

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, domestic violence crimes have increased by 15% in the last year despite an overall decrease in violent crime in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago's budget allocated an additional \$3.9 million to the Chicago Police Department's Office of Victim Services to assist in reversing this spike; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Victim Services functions by reviewing police reports detailing violent incidents and reaching out to the survivors; and

WHEREAS, primary responsibilities of the Office of Victim Services include connecting survivors to a network of community service providers and providing referrals to the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline; and

WHEREAS, of 40 of the 56 community service providers contacted, only four providers reported referrals from the Office of Victim Services; and

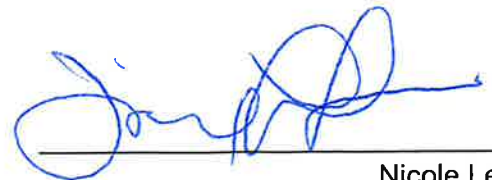
WHEREAS, police referrals to the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline decreased from 3,384 in 2023 to 2,704 in 2025, the year that the Office of Victim Services began to expand; and

WHEREAS, advocates on behalf of victims and survivors have voiced concern about the decision to invest in the Office of Victim Services instead of increasing funding for needed programs such as emergency housing and legal aid;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CHICAGO, that we, the members of the City Council of Chicago, call upon the Committee on Police and Fire to convene a public hearing to address these claims and identify solutions to better serve Chicagoans impacted by domestic violence; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CHICAGO, that representatives from the Chicago Police Department appear before the Committee to provide testimony on the allocation of \$3.9 million to the Office of Victim Services and other initiatives around domestic violence prevention and services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CHICAGO, that Chicago-based domestic violence survivors, advocacy organizations and subject matter experts be invited to address the rise in domestic violence cases in the City of Chicago and the remedies necessary to address this problem.



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