**TELL THE CHICAGO POLICE TO STOP THE “POSITIVE COMMUNITY INTERACTIONS” PROGRAM**

The U.S. Department of Justice found that Chicago Police Department (CPD) officers “escalate encounters [with people] unnecessarily” including in “incidents where CPD officers used retaliatory force against people who object and claim they were unlawfully stopped by CPD.” Instead of fixing this problem, CPD announced a new program requiring officers to have 1.5 million “positive community interactions” (PCIs) with the public this year. Chicago should be *reducing* unnecessary police interactions with the public and promoting *non*-police responses to community needs. The PCI program is likely to result in violent, racially-biased, and unconstitutional stops of community members—while not improving public safety.

**Sample Comment:**

CPD must end its“positive community interactions” (PCI) program and its “Positive Community Interactions” policy (Special Order S02-03-15).

* Chicago must *reduce* unnecessary and dangerous police interactions with the community and develop *non*-police responses to community needs.
* The PCI program will provide yet another justification for CPD officers to target Black and brown communities and people with disabilities. It will continue CPD’s pattern of violent, discriminatory and racially biased policing—leading officers to have more unnecessary interactions with Black and brown Chicagoans.
* The quota of 1.5 million “positive community interactions” turns members of the public into boxes for officers to “check off” in order to meet a job target. Officers need to demonstrate respect for community members as human beings who often wish to be *left alone*.
* With 1.5 million PCIs per year (each lasting up to 30 minutes), officers could be spending up to 45 million minutes per year—*more than 93,000 8-hour shifts—*doing things other than solving crimes or responding to emergencies. That is a massive waste of Chicagoans’ tax dollars.
* The PCI program does not ensure that the *community member* actually felt the interaction with the officer was “positive.”
* The PCI policy does not require any guardrails or data collection to make sure that officers don’t use PCIs to harass or unconstitutionally stop someone because of the person’s race, nationality, age, gender, immigration status, or disability, and to make sure that officers are not using PCIs in racially biased ways.
* CPD developed this unnecessary and dangerous PCI policy without input from impacted communities. True community trust is built by listening to and following impacted communities’ recommendations on how to transform CPD—not by creating more unsupervised interactions between officers and community members.