

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:24:21 PM
Last Modified: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:39:17 PM
Time Spent: 00:14:55
IP Address: 96.74.142.230

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Taylor Barton
Organization (if any):	A Just Harvest
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60626

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Meeting 3/17/2021 2p**

Q3

Tell us the File ID number (example 17-0000) of the item on which you are registering your position. If you don't know the number, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look it up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar

Agenda item 21-2052

Q4

What do you want to do?

**REGISTER IN FAVOR of a specific item (You may add
written comments below)**

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

I have had the privilege of learning from and working alongside Sharone Mitchell Jr. for the last 8 months through the Coalition to End Money Bond and the Illinois Network for Pretrial Justice. Both of these are teams on which A Just Harvest, our nonprofit working to end hunger and poverty in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago and beyond, serve, and Sharone has proven to be a leader and a source of inspiration on both.

Sharone's dedication to the wellness of everyone in his community, his acerbic wisdom when it comes to Cook County's legal workings, and his tireless willingness to both teach and learn make him an outstanding candidate for PD. It would be an unquestionable loss on the part of all of Cook County to miss out on having him in our corner.

Nominating Mr. Mitchell is the right move because it directly aligns with the goals of A Just Harvest and other organizations like us who work to cultivate safety, abundance and resilience in our communities every day. A Just Harvest believes in seeing beyond the injustices that have resulted in so many of our neighbors suffering from hunger, and we see this in Mr. Mitchell's every move. He is a champion for ending poverty, inequality, and injustice, and we have seen him work strategically and with tremendous heart at reimagining a brighter Illinois for us all. Please vote in support of Sharone Mitchell Jr.'s nomination and help us all get one step closer to breaking bread and restoring community together!

Q6

Submitting written testimony only

Please Indicate if you are only submitting written testimony or if you wish to address the Committee live (virtually) at the meeting.

Q7

Respondent skipped this question

If requesting to address the Committee live (virtually), please provide an email address and phone number (This is required to receive an invitation to the virtual meeting).

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:26:48 PM
Last Modified: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:47:53 PM
Time Spent: 00:21:05
IP Address: 98.220.23.4

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Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Will Tanzman
Organization (if any):	The People's Lobby
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60615

Q2

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Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Meeting 3/17/2021 2p

Q3

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21-2052

Q4

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Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

Dear Commissioners on the Cook County Board:

On behalf of The People's Lobby, an organization of people across the Chicago region who work together for racial, economic, and environmental justice, I am urging you to vote to confirm Sharone Mitchell, Jr. as Cook County Public Defender.

Sharone brings to this office a deep understanding of criminal defense law and practice as well as a proven commitment to partnering with impacted communities and others to repair the harms of a criminal legal system that has locked up far too many Black and Brown people over the last forty years. Sharone has the ability to engage with legislators, system stakeholders, and grassroots community leaders, which makes him a great partner recognized and supported by many in the reform movement. He played an incredibly important role in advocating for the end of money bail and working with legislators to move that provision of the omnibus package that passed in January and was signed in February.

His personal experience growing up and living in communities impacted negatively by the criminal legal system gives him an important perspective to ground this work. His down to earth and relational style enable him to connect with people from a variety of backgrounds and types of experience and to communicate complicated legal questions in terms that non-experts can understand, which is important for the public-facing portion of the Public Defender's responsibilities. He has also built a great team at the Illinois Justice Project and coordinated largescale legislative work with far-flung partners across the state, so he is ready to take on the scale of work needed in the Public Defender's office.

In short, Sharone is a great candidate and Cook County would be served well by him in the position of Public Defender.

Sincerely,
Will Tanzman

Q6

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Q7

Respondent skipped this question

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#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:50:31 PM
Last Modified: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:59:22 PM
Time Spent: 00:08:51
IP Address: 73.176.82.254

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Daryle Brown
Organization (if any):	Trinity United Church of Christ
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60628

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Meeting 3/17/2021 2p**

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Agenda item 21-2052

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It is with great enthusiasm that I extend support for Attorney Sharone Mitchell to assume the role of Cook County Public Defender. The Justice Watch Team and Prison Ministry of Trinity UCC has been actively engaged with Attorney Mitchell in our work with the Coalition to End Money Bond for many years. He is a man of high integrity, powerful intelligence, and compassion for his fellow man. In other words, and ideal leader for our public defenders office. We were excited to hear that he was among those being considered, and are ecstatic to find that he received the nomination.

This note is to ask for unanimous support from among our commissioners for this outstanding candidate.

Thank you, and God's blessings to you and your family's.

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Q7

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Email Address

debrown@trinitychicago.org

Phone Number

8479223361

#4

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, March 15, 2021 2:12:00 PM
Last Modified: Monday, March 15, 2021 2:17:19 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:19
IP Address: 108.247.253.112

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Tanya Watkins
City/Town:	Glenwood
State:	IL
ZIP:	60425

Q2

Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Meeting 3/17/2021 2p

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Agenda item 21-2052

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I am excited to have Sharone Mitchell as the next Cook County Public Defender. Sharone has worked tirelessly with community in the name of justice. Not only is Sharone an absolutely brilliant attorney, he has such an outstanding character. This office needs to be led with empathy. Each individual who comes through our justice system deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. Sharone is the right person for this role. Looking forward to seeing him as our next PD!

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Email Address

watkins.tanya@att.net

Phone Number

7732510292

#5

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 10:36:40 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 10:40:09 AM
Time Spent: 00:03:29
IP Address: 65.79.134.88

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Lindsey Hammond
Organization (if any):	Community Renewal Society
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60604

Q2

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Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Meeting 3/17/2021 2p

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21-2052

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Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

On behalf of the Community Renewal Society, we congratulate Sharone Mitchell, Jr. on his selection to serve as the Cook County Public Defender and urge the Cook County Board to confirm his nomination. Community Renewal Society is a 138-year-old faith-based organization representing 55 member congregations across Cook County addressing issues of racism and poverty.

Mr. Mitchell has been a tireless defender of protecting the rights and liberty of people in the criminal legal system. As a member of the Coalition to End Money Bond, we have witnessed firsthand his dedication to advocate for systems change and create a fairer pretrial system in Illinois. Mr. Mitchell played an integral leadership role in ending wealth-based pretrial incarceration in Illinois and demonstrated his effectiveness at working collaboratively with diverse partners, ranging from faith-leaders, elected officials, labor unions, and advocates directly impacted by the pretrial system.

In addition to Mr. Mitchell's track record of providing high-quality legal representation as a public defender, Mr. Mitchell brings a bold vision for comprehensive criminal justice reform. He has been a progressive leader and partner in violence prevention, including playing a crucial role in diverting state cannabis tax revenue to groups that can treat root causes of harm with the Building a Safe Chicago Coalition.

In our five years of working closely with Mr. Mitchell, we have witnessed his strong work ethic, dedication, and commitment to operating with integrity. He is the ideal candidate for this moment to lead the Cook County Public Defender's Office. We enthusiastically support Mr. Mitchell's nomination and urge the Board to vote yes.

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Q7

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Email Address

lhammond@communityrenewalsociety.org

Phone Number

312-687-8578