

ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, an integral part of the justice system are police reports, which are official records that document facts and information that can be used in future legal proceedings;

WHEREAS, Chicago Police Department ("CPD") members draft police reports to memorialize dates, times, places, witnesses, and other facts relevant to arrests, alleged crimes, accidents, and other incidents;

WHEREAS, police reports can form the basis of investigations and insurance claims and may be used in criminal and civil legal proceedings if admissible in court, thereby influencing life-altering decisions around innocence and punishment;

WHEREAS, CPD Rules and Regulations recognize that a lack of honesty and integrity in police reporting can undermine department credibility and legitimacy, particularly Rule 14's prohibition against false oral and written reports;

WHEREAS, in recent years, a number of police department across the country have started using emerging artificial intelligence ("AI")-assisted police reporting software, which uses large language models ("LLMs") to transcribe body-worn camera audio and visual and reformat the information into a traditional police report;

WHEREAS, using AI to draft police reports involves a number of issues surrounding bias, confidentiality, and transparency;

WHEREAS, LLMs are currently prone to hallucinations, which are nonsensical or inaccurate responses to prompts inputted by the user;

WHEREAS, AI-assisted police report drafting software has already produced notable hallucinations, including shape-shifting a Utah police officer into a frog after misinterpreting a children's movie playing in the background;

WHEREAS, LLMs are also prone to bias, especially racial- and gender-based, and have been found to transcribe African American Vernacular English and other English dialects poorly;

WHEREAS, uploading information to a proprietary LLM that is then transmitted to a third-party operator may lead to unintended privacy and confidentiality breaches;

WHEREAS, issues of transparency and accountability under CPD's current rules may arise if drafting mistakes in police reports are attributed to AI-assisted software instead of CPD members; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. Chapter 2-84 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by inserting a new Section 2-84-530 as follows:

2-84-530 Prohibited uses of artificial intelligence.

(a) No sworn or civilian member of the Police Department may use artificial intelligence, in whole or in part, to write, prepare, or create any written police report or other law enforcement record.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "artificial intelligence" means an engineered or machine-based system or other technology that, for explicit or implicit objectives, can: (1) make predictions, recommendations, or decisions influencing real or virtual environments; or (2) generate outputs or other content including, but not limited to, text, audio, images, video, or other documents, based on patterns from large volumes of data generated from user-provided inputs or prompts.

SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this ordinance, the Superintendent of Police shall review any applicable existing general orders and issue a new or revised general order as may be necessary to effectuate this ordinance.

SECTION 3. This ordinance takes effect upon passage and publication.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt J. Martin", with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Matthew J. Martin
Alderman, 47th Ward