



Office of the Chicago City
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Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	12/14/2011
Sponsor(s):	Laurino, Margaret (39)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Call for hearing(s) on use of sound devices
Committee(s) Assignment:	Committee on Public Safety

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Crowd control is a constant challenge to law enforcement in all municipalities; and

WHEREAS, Sound has long been used as a weapon, from the Biblical story of rams' horns bringing down the walls of Jericho to sirens on dive bombers in WWII to the US Army blasting rock music to torment former Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega; and

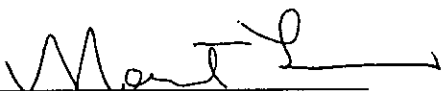
WHEREAS, Sound devices are joining law enforcement's ever expanding arsenal on non-lethal weapons; and

WHEREAS, The Long Distance Acoustic Device (LRAD) is a distance hailing device and non-lethal crowd control weapon. It can be used as a high-tech mega-phone to send messages and warnings or as a tactical weapon that emits harmful, pain inducing tones over long distances. The device directs beams of sound, similar to beams of light, so that those who are not in the path of the beam are not affected; and

WHEREAS, This device was developed for the Pentagon by a military contractor, LRAD Corporation, after the September 11th terror attacks as a sonic weapon to help control unruly crowds, thwart hijackers and keep other potential threats at bay; and

WHEREAS, Both the NATO and G8 Summits will be held here in Chicago in May of 2012, and experts have stated that it will be a security challenge that no other American city has ever faced. The city, state and federal law enforcement agencies are coordinating efforts and preparing for contentious crowds and demonstrators; NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, That representatives from the Chicago Police Department and the Office of Emergency Management and Communications are invited to appear before the Committee on Public Safety to testify about the use of sound devices as they relate to crowd control in the City of Chicago.


MARGARET LAURINO
Alderman, 39th Ward