

CHICAGO RABBINICAL COUNCIL

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HOME OF THE  YOUR GUARANTEE OF KOSHER!

בס"ד

December 22, 2025 | ר"ח טבת תשפ"ו

Superintendent Larry Snelling
Office of the CPD Superintendent of Police
3510 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60653

As the Jewish holiday of Chanukah comes to a close, I wanted to share our community's heartfelt thanks to the Chicago Police Department and its dedicated officers. Your dedicated work, consistent presence and partnership this past week, and every week, is deeply appreciated.

The joyous holiday of Chanukah was unfortunately ushered in by horrific news from the other side of the world. The hateful attack in Australia left us personally and communally traumatized, with renewed fear of growing antisemitism and its danger of exploding into violence. With CPD partnership, we continued to proudly light the menorah that recalls the miraculous salvation of the Jewish people in Jerusalem two millennia ago, and the divine protection to this day that allows us to maintain our proud Jewish tradition.

But the creeping pall of the Chicago winter seemed to reflect the darkness of a world increasingly chaotic, polarized, and violent. Walking to synagogue one dark morning this week, past houses of neighbors from various faith traditions and their respective lights, we saw the blue lights of a CPD vehicle standing guard, and were encouraged by the hallowed civic tradition that you and your officers embody. In addition to the physical protections of good policing, your officers' vigilant service demonstrates not only law but order. While anarchical, crazed hatred threatens society, your work and commitment to common good strengthens the core of our unified city and represents the good that binds us.

Thank you, and may God continue to protect you and your officers.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Yona Reiss

Av Beth Din

Chicago Rabbinical Council

Rabbi Levi Mostofsky

Executive Director

Chicago Rabbinical Council

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