



Chicago Police Sergeants' Association  
Police Benevolent & Protective Association

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Good afternoon,

I would like to draw your attention to the critical issue of people being housed in Chicago Police District stations. The situation has increased exponentially; families are remaining in stations for days and, sometimes weeks at a time. Police District stations are not equipped to handle a situation like this. If a Police Officer was to walk into a home with the same conditions that exist in the stations, they would be forced to call DCFS and remove any/all children, due to the poor conditions. There is no ability to store or prepare meals, bath or cleanse, or a proper place to sleep. Having to cleanse in a bathroom sink, having no ability to keep food refrigerated, and sleeping on hard cement-like floors, are inhumane living conditions. We pride ourselves on being both a welcoming City and a welcoming State. How welcoming are the conditions I described? The City calls the people migrants, asylum seekers, or unhoused, but no matter what title they are given, they are all human beings who deserve, at the very least, humane conditions to live in. Where do the children get to be children in a station? There is no place to play, run around, and just be a kid. I do know there is currently a very large influx of people but it needs news coverage to bring the issue to the forefront. Without humanizing the issue, the City will be allowed to continue storing and treating people like they are a mere commodity. We need to change this; let's force the City and State to truly be welcoming. In many of the Police Department's General Orders, there is the statement "sanctity of human life" to show how above all else we are to hold sacred each person's life. By housing persons in Police Districts, we are doing anything but showing the sanctity of human life. We are taking police resources that need to be used to address the violence in this City and are using them for something that needs to be addressed by other better-suited agencies. Police Districts are where we bring and process arrestees, and often times those persons are bonded out from the stations. Not something children should be a part of. I ask you to please continue to demand answers from the City and State officials who are allowing and condoning this treatment of our fellow human beings and for the practice of housing persons in Police District stations.

Sincerely,



James Calvino  
President

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