

STOP THE CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT'S DEADLY FOOT CHASES

A **Foot Pursuit** is an inherently dangerous situation where an officer physically chases an individual on foot.

Chicago has a long history of foot pursuits leading to police shooting and killing Black and brown Chicagoans.

- This year, police killed 13-year-old [Adam Toledo](#) & 22-year-old [Anthony Alvarez](#) in foot chases.
- From [March-Dec 2020](#), police **used deadly force in 30 foot chases**.
 - The percentage of foot chases involving deadly force **more than doubled** from the previous period.
- A 2016 study shows that from 2010–2015, [Black people](#) were the target of 94% of CPD foot pursuits.

In May 2021, CPD Released an Interim Foot Pursuit Policy that Endangers Communities.

- It DOES NOT state that foot pursuits carry a **significant risk of danger and even death**.
- It PERMITS foot pursuits for **many minor offenses**—like possession of alcohol by a minor, obscenity, gambling, possession of drug paraphernalia, and prostitution—that don't threaten safety.
- It is VAGUE and **fails to give clear, easy-to-understand guidance** about when NOT to chase on foot.
- It PERMITS foot chases when a chase is “objectively reasonable” and officers merely have “reasonable suspicion” of an offense—that is **less** than what is needed for an arrest.
- It FAILS to require officers to **document their assessment of the risks and reasons** for every foot pursuit—even those that do NOT result in a stop or arrest. This prevents review to ensure that chases are justified.
- It was developed WITHOUT input from Black and brown Chicagoans impacted by foot pursuits.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD.

Before July 15, 2021, submit the following Public Comment to CPD [here](#).

CPD's Interim Foot Pursuit Policy fails to protect Chicago communities from deadly foot pursuits.

- (1) The policy must state that foot pursuits carry a **significant and inherent risk of danger and even death**.
- (2) The policy **must prohibit foot chases when the person is suspected only of a minor offense**, regardless of whether the offense is labeled a “Class A misdemeanor” or something else.
- (3) The policy **must prohibit foot chases in the following circumstances**, unless a person poses an immediate danger to the physical safety of an officer or another person:
 - when the fleeing person's identity is established, allowing apprehension later time,
 - when the officer can use alternative apprehension strategies, such as surveillance and containment,
 - when the pursuing officer is alone,
 - when officers pursue multiple people, but do not reasonably believe they can control them,
 - when the fleeing person enters a building/isolated area or limited visibility makes pursuit dangerous, or
 - when the officer loses visual contact of the person.
- (4) The policy must state that the **immediate apprehension of a person is rarely more important than the safety** of the person, members of the public, and CPD officers.
- (5) The policy **must require documentation of every foot chase**—regardless of outcome—in a report addressing:
 - the officer's reason for starting the foot chase and assessment of the risks involved,
 - a description of available alternative approaches the officer chose not to take,
 - the course and approximate distance of the pursuit, and
 - any injuries or medical treatment required.
- (6) The policy must require supervisors to **review all reports and body camera videos from every foot chase**.
- (7) Violations of the foot pursuit policy **must result in appropriate corrective action**, including discipline.

Sign up your organization to speak with CPD about the Interim Foot Pursuit Policy [HERE](#).
Register [here](#) for CPD **Community Conversations** on **Wed 6/30 @ 7pm & Sat 7/10 @ Noon**.