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**LAW DEPARTMENT FILES MOTION TO RELEASE CHATMAN SHOOTING
VIDEOS FROM PROTECTIVE ORDER**

*In Efforts to be Transparent and Find Balance with Public Interest, City Petitions
to Release Videos*

Corporation Counsel Steve Patton today announced that a motion in the Linda Chatman vs. City of Chicago case has been filed to vacate the protective orders that were granted by a federal judge covering the videos of the incident, which capture portions of the shooting of Cedric Chatman by members of the Chicago Police Department.

“With respect to the release of videos of police incidents, the City of Chicago is working to find the right balance between the public’s interest in disclosure and the importance of protecting the integrity of investigations and the judicial process,” said Patton. “In this case, the city sought a protective order consistent with its decades-long policy. We recognize the policy needs to be updated, and while we await guidance from the Task Force on Police Accountability, we are working to be as transparent as possible.”

The videos are currently under a protective order after the court agreed such an order was appropriate under current law to ensure a fair trial for all parties in an ongoing civil lawsuit.

The protective order was originally entered when this case was filed in early 2014 as part of the City’s longstanding policy to not jeopardize pending criminal and/or disciplinary investigations or other judicial proceedings by publicly releasing videos and other evidence relating to alleged police misconduct until such investigations and proceedings are concluded.

On December 1, Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced the creation of the Task Force on Police Accountability to review the system of accountability, oversight and training that is currently in place for Chicago's police officers. Among its responsibilities, the task force will establish best practices for release of videos of police-involved incidents.

The City of Chicago has a decades-long policy not to publicly release videos and other evidence relating to alleged police misconduct that is the subject of pending criminal and/or disciplinary investigations until such investigations are concluded so as not to jeopardize those investigations. The task force will consider if the City should change this policy, and if so, when and under what circumstances such evidence should be released to the public. The task force will actively engage community, victims' rights, law enforcement, youth, religious and elected leaders to ensure the recommendations are based on input from all parts of the city. Its recommendations will be presented to the Mayor and City Council by March 31, 2016.

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