



BRENDAN REILLY

ALDERMAN—42ND WARD

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CHICAGO

42ND WARD OFFICE

325 WEST HURON STREET
SUITE 510
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60654
TELEPHONE (312) 642-4242

CITY HALL OFFICE

CITY HALL—ROOM 300
121 NORTH LA SALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602
TELEPHONE (312) 744-3062

WWW.WARD42CHICAGO.COM

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

BUILDINGS

COMMITTEES, RULES, AND ETHICS

HEALTH

TRAFFIC CONTROL AND SAFETY

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WAY

June 4, 2010

Dear Neighbor:

I am writing to provide an update regarding recent criminal activity and violence along the Lakefront from North Avenue to Fullerton. Although these recent incidents occurred in the 43rd Ward, they represent a threat - not only to my Gold Coast constituents, but to the safety of all Chicago residents.

Please know that I share your concerns about these very disturbing incidents. The safety and security of downtown residents and visitors remains my top priority. Once I learned of the first incident, I immediately contacted Commander Angarone of the 18th Police District to request a full outline of the steps that will be taken to significantly increase the police presence on the Lakefront to improve public safety.

I am pleased to report the Chicago Police Department has recently implemented the following additional safety and security measures along the Lakefront:

- **All-Terrain Vehicles** – The Police have purchased 3 ATV's which can operate on sand and have been dispatched to the Lakefront to patrol the area.
- **Security Cameras** – Cameras have been installed near North Avenue Beach to better monitor conditions at the beach and along the Lakefront Trail.
- **Additional Officers** – The Police have doubled the number of officers assigned to the Lakefront, as well as the perimeter, which includes the Gold Coast, Sandburg Village and Near North communities.
- **Zero Tolerance Alcohol Policy** – The Police are strictly enforcing a Zero Tolerance Policy toward unauthorized alcohol on the Lakefront. Anyone caught with alcohol on our public beaches will be immediately arrested and processed.
- **Random Bag Checks** – The Police are conducting random checks of bags and coolers for individuals at the North Avenue Beach perimeter, to prevent illegal drinking on the beach. Individuals who refuse to have their bags checked will be asked to leave their belongings before entering the beach.

- **Paddy Wagons** – The Police have stationed paddy wagons near North Avenue Beach and points south to be dispatched to help with any future disturbance.

I believe this sharp increase in the deployment police resources to our local neighborhoods and Lakefront will address this problem. However, if you witness a crime or suspicious behavior in your neighborhood, it is absolutely critical that you immediately call 9-1-1 to provide a detailed report to ensure the Chicago Police Department can prioritize your call. Please share this information with your neighbors and/or building staff to ensure any incidents are reported in real-time and the appropriate reports are filed.

Further, I strongly encourage you and your neighbors to attend your regular neighborhood CAPS meetings. CAPS meetings provide you with an opportunity to discuss crime and safety issues directly with the beat cops who patrol your immediate neighborhood. These monthly CAPS meetings improve accountability and responsiveness from the Police Department in addressing local concerns.

Please contact the 18th Police District CAPS Office at 312-742-5778 to confirm the date and time of your next monthly neighborhood CAPS beat meeting.

Thank you again for contacting my office – I appreciate your input. If I can be of any further assistance, please call 312-642-4242 or visit my “virtual office” at www.ward42chicago.com for updates on this issue and other important information about your neighborhood and downtown Chicago’s 42nd Ward.

Sincerely,



Brendan Reilly
Alderman, 42nd Ward