



City of Chicago



R2020-473

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	7/22/2020
Sponsor(s):	Villegas (36)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Call for hearing(s) on predatory towing practices and establishment of enforcement procedures
Committee(s) Assignment:	Committee on Finance

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR HEARINGS ON PREDATORY TOWING COMPANIES

WHEREAS, vehicle towing companies are often the cause of accidents due to aggressive driving; and,

WHEREAS, many tow truck companies often fail to properly maintain their vehicles, therefore causing brake failure and tire blowouts; and,

WHEREAS, the severity of tow truck related injuries consists of, but is not limited to, burns, broken bones, amputations, traumatic brain injuries, internal bleeding, paralysis, and even death; and,

WHEREAS, the problem with hooks and cables often cause towed vehicles to roll off the bed while changing lanes, causing harm to other drivers; and,

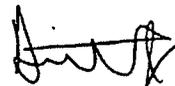
WHEREAS, NIOSH states that the annual death rate of motor vehicle towing workers is 42.9 deaths per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers; and,

WHEREAS, tow trucks often cause poor visibility to other vehicles due to the proportions of the truck causing blind spots; and,

WHEREAS, on June 13th, 2018, Andrea Santiago's 1998 GMC Savana 1500 van was illegally impounded without receiving a notice in the mail, a practice known as predatory towing; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That by no later than October 1st, 2020, the Finance Committee of the Chicago City Council will hold one or more public hearings to determine the extent of the predatory towing epidemic in Chicago, and also begin to formulate a new process of enforcement to keep Chicagoans safe; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection is, through this Resolution, requested to testify at said hearing or hearings.



Gilbert Villegas
Alderman, 36th Ward