or over 20%, and the CCDOC FY2020 appropriation is \$337.8 million and Cermak Health Services, which provides mental health care for detainees has an appropriation of \$80.7 million; and

**WHEREAS**, not only is length of stay a matter of administering justice in an efficient and equitable fashion, it has a significant budgetary impact at the CCDOC and across the criminal justice system; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of the County’s budget challenges exacerbated greatly by the current health care crisis, it is in the best interest of this government and the taxpayers of the County of Cook that all remedies and efficiencies that can be implemented should be studied and considered, including further reducing the jail population by more efficiently administering justice thereby reducing length of stay in custody, which will alleviate some of the budgetary pressures on County Government; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential that this government understands the nature, scope and costs associated with the jail population especially for those detainees with extended lengths of stay in order to make informed decisions to better respond to, and make efficient use of our limited resources; and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing of the Criminal Justice Committee is the ideal platform to bring together stakeholders from the County Criminal Justice system to address these matters;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby request a public hearing be held to bring together key criminal justice stakeholders in order to fully understand the factors leading to increased length of stay for detainees at the Cook County Department of Corrections and its associated costs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Chief Judge, the Sheriff, the State's Attorney, the Clerk of the Court, the Public Defender, the Director of Cermak Health Services and any other pertinent representatives appear before the Criminal Justice Committee and be prepared to give an overview to the Committee and answer questions related to the length of stay of detainees at the CCDOC; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that each stakeholder office conduct an analysis of detainee's cases who have been held at the CCDOC for five years or longer and be prepared to provide data on the factors that have contributed to their prolonged length of stay; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that each stakeholder office be prepared to provide short and long-term solutions to address this matter in order to more equitably and efficiently administer justice in Cook County thereby reducing length of stay of detainees in the CCDOC.