



CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

PAX 501

Eddie T. Johnson, *Superintendent of Police*

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Dear Members,

Earlier today, Chicago Inspector General Joseph Ferguson (IG) released a report concerning overtime spending within the Chicago Police Department. The report identified problem areas and highlighted potential implications of waste and abuse. Many of the issues are attributed to antiquated systems and policies, including the Department's reliance on a paper-based time management system. We take these findings seriously and are taking steps to implement immediate corrective action and investigate any allegations of misconduct.

Many of the issues are being addressed with the introduction of a new electronic timekeeping system that will begin a pilot before the end of the year. There will also be revisions to the General Orders related to overtime, training for supervisors and timekeepers, along with procedural reminders to officers. Proactive police work does not always fit neatly into an officer's tour of duty and can thus lead to overtime. As such, Department members are reminded that their supervisor's approval is needed before a tour of duty can be extended and overtime granted. All approved overtime must be justified and documented accordingly.

Good police work keeps the public safe by holding offenders accountable for their actions and requires involved members to appear in court as witnesses or complainants. As part of our continued efforts to ensure professional conduct, officers are reminded that their role in criminal cases should be clearly articulated in all reports to ensure the proper preparation for a criminal trial. All court appearances by Department members must comply with our Department's General Orders.

We all know that this job requires sacrifice. However, working all hours of the day, holidays, special events, tour of duty extensions, court appearances, overtime initiatives or secondary employment, can add up and take a toll on you and your family. Officer safety is paramount and conversely, working excessive hours may cause fatigue and negatively impact officers in a variety of ways. For you, your partner, your family, and the community, it is vital that you provide sufficient time between secondary employment and the start of a tour of duty to allow for ample rest and relaxation.

As a Department, we have an obligation to our members and the communities of Chicago to remain fiscally responsible so that all available resources can be invested in the necessary equipment and training to effectively and efficiently safeguard our city.

Thank you, and as always, stay safe.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eddie T. Johnson".

Eddie T. Johnson
Superintendent of Police