



City of Chicago



R2022-1416

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	12/14/2022
Sponsor(s):	Lopez (15) Hopkins (2) Dowell (3) King (4) Sawyer (6) Harris (8) Beale (9) Lee (11) Quinn (13) Burke (14) Coleman (16) Moore (17) Curtis (18) O'Shea (19) Taylor (20) Brookins (21) Rodriguez (22) Tabares (23) Scott (24) Sigcho-Lopez (25) Maldonado (26) Taliaferro (29) Cardona, Jr. (31) Waguespack (32) Rodriguez Sanchez (33) Austin (34) Ramirez-Rosa (35) Villegas (36) Mitts (37) Vasquez, Jr. (40) Napolitano (41) Reilly (42) Knudsen (43) Tunney (44) Gardiner (45) Cappleman (46) Martin (47) Osterman (48) Hadden (49) Abarca (12)
Type:	Resolution

Title:

Call for hearing(s) on status of U Nonimmigrants Status certifications within City of Chicago

Committee(s) Assignment:

Joint Committee: Public Safety; Immigrant and Refugee Rights

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The United States of America Citizenship and Immigration Services permits the issuance of U-Visa status to undocumented individuals who are victims of certain crimes, suffered mental or physical abuse, and are helpful to law enforcement or government officials in the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity; and,

WHEREAS, The federal legislation was intended to strengthen the ability of law enforcement agencies, such as the Chicago Police Department, to investigate and prosecute cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking of noncitizens and other crimes, while also protecting victims of crimes who have suffered substantial mental or physical abuse due to the crime and are willing to help law enforcement authorities in the investigation or prosecution of the criminal activity; and,

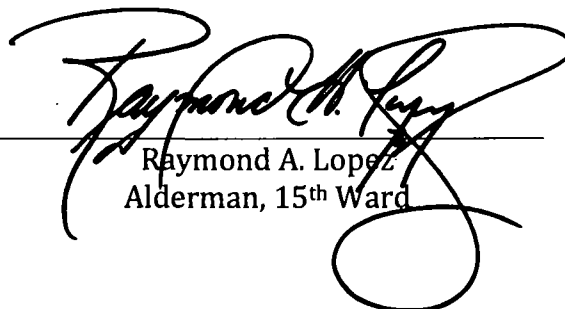
WHEREAS, The United States of America Citizenship and Immigration Services considers the following to be qualifying Criminal Activities as suitable grounds for eligibility: abduction, abusive sexual contact, blackmail, domestic violence, extortion, false imprisonment, female genital mutilation, felonious assault, fraud in foreign labor contracting, hostage, incest, involuntary servitude, kidnapping, manslaughter, murder, obstruction of justice, peonage, perjury, prostitution, rape, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, slave trade, stalking, torture, trafficking, witness tampering, unlawful criminal restraint, and other substantially similar crimes; and,

WHEREAS, The Chicago Police Department's Records Inquiry Section (Unit 163) is responsible for the adjudication of U-Visa applications submitted to the department and does not track certification applications submitted, approved and/or rejected by the unit; and,

WHEREAS, According to a recent report by *Injustice Watch*, the Police Department has denied at least 800 certifications in the last two years as opposed to Los Angeles and New York City denied less than 350 and 150 request in 2021 respectively; and,

WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Chicago have reaffirmed its commitment on numerous times to be a Welcoming City to those undocumented individuals seeking refuge from the harms of their homeland; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, that the Committee on Public Safety and the Committee on Immigration & Refugee Rights hold joint hearings with the Chicago Police Department and the Law Department to discuss the status of U Nonimmigrant Status certifications within the City of Chicago, its policies and protocols for approval or denial, the collection of data, and the ability of the department to genuinely assist those most vulnerable needing our assistance in accessing a federal certification.



Raymond A. Lopez
Alderman, 15th Ward

Alderman Daniel La Spata, 1st Ward

Dan La Spata

Alderman Brian Hopkins, 2nd Ward

Brian Hopkins

Alderman Pat Dowell, 3rd Ward

Pat Dowell

Alderman Sophia D. King, 4th Ward

Alderman Leslie Hairston, 5th Ward

Leslie Hairston

Alderman Roderick Sawyer, 6th Ward

Alderman Gregory I. Mitchell, 7th Ward

Gregory I. Mitchell

Alderman Michelle Harris, 8th Ward

Michelle Harris

Alderman Anthony Beale, 9th Ward

Alderman Susan Sadlowski Garza, 10th Ward

Susan Sadlowski Garza

Alderman Patrick D. Thompson, 11th Ward

Patrick D. Thompson

Alderman Anabel Albarca, 12th Ward

Anabel Albarca

Alderman Marty Quinn, 13th Ward

Marty Quinn

Alderman Edward M. Burke, 14th Ward

Alderman Raymond Lopez, 15th Ward

Raymond Lopez

Alderman Stephanie D. Coleman, 16th Ward

Stephanie D. Coleman

Alderman David Moore, 17th Ward

David Moore

Alderman Derrick Curtis, 18th Ward

Derrick Curtis

Alderman Matt O'Shea, 19th Ward

Matt O'Shea

Alderman Jeanette B. Taylor, 20th Ward

Jeanette B. Taylor

Alderman Howard B. Brookins, Jr., 21st Ward

Howard B. Brookins, Jr.

Alderman Michael D. Rodriguez, 22nd Ward

Michael D. Rodriguez

Alderman Silvana Tabares, 23rd Ward

Silvana Tabares

Alderman Monique Scott, 24th Ward

Monique Scott

Alderman Byron Sigcho Lopez, 25th Ward

Byron Sigcho Lopez

Alderman Roberto Maldonado, 26th Ward

Alderman Walter Burnett, Jr., 27th Ward

Alderman Jason Ervin, 28th Ward

Jason Ervin

Alderman Christopher Taliaferro, 29th Ward

Alderman Ariel E. Reboyras, 30th Ward

Ariel E. Reboyras

Alderman Felix Cardona Jr., 31st Ward

Felix Cardona Jr.

Alderman Scott Waguespack, 32nd Ward

Scott Waguespack

Alderman Rossana Rodriguez - Sanchez, 33rd Ward

Rossana Rodriguez - Sanchez

Alderman Carrie M. Austin, 34th Ward

Carrie M. Austin

Carlos R. 35

Alderman Carlos Ramirez-Rosa, 35th Ward

[Signature]

Alderman Gilbert Villegas, 36th Ward

Emma Mitts

Alderman Emma Mitts, 37th Ward

Alderman Nicholas Sposato, 38th Ward

Alderman Samantha Nugent, 39th Ward

A. Vasquez

Alderman Andre Vasquez, 40th Ward

[Signature]

Alderman Anthony V. Napolitano, 41st Ward

B

Alderman Brendan Reilly, 42nd Ward

[Signature]

Alderman Michele Smith, 43rd Ward

Timothy Knudsen

Alderman Thomas Tunney, 44th Ward

[Signature]

Alderman James M. Gardiner, 45th Ward

James Gardiner

Alderman James Cappleman, 46th Ward

James Cappleman

Alderman Mathew J. Martin, 47th Ward

Mathew J. Martin

Alderman Harry Osterman, 48th Ward

[Signature]

Alderman Maria E. Hadden, 49th Ward

M. Hadden

Alderman Debra Silverstein, 50th Ward