



# NEWS RELEASE

## Chicago Police Department

David O. Brown  
Superintendent

For Immediate Release  
March 24, 2021

Contact: Office of News Affairs  
312-745-6110

### **CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES NEW VIDEO SERIES HIGHLIGHTING CAREERS IN CPD**

*Interviews with CPD deputy chiefs, commanders highlight the profession of law enforcement in Chicago; deadline extended to April 9 for applications to the June 2021 CPD entrance exam*

**CHICAGO** — With more than 50% of active sworn Chicago Police Department members having self-identified as coming from a diverse background, the mission of attracting, hiring and promoting individuals who reflect the broad cross-section of communities that the Department serves each day remains a top priority.

To help promote career opportunities within the Chicago Police Department, CPD today launched a [new video series](#) featuring several senior-ranking Department members sharing their personal journeys over the course of their respective CPD careers as part of the Department's "Be The Change" recruitment campaign for the June 2021 CPD exam.

"Diversity is very important to the police department," said CPD Bureau of Counter-terrorism Chief Jose Tirado, one of the Department members highlighted in the video series. "You have to be able to relate to people on their level to help them. How can you relate if you don't understand where they're coming from?"

The video series, which also features other ranking Department members including CPD Area 1 Deputy Chief Yolanda Talley, CPD Area 2 Deputy Chief Larry Snelling, CPD Strategic Initiatives Division Cmdr. Stephen Chung and Youth Investigations Cmdr. Patricia Casey, highlights the law enforcement profession from the perspective of several diverse Department members who now hold several of the highest sworn positions in CPD, as well as encouraging potential applicants to "Be The Change" by joining the next generation of Chicago Police officers.

"For the person that's considering it, I would definitely tell them to look at this as a profession and not just a job," said Deputy Chief Talley. "It's very rewarding, offers great opportunities to meet people and see the city in a way that you would not normally see it. If you are looking for life adventure, then this is the profession for you, because it has been a great ride, and I have enjoyed every minute."

Commander Casey, who oversees all aspects of the Department's youth investigations efforts, would encourage potential applicants who may be unsure about a potential career with CPD to consider applying and taking the exam.

"This is one of the most honorable jobs that you can ever have," said Cmdr. Casey. "I would encourage someone who is on the fence to try it, because I have no doubt that if you did try it, you would probably love it."

Applications for the first CPD entrance exam since January 2020 are being accepted through April 9, and for the first time ever, applicants will have the option to take the exam at a Pearson VUE test center, or at home via an online-proctored solution offered by Pearson. Chicago Police Officers receive a competitive starting salary of \$48,078 that increases to \$72,510 annually after just 18 months. Benefits include regularly scheduled salary increases, city-subsidized medical and dental insurance, holidays, tuition reimbursement, and retirement savings and pension plans.

Candidates must be permanent residents of the United States, and also must be 21 to enter the Academy and may not enter after the age of 40. Candidates must also possess 60 semester (90 quarter) hours from an accredited college or university. The education requirement is waived for military veterans who possess 36 continuous months of active-duty service, or least 30 semester (45 quarter) hours from an accredited college or university and have served one continuous year on active duty.

Candidates who pass the computer-based entrance exam are placed on the Police Officer referral list in random lottery order and will be contacted by July 2021 to complete the next steps in the hiring process, which include the following:

- Pre-Police Officer Wellness Evaluation Report Test (Pre-P.O.W.E.R. Test)
- Background investigation
- Medical examination
- Psychological examination
- Drug screen
- Final P.O.W.E.R. Test
- And other pre-employment procedures as determined by the City of Chicago and the Chicago Police Department

The exam is currently slated for June 2021. The application period for the next CPD entrance exam will be announced later this spring.

The “Be The Change” video series is available [here](#). For more information on the application process for the CPD entrance exam, visit [www.chicagopolice.org](http://www.chicagopolice.org).

###