

# Community Engagement in Policy Creation - Chicago Police Department

## MENTAL HEALTH INCIDENT RESPONSE (CRISIS INTERVENTION)

The Chicago Police Department (CPD) recognizes the need for a comprehensive community engagement process that offers the community a meaningful opportunity to provide input into CPD policies. Please use the following information to guide your feedback and discussions on the CPD policy related to **Mental Health Incident Response (Crisis Intervention)**.

### **BACKGROUND**

The City of Chicago Consent Decree requires that CPD “review and revise its crisis intervention-related policies as necessary” (§137). Additionally, “CPD policy will encourage officers to redirect individuals in crisis to the healthcare system, available community resources, and available alternative response options, where feasible and appropriate” (§134). In development of the policy on **Mental Health Incident Response (Crisis Intervention)**, CPD has researched applicable laws, operational practices from other agencies, and other published research and analyses, including recommendation from the Chicago Crisis Intervention Advisory Committee.

**Current CPD Policy** (available publicly at <http://directives.chicagopolice.org>)

- S04-20 “Responding to Incidents Involving Persons in Need of Mental Health Treatment” and associated addenda
- S05-14 “Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program”

CPD recognizes the correlation between mental health and crime and is committed to the dignified treatment and safety of arrestees and other persons requiring assistance from the Department to obtain mental health evaluation, treatment, or hospitalization.

CPD is committed to responding to incidents involving persons in need of mental health treatment with the foremost regard for the preservation of human life and the safety of all persons involved.

### **POLICY ENGAGEMENT TOPICS**

- CPD’s commitment to procedures that create mutual understanding and ensures the respectful treatment of persons in need of mental health treatment, including interacting in a manner that is professional, respectful, and courteous.
- CIT Program and the designation of CIT Certified Officers, including the assignment and availability of specialized support.
- Strategies and tactics for responding to incidents involving persons in need of mental health treatment, including using verbal, behavioral and environmental cues that could suggest an individual is in need of mental health treatment.
- Rights and responsibilities of caregivers and guardians and its relationship with CPD in response to incidents involving persons in need of mental health treatment.
- Crisis Intervention Team training, including training involving youth and veterans.
- Multi-disciplinary approach to incidents involving persons in need of mental health treatment, including partnerships with organizations and agencies within the social service, health care, and education systems.

***CPD anticipates gathering and utilizing the feedback provided via the community engagement process to develop a comprehensive policy that is inclusive of and reflects the needs and expectations of both the community and CPD. CPD’s policy development process will also include the public posting of proposed policies for comments on CPD’s website prior to implementation.***