



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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MEDIA ADVISORY

CITY CLUB FORUM – CHICAGO AT A CROSSROADS: THE FUTURE OF COMMUNITY POLICING
As Citywide Races Heats Up Community Engagement Becomes Central to Public Safety Debate

WHAT: What role does the community play in public safety and policing strategies in Chicago? A panel of experts discusses the progress, possibilities and challenges as the city grapples with how to build community and law enforcement relationships that lead to trust, true partnership and community engagement. The Chicago Police Department, struggling with retention and recruitment, is attempting to build a culture of trust within communities across the city, while the city implements a police-accountability ordinance with a federal judge looking over its shoulder to enforce a police-reform consent decree. And amidst it all, including a pandemic-fed increase in violence on the city streets, the Chicago Neighborhood Policing Initiative is working to build a willingness to talk to and work with the police on the beat. All this and more will inform the City Club's forum on the future of community policing.

WHO:

- **Laura Washington, Chicago Tribune contributing columnist, Moderator**
- **Rosanna Ander, executive director, UChicago Crime Lab and Education lab**
- **Mecole Jordan-McBride, community director, Chicago NPI**
- **Andrew Papachristos, Faculty Director, CORNERS, Northwestern University**
- **Mike Milstein, deputy director of community policing, Chicago Police Department**

WHEN: Noon-1:15 p.m. (Doors open 11:30 am)
Wednesday February 1, 2023

WHERE: Maggiano's Banquets
111 W. Grand Ave., Chicago
[Registration](#) is required - seating is limited.

WHY: Despite decades of abuses by police, only since their killing of Laquan McDonald was caught on video has Chicago been forced to enact reforms - via a consent decree. The goal of that consent decree is to put in place reforms that govern police training and policies and provide officers the support they need to implement safe and constitutional policing practices. The hope is that a series of lasting reforms is the first step to begin to build trust between Chicago's residents and police.

These reforms must deal with the longstanding mistrust between police and community members in Chicago that has led to a critical inability of police to prevent crimes and solve them after they've been committed. Community policing has been put forward as a strategy to help solve this problem. When done well it can build authentic relationships between police and the residents they are sworn to serve and protect. But the police department itself has to examine how it understands community policing and what it takes to build trust. And members of the community must put aside fear and cynicism in order to build this relationship. These are the barriers that Chicago's leadership must remove to make this strategy successful.



ABOUT: Chicago Neighborhood Policing Initiative is an intensive neighborhood-based policing philosophy that emphasizes relationship-building and focuses on the top priorities of community members. To learn more about CNPI go to <https://chicagonpi.org>.

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