

The Office of Public Safety Administration (PSA) and the Chicago Fire Department (CFD) hereby submit this joint response to the Office of Inspector General's Advisory Regarding the Chicago Fire Department's Management and Enforcement of Protocols for Missing or Stolen Badges and Shields.

The Chicago Fire Department is in the process of updating its Badge and Cap Device Policy to adhere to the recommendations made by the OIG in its Advisory. Specifically, the amended General Order will require the following: 1) members to report a lost or stolen badge within 24 hours via a Form 2/2A; 2) members who lose or destroy a badge must pay for the cost of replacement; 3) members who do not pay for the cost of replacement may be subject to discipline and/or wage garnishment for the replacement cost; and 4) condition the eligibility for a retirement badge on the tendering of the member's active duty badge at the time of retirement.

The Office of Public Safety Administration (PSA) is responsible for the administration of human resources for the Chicago Police Department (CPD), the Chicago Fire Department (CFD), and the Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC). As such, it is the responsibility of PSA to develop and implement policies that support the various administrative functions of our public safety partners. Thus, PSA will develop a policy that aligns with CFD's amended policy related to badges. PSA's policy regarding CFD badges will include procedures aimed at addressing concerns raised by the OIG. These procedures will include the continuation of the practice of PSA-HR collecting badges from retiring members of CFD, compiling and tracking data submitted by members on CFD's form 2/2A and the related police report, and reviewing the data for trends or operational concerns. If unusual trends or operational concerns are identified, PSA will notify CFD-IAD and the OIG. PSA-HR will also make this data readily available for CFD, CFD-IAD and the OIG to review at any time via access through a shareable portal.

Sincerely,

Aaron R. DeCamp  
General Counsel  
Chicago Fire Department