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1	LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMISSION HEARING
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3	Report of proceedings had at the Legislative
	Audit Commission Hearing, held at the Bilandic Building,
4	160 North LaSalle Street, Room C-600, Chicago, Illinois,
	on the 8th day of October, A.D., 2014, commencing at the
5	hour of 10:00 a.m.
6	
7	APPEARANCES:
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9	SENATOR JASON A. BARICKMAN, Co-Chair
10	REPRESENTATIVE FRANK J. MAUTINO, Co-Chair
11	
12	SENATOR BILL BRADY
13	SENATOR ANDY MANAR
14	SENATOR IRIS Y. MARTINEZ
15	SENATOR JIM OBERWEIS
16	SENATOR KWAME RAOUL
17	REPRESENTATIVE FRED CRESPO
18	REPRESENTATIVE DENNIS REBOLETTI
19	REPRESENTATIVE DAVID REIS
20	REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT RITA
21	REPRESENTATIVE RON SANDACK
22	
23	MS. JANE STRICKLIN, Executive Director
24	
25	MR. WILLIAM G. HOLLAND, Auditor General

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1	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: The hour of 10:00 o'clock
2	having arrived, I'd like to call the Audit Commission to
3	order and welcome everyone back after a 90-day break.
4	At this time, I'd like to first have Jane take
5	the take attendance and roll.
6	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Barickman.
7	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Here.
8	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Brady.
9	SENATOR BRADY: Here.
10	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Manar.
11	SENATOR MANAR: Here.
12	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Martinez.
13	SENATOR MARTINEZ: Here.
14	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Oberweis.
15	SENATOR OBERWEIS: Here.
16	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Raoul?
17	SENATOR RAOUL: Here.
18	MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Crespo.
19	REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Present.
20	MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Mautino.
21	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Present.
22	MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Reboletti?
23	REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: Present.
24	MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Reis.
25	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Here.

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1	MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Rita.
2	REPRESENTATIVE RITA: Here.
3	MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Sandack.
4	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Here.
5	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: 12 member members
6	answering the roll, all members are present, and we can
7	proceed with business.
8	We have some housekeeping items first to take
9	care of. And the first item is seating of members. We
10	have new members on the Commission. And under our
11	structure, there is no provision in our statute for
12	midterm replacement. So there's a couple things that we
13	need to do.
14	Senator Oberweis, a member of this Commission,
15	would I'll take a motion when I'm done, but let me
16	explain the whole situation.
17	Under our statutes, for a member to come in in
18	midterm, the previous member who was serving must resign
19	the General Assembly. So we do not want Senator
20	Senator Mulroe to have to resign the General Assembly.
21	We do not want Representative Brauer to have to resign
22	the General Assembly. We do not want Representative
23	Pihos to have to resign the General Assembly. And so in
24	the in the Act's practice, we have allowed for
25	members to come in and serve and question. Under our

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1	Act, only members of the Commission may question	
2	witnesses.	
3	And so for the purposes since Senator	
4	Dillard has left the General Assembly, I would like to	
5	get a motion from Representative Sandack to seat	
6	Senator Oberweis and to allow for questions and	
7	participation from Representative Reis, Representative	
8	Reboletti, and Senator Raoul.	
9	May I have that motion.	
10	SENATOR SANDACK: Yes, Chairman. I move that	
11	Senator Oberweis be seated as a member of the	
12	Legislative Audit Commission and that Senator Raoul,	
13	Representatives Reis and Reboletti be permitted to	
14	participate in the proceedings today and as as	
15	members of the Legislative Audit Commission.	
16	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And we will have a second	
17	to that motion by Representative Rita.	
18	REPRESENTATIVE RITA: Yes.	
19	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Rita seconds that motion.	
20	And all in favor, "aye."	
21	(Chorus of ayes.)	
22	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Opposed, same sign.	
23	(No verbal response.)	
24	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: In favor carries, and the	
25	members are seated.	

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1	Welcome to the General Assembly. You
2	picked to the Audit Commission. You picked a great
3	day.
4	Before other items And Senator Barickman
5	and I have talked, and we are in agreement. Since So
6	we'll have a few more motions.
7	But we'd like to get a status update from our
8	Executive Director, Jane Stricklin, on the documents and
9	what's on the website since we did receive documents
10	last night. And I hope that all have received them.
11	I've looked at those documents and believe they are
12	proper, and so I'd like to have Jane just give us a
13	status update.
14	MS. STRICKLIN: Representative, we have it was
15	my understanding that we have everything that we have
16	received to date currently on the General Assembly
17	website, but Ms. Johnson tells me that there may be a
18	couple of items missing. And I'm checking just now.
19	The e-mails that I received from Mr. Lavin are not. I
20	received them after the close of business yesterday
21	(inaudible). And we'll do our best to get those up
22	today.
23	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Are there any
24	Everything else is on?
25	MS. STRICKLIN: I think so, yes.

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1	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Okay. So then let me ask
2	if all members have received and read the e-mails which
3	they received last night.
4	(No verbal response.)
5	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Okay. All right. We're
6	preparing to (inaudible) with the performance audit of
7	the State moneys provided to the Illinois Violence
8	Prevention Authority for the Neighborhood Recovery
9	Initiative. And this has been in process since May, and
10	it has gone through many very hearings and and
11	instructions. And we have heard from Jack Cutrone, who
12	has the agency where once the Violence Prevention
13	Authority was dissolved was placed.
14	We then put from the put forward a number
15	of items for all the members to read and review, a lot
16	of e-mails. And hopefully the members have done their
17	due diligence, they have studied and are prepared for a
18	series of audits.
19	In the course of this, we have issued
20	subpoenas and we have had them responded to. We were
21	requested by the Federal government and the U.S.
22	Attorney to delay our proceedings since they have
23	corresponding investigations, and so we went and we held
24	off for 90 days. At the end of an 80-day period,
25	Senator Barickman, myself, and four counsels spoke with

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	1	Jim Lewis, and he gave us the green light to go ahead
	2	and speak to the witnesses and assured us that they had
	3	no additional reasons to ask us for further delay. They
	4	also said that the documents could be brought forward.
	5	They had no problem with the documents. And they have
	6	also said that there are no areas that we should refrain
	7	from in asking questions of these witnesses.
	8	And so that is our intent going forward. We
	9	will go to the Auditor General to give us an overview
-	10	and comments, and then it's our intention today to hear
	11	today and tomorrow to hear from the witnesses. We
	12	have time slots that are there. We'll be flexible on
	13	those time slots. And we will we'll begin our day.
-	14	I think that every member on this Commission
-	15	has many questions for the program itself, for those who
-	16	are directly involved in the program, and it is our hope
-	17	that we can get answers to those questions today.
-	18	And with that, I'd like to call upon the
-	19	Auditor General to refocus and bring us back into the
2	20	scope of the audit itself, what the findings were, and
4	21	what we are here to discuss.
2	22	General Holland.
2	23	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Mr. Chairman, members of
2	24	the Commission. The performance audit of State moneys
4	25	provided to the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority

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1	for the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative was conducted
2	pursuant to HR 1110, sponsored by, among others,
3	Representative Reis. The resolution listed eight
4	specific determinations. Each of these eight specific
5	determinations was addressed in the audit that was
6	released this past February.
7	At the Commission's May 28th hearing, both
8	Mr. Schlouch and I made extensive and detailed opening
9	remarks. Suffice it to say, the audit clearly
10	demonstrates a program that was hastily implemented and
11	poorly managed. As you know, the audit contains 19
12	recommendations, which, if addressed and implemented,
13	would make programs like the one we discuss here today
14	more transparent and more effective.
15	Now, since we met in July, there has been one
16	development to this audit that I would like to bring to
17	your attention. My office undergoes a peer review every
18	three years. The peer review is conducted by auditing
19	professionals from across the United States. Those
20	individuals independently select which audits they are
21	going to examine in detail. They then review each to
22	ensure that those audits were conducted in accordance
23	with all applicable professional auditing standards.
24	Now, just last month, my office went through
25	this peer review process. Several audits were selected

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1	for re for review, including this NRI audit. The
2	result: My office obtained the highest peer review
3	rating possible. I'm extremely proud of the work of my
4	staff not just on this audit by on all of the audits
5	that we have done during my 23 years as Auditor General.
6	That concludes my remarks.
7	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further comments?
8	Senator Barickman.
9	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Thank you, Chairman Mautino.
10	And to begin, I want to thank Representative
11	Mautino for his cooperation and friendship. I think in
12	preparation of this important hearing, we have had some
13	spirited disagreements. And it happens. We have
14	different opinions, and different points of view. I
15	think we've each vigorously advocated for what we
16	thought was right and in the end we found common ground
17	more times than not. You've given a little. I've given
18	a little. And I think that's what should happen as we
19	move forward with our legal responsibility to review the
20	audit of this failed NRI program.
21	I speak for all of the Republican members on
22	this Commission when I say I really look forward to
23	working with you today and in the future.
24	I'd also like to acknowledge General Holland
25	and his staff. General Holland, as you've just heard,

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1	has served as the independent Auditor General for over
2	20 years. He and his staff consistently excel at
3	delivering the independent professional service that
4	we've come to expect from an office that was designed to
5	rise above any politics of the day. And without
6	surprise, General Holland and his team have again
7	provided the legislature a guide, their audit and its
8	recommendations, which will undoubtedly make Illinois
9	better.
10	So thank you, General Holland, and to your
11	team for your continued work.
12	Today we continue our statutor statutorily
13	required review of the first two years of the
14	Neighborhood Recovery Initiative. Some say this is just
15	a grossly mismanaged State program. Others call it
16	political use of taxpayer dollars. We've seen months of
17	news stories detailing the flaws of the NRI program.
18	Two Federal criminal investigations have further stoked
19	the public's questions into what went wrong, how
20	taxpayer money was wasted, and how the integrity how
21	the integrity of legitimate programs is now being
22	questioned and threatened.
23	Our audit is our road map. It tells us what
24	happened. Along with its specific recommendations, it
25	tells us that the program was hastily implemented, had

1 pervasive deficiencies in its operation, and that some 2 of the most violent areas in our state were ignored. 3 Today we'll hopefully begin to understand how things 4 went wrong so that we may incorporate our findings with	
3 Today we'll hopefully begin to understand how things	
A wont wrong so that we may incorporate our findings with	
4 went wrong so that we may incorporate our rindings with	
5 the Auditor General's recommendations and make changes	
6 to our State government so we won't see failure of this	
7 magnitude again.	
8 But as we do this, I think it's important to	
9 truly understand what is at stake with these	
10 proceedings. Illinois is the fifth largest state in th	е
11 United States. It has nearly 13 million people.	
12 Communities throughout Illinois have been rocked by	
13 violence. Chicago has had 1,927 victims of gun violenc	е
14 in just the first 9 months of 2014. It leads the news	
15 in splashes across the front pages every day, including	
16 today.	
17 If you know Chicago well, you can point on a	
18 map to the areas and the neighborhoods plagued with som	.e
19 of the highest crime rates in our state. In 2012, the	
20 last year we had statewide data, 500 murders were	
21 recorded in Chicago. But violence is not limited to	
22 those borders. Another 244 murders happened elsewhere	
23 in the state that year.	
24 As community leaders, families, and victims	
25 struggle with the impact violence and crime have on	

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1	them, it grabs our attention as State lawmakers. The
2	people of Illinois are looking to us for solutions.
3	Twenty years ago, Illinois took thoughtful
4	steps to combat violence. With bipartisan fanfare, the
5	Illinois Violence Prevention Authority was created in
6	1995 as the first agency of its kind dedicated to
7	violence prevention in the United States. In creating
8	the IVPA, the legislature recognized the need for a
9	comprehensive collaborative public health and public
10	safety approach to violence prevention. The two
11	sponsors of the program were from downstate, my friend
12	and predecessor in the Senate, Senator John Maitland of
13	Bloomington, and Representative Tom Ryder of
14	Jerseyville, who said, at the time, the legislation was,
15	quote, one of his personal favorites.
16	The creation of the IVPA received nearly
17	unanimous support from now Congressman Jan Schakowski to
18	former U.S. Senator Peter Fitzgerald. One of our
19	witnesses, Barbara Shaw, played a significant role in
20	the creation of IVPA as she was the leader of
21	anti-violence groups before it was "in" to do so.
22	Governor Jim Edgar signed legislation creating the
23	Authority, and Attorney General Jim Ryan was a strong
24	supporter. The Illinois Violence Prevention Authority
25	was the first of its kind in the entire nation.

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1	So as we proceed today, I hope we all consider
2	what's truly at stake. The people of Illinois and the
3	communities we represent are aware of the violence that
4	plagues our streets. The people want their government
5	to do something about it. They want meaningful action.
6	But as you read this audit file, it becomes
7	abundantly clear that this NRI program isn't a solution
8	to the problems we face. This Neighborhood Recovery
9	Initiative failed. It failed the very people and the
10	communities it was meant to serve.
11	Just as shameful, the profound failure of
12	Governor Quinn's NRI program led to the demise of the
13	state's Violence Prevention Authority. What was once a
14	first-in-the-nation program, a statewide initiative to
15	address violence prevention was disbanded. "Shut down"
16	are the words the Governor keeps saying.
17	But what kind of a response to violence is
18	that, to shut down the very agency asked to develop and
19	implement a statewide program for violence prevention?
20	What does What does this say to those community
21	leaders, families, and victims who rely on us for
22	solutions to these problems? It says that because of
23	Governor Quinn's failed NRI program, our State has taken
24	a step backwards from 20 years ago.
25	So what's at stake here? This is our

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1	opportunity to learn, to hear from those intimately
2	involved in the creation and the management of this
3	program, and to begin to put the pieces together so that
4	Illinois can become a leader in violence prevention.
5	The people of Chicago and all of Illinois are demanding
6	an end to the violence that threatens their families and
7	communities, and the taxpayers of Illinois are demanding
8	that their government be good stewards of their money.
9	And so with that, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to
10	proceed with our hearings. Thank you.
11	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you for your
12	comments.
13	And we are going to hear from a number of
14	witnesses in the coming days. And so at this time I
15	would like to ask Barbara Shaw.
16	Yes.
17	Okay. The Well, actually, Chairman
18	Barickman, would you administer Oh, okay.
19	Will you take the take the table.
20	And Representative Sandack for the purpose of
21	a motion.
22	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Thank you, Chairman.
23	I move that, pursuant to Section 4 of the
24	Legislative Audit Commission Act, the Commission
25	authorize either Co-Chair to administer an oath to each

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1	witness subpoenaed by the Audit Commission prior to
2	their testimony.
3	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you, Representative
4	Sandack.
5	And for a second, Senator Martinez.
6	And we need a roll call vote on that.
7	So if there's no further discussion on it,
8	Jane, would you take the roll.
9	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Barickman.
10	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Yes.
11	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Brady.
12	SENATOR BRADY: Yes.
13	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Manar.
14	SENATOR MANAR: Yes.
15	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Martinez.
16	SENATOR MARTINEZ: Yes.
17	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Oberweis.
18	SENATOR OBERWEIS: Yes.
19	MS. STRICKLIN: Senator Raoul.
20	SENATOR RAOUL: Yes.
21	MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Crespo.
22	REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Yes.
23	MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Mautino.
24	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Yes.
25	MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Reboletti.

Page 16 1 REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: Aye. 2 MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Reis. 3 REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Yes. MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Rita. 4 5 REPRESENTATIVE RITA: Yes. MS. STRICKLIN: Representative Sandack. 6 7 REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Yes. 8 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: 12 voting yes, zero voting 9 no, the motion carries. 10 Welcome, Mrs. Shaw. 11 Would you please raise your right hand. 12 (Witness sworn.) 13 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you. MR. THEIS: Just briefly, before we begin -- there 14 it is. 15 For the record, John Theis, T H E I S. 16 I'm 17 the attorney for Barbara Shaw present with her, and she's here pursuant to the subpoena of the Commission. 18 19 Before beginning her responses to the questions that you might have, we've had a conversation 20 21 with Staff and have been informed that she is -- will be allowed to make a brief opening statement which she has 22 23 prepared, and she would like to do that first. And just 24 if any of the members of the Commission -- we do have written copies of her remarks if they -- if they want 25

Page 17 copies of them as well. 1 2 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you. And please 3 have the Staff give us written copies of the remarks. And it is my intention to hear opening 4 5 statements from each of the witnesses. We -- That is something that we have offered forever in the Audit 6 7 Commission itself. 8 And so thank you for appearing and agreeing to 9 talk with us about your program. Please make your 10 opening comments. 11 MS. SHAW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 12 And good morning, members of the Commission. 13 My name is Barbara Shaw, as you know, and I was the Director of the Illinois Violence Prevention 14 15 Authority since its inception through September '12, September of 2012, when I retired. 16 17 Thank you for letting me make a brief statement today. My main purpose is to give you my 18 perspective on the NRI program. 19 20 I have two points that I would like to make: 21 First, that IVPA, while a small agency, was a -- had a long history of solid performance and accomplishments, 22 solid performance and accomplishments. 23 24 Second, the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative was a serious program addressing a serious problem. 25 The

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1	program had multiple components that created jobs in
2	economically distressed communities and helped these
3	communities develop and implement a range of
4	interventions to support youth and help them stay on
5	track.
6	IVPA was created by statute, as was mentioned,
7	the Illinois Violence Prevention Act of 1995, signed by
8	Governor Jim Edgar. It began operations in FY '98. I
9	was appointed Executive Director of the agency by the
10	co-chairs, then Attorney General Jim Ryan and then
11	Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health,
12	Dr. John Lumpkin. I served as its first and only
13	Executive Director from July '97 through September 2012,
14	when I retired.
15	I brought to IVPA at the time I started over
16	20 years of experience, working at the local, state, and
17	national level on violence prevention and related
18	issues, including development and administration of our
19	State's domestic violence shelter and service systems in
20	the '80s.
21	Since its inception and prior to the launch of
22	NRI, IVPA worked closely with executive and policy
23	leaders from both sides of the aisle and with other
24	State agencies to administer over \$76 million in grants
25	to all types of agencies throughout the state, schools,

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1	police departments, community agencies, health
2	departments, State coalitions, universities, all types
3	of organizations. In the 13 years prior of the
4	agency's existence prior to NRI, we had stellar
5	compliance audits and would and we were nationally
6	recognized by CDC and others for IVPA's innovative
7	approaches to violence prevention.
8	Given an opportunity to expand our work with
9	the Governor's decision to invest in violence prevention
10	in 2010, IVPA took on the challenge with vigor. We knew
11	what needed to be done, and we felt the sense of urgency
12	because many Chicago communities had just come through a
13	summer of horrific violence, including the video of
14	beating to death the Fenger High School student, and
15	these communities were suffering from economic decline
16	and job loss.
17	IVPA was an obvious choice to administer NRI
18	because IVPA was highly regarded for its vision and the
19	types of initiatives it funded, seeded, and started.
20	IVPA was a seasoned manager of innovative violence
21	prevention grant programs, including the Safe from the

23 children, young children, traumatized by violence, the 24 only network like it in the country.

Start program which funds a network of services to

IVPA was experienced in serving high-risk

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1	communities, and we were already working in many of the
2	communities that the Department of Human Services, DHS,
3	had identified as having a combination of high rates of
4	violence, poverty, and youth disengagement from school.
5	Violence was not the only measure by which those
6	communities were selected.
7	Now to the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative.
8	Again, NRI was a serious program, comprehensive,
9	addressing a serious problem in the Chicago area
10	communities. Kids were dying. In 2010, nearly 700
11	Chicago children were shot and 66 of them died.
12	NRI was based on the premise that a
13	large-scale approach to violence prevention needed to be
14	multifaceted, no one program, multifaceted, and rooted
15	in and systematically involved the community. This was
16	not a top-down approach. Over 190 community agencies
17	were involved in building community networks that
18	delivered NRI programs in the 23 NRI communities.
19	The NRI program was developed through a lens
20	of public health, a preventive approach that addresses
21	multiple issues and areas of intervention shown to be
22	effective in reducing the prevalence and impact of risk
23	factors, preventive approaches that address the risk
24	factors that contribute to the likelihood that a child
25	may be engaged in violence in the future, risk factors

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1 such as poverty, childhood exposure to trauma and 2 violence, and disconnection from family, school, and 3 community supports. This approach prevents The 4 public health approach also works to build resilience 5 and promote protective factors that can reduce the 6 effects of exposure and risk by providing employment, 7 mentoring, strong parenting, and community supports for 8 disengaged youth returning to communities from youth 9 centers or correctional facilities. 10 Under this public health approach, NRI 11 provided thousands of jobs and helped build the 12 community's capacity to coordinate a network of programs 13 and prevention services for children and youth. 14 There were five NRI components, and we 15 developed them in collaboration with many State and 16 private sector leaders and exports. We created steering 17 committees for each of these components that had experts 18 and leaders in the field to help us shape these 19 programs. The five components: 20 School-based counseling largely for 21 <t< th=""><th></th><th>Page 21</th></t<>		Page 21
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23 bouncing off the walls because of the trauma and chaos 24 in their communities and in their lives.	21	elementary-aged kids, elementary-aged kids, to reduce
24 in their communities and in their lives.	22	trauma and promote emotional self-regulation. Kids were
	23	bouncing off the walls because of the trauma and chaos
25 Mentored, team-based employment in the summer	24	in their communities and in their lives.
	25	Mentored, team-based employment in the summer

	Page 22
1	that involved youth in the violence prevention effort,
2	engaged them in helping deal with this problem.
3	Parent leadership and engagement.
4	Reentry services for juveniles and young
5	adults returning to communities from Illinois youth
6	centers and prisons. There was no such network of
7	services prior to NRI.
8	And, finally, the Safety Net Works program,
9	which provided case management, support, and youth
10	development for youth at risk.
11	As you know, there was a lead agency in each
12	neighborhood responsible for making sure that these
13	elements, these components, were implemented and
14	incorporated into a coordinated community approach.
15	Remember, we were trying to build a community-based
16	infrastructure that could engage in this work.
17	NRI programs were delivered by community
18	agencies, selected through an application process
19	conducted by the lead agencies, with advice from their
20	required advisory committees. Substantial training was
21	provided for staff of each component, and an online data
22	system was developed to capture program participants,
23	service, and intermediate outcome data. We were
24	building a system.
25	There are many positive stories about NRI that

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1	have not been heard. The focus has been on the
2	relatively few organizations that had problems.
3	People say we have to get to the bottom of the
4	NRI program. I say we have to get to the middle and the
5	top and look at the excellent work that was done.
6	There is no question that not all of the ideas
7	worked equally well in all communities or that all
8	agencies were as successful as most, but the approach
9	was sound and resulted in jobs for thousands of people
10	in economically distressed communities, much needed
11	services that reached thousands of youth and parents,
12	and highly productive levels of community coordination.
13	The NRI lead and partner agencies in these
14	communities were highly engaged in implementing NRI
15	successfully, and generally they did a great job. The
16	program was very well-received, and communities were
17	very proud of their participating youth and parents.
18	To the purpose of today's hearing. There were
19	many issues raised in the audit that I will I'm sure
20	will be discussed through your questions today. I am
21	also sure that had the program and the agency continued,
22	IVPA would have learned from the recommendations in the
23	audit and would have worked diligently to improve its
24	practices and procedures. We would have built on the
25	NRI infrastructure that we had developed and provide

	Page 24
1	what communities challenged by poverty and violence
2	need, sustained efforts over time that reach children
3	and youth at various critical points and stages in their
4	lives and helps them survive, cope, and thrive with the
5	support of their families and communities.
6	It was an honor and a privilege to have worked
7	for IVPA and to have had the opportunity to take a
8	comprehensive approach to scale in so many communities.
9	With few exceptions, I am proud of the work performed by
10	staff, lead agencies, and providers in their efforts to
11	build a community response to joblessness and violence.
12	With that, I am ready and will do my best to
13	answer any questions that the Commission may have.
14	Thank you.
15	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Mrs. Shaw, thank you for
16	your opening statement.
17	And I'm glad that you have come here to speak
18	with the members of the Commission. You, above all, are
19	a person that I wanted to talk to on this audit. So
20	often in this Commission, by the time we receive the
21	audit, the director isn't there. I've known of your
22	work for 20 years. I was there when your agency was
23	created, so I understand it.
24	So I think that you have a story to tell and
25	some questions that can be answered by you, and we

	Page 25
1	appreciate that you are here. We have a number of
2	hours' worth of questions, so we will begin.
3	Our first question would be Senator Manar.
4	SENATOR MANAR: Thank you, Chairman.
5	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: So we will go to
6	Senator Manar for the purpose of questions and then go
7	to Representative Reis.
8	SENATOR MANAR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
9	Barbara, good to good to see you.
10	WHEREUPON:
11	BARBARA SHAW,
12	called as a witness herein, having been first duly
13	sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
14	EXAMINATION
15	BY SENATOR MANAR:
16	Q. Let me start off by asking to remind us why
17	you were not here in July when we had our I think we
18	had 14 hours' worth of hearings in July. Mr. Theis was
19	here. But what has changed between this day and July
20	that would compel your attendance today?
21	A. The Federal investigators have told you that
22	you could proceed, and I interpreted that as a $$ as the
23	opportunity then for me to be here and tell the story.
24	Q. Very good. Senator Barickman mentioned the
25	enabling legislation, which was House Bill 1967. The

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1	year was 1995. He mentioned that in your in his
2	opening comments, and you did as well. And I think it
3	would be a good place to start the hearing today, to
4	dive a little bit deeper into that that piece of
5	legislation that created the agency itself, set many
6	things into motion. And And if you read the debate,
7	your your name was actually mentioned during the
8	debate of that bill on the House floor and I believe on
9	the Senate floor as well. So your your history and
10	your involvement in the issue, as as the Chairman
11	just stated, I think, is second second to none in the
12	state.
13	But the bill was described as a good bill, a
14	bill that will do good for decades to come, and it had a
15	statewide mission. That was a That was a point that
16	was made multiple times during the back and forth in the
17	House. The sponsor in the House said that the Violence
18	Prevention Authority and its funding has distributive
19	qualities. And that was a term that was that was
20	used by the sponsor. So can you give us an explanation
21	of what what that means, "distributive qualities."
22	A. I think that referred to It's a long time
23	ago, but I think that referred to the fact that the
24	agency was set up to make resources available and to
25	distribute resources to communities throughout the state

Page 27 to enable them to implement violence prevention 1 2 activities. 3 Q. And would you say that that also meant to be 4 effective, you know, distribute --5 Α. Oh, of course. 6 -- distribute money, funds available in an Q. 7 effective manner to address an issue that has been 8 deemed important, in this case by the -- the 9 legislature and --10 Α. Certainly. 11 -- by the -- by the Authority? Q. 12 The sponsor said, quote, For far too long, many of us have dealt with the symptoms of the disease 13 14 of violence, building prisons, making sentences harsher 15 without dealing with the cause, end quote. That was a 16 statement by Representative Ryder, who is a dear friend 17 of mine, when he presented the bill in the House. He also described violence as a, quote, health care issue. 18 Expound on -- on that a little bit. 19 20 You know, about that time the Surgeon General Α. 21 and the public health community in our country had begun to recognize and declare that violence was a public 22 health issue. In fact, Surgeon General Satcher said: 23 24 Some people say violence isn't a health issue. I say, why are people dying from it then? 25

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1	So it was clearly becoming recognized as as
2	a public health issue. And a public health lens or a
3	public health approach into issues like that is to do as
4	much as possible to go upstream and prevent the problem
5	from happening in the first place. It focuses on
6	interventions and strategies that are not just law
7	enforcement, criminal justice practices, which had
8	largely been the way that we were treating violence up
9	to that point, after the fact. We were sheltering
10	victims after they had been injured. We were putting
11	people in prison after the crime had been committed.
12	The public health approach is a prevention
13	approach that goes upstream and looks at the risks
14	that for example, exposure to violence by young
15	children. So many young children grow up in homes where
16	violence is all around them, domestic violence and other
17	forms of violence. They learn it. They're traumatized
18	by it. So a public health approach would work to reduce
19	those risk factors and try to prevent prevent that
20	from happening and intervene with children when they're
21	young. So it would try to keep them from later in their
22	lives perpetrating violence.
23	Q. So that was 1995 when when the bill was
24	passed. It was signed into law. It was enacted. The
25	agency as a State entity funded by the General Assembly

Page 29 1 from various sources was set into motion. That was many 2 years ago. 3 Where are we today? Where is -- Where is --4 Where is the view of violence today from -- from a 5 public health care issue as compared to where it was in 1995? Have we gotten better? Have we gotten worse? 6 Is 7 there cause for greater concern or less concern? Where 8 are we compared to where we were in 1995 when the State 9 made the commitment toward addressing violence? 10 Well, I would say several things about that. Α. One is from a sort of national perspective and -- and --11 12 and the climate that we're in, that the public health 13 approach to violence has developed throughout the country, that we -- we -- our Chicago Department of 14 15 Public Health has a focus on violence prevention. Many of the State public -- the local public health 16 17 departments recognize violence prevention as part of their mission. We have a -- much more of an 18 understanding of what are the risk and protective 19 factors that contribute to violence. Violence on the 20 21 whole, as you know, has gone down over the last decade. 22 We have in Illinois developed a network of --23 of community-based organizations and statewide systems 24 that now incorporate violence prevention into their 25 community and statewide work. We have, I think,

	Page 30
1	developed through NRI and through other programs the
2	capacity, improved the capacity of communities to engage
3	in prevention work.
4	We still have a long way to go. As you know,
5	we the the the injuries and deaths continue to
6	occur. The young age at which so many of these occur is
7	still extremely alarming. School systems throughout the
8	state as a result of of of partially as a
9	result of funding through IVPA in 2000 through 2003 have
10	developed safety and security measures and violence
11	prevention programs and are were working with NRI
12	even to implement school-based approaches.
13	So what we see is violence prevention, not
14	just the purview of the criminal justice system. We see
15	violence prevention in the purview of our educational
16	system, of our community service agencies, human service
17	agencies, of parents' groups. And it's more there's
18	more engagement in the work.
19	Q. So So the the origination of the
20	Violence Prevention Authority began in a place with
21	every intention to get at what you described not
22	overnight but over
23	A. Over
24	Q over any number
25	A. Over

	Page
1	Q of years?
2	A decades.
3	Q. Which requires investment?
4	A. Investment and and over time
5	Q. And executing
6	A. This is a long Violence has been with us
7	for for for centuries, and it is a it is a
8	problem that is not going to go away overnight. And it
9	requires sustained, focused effort over time.
10	Q. Let me read you one more one more quote
11	from the from the debate on the House floor, and then
12	I want to get into I just have some budget questions
13	about how money was approved within the FY '11 budget
14	before the program was shut down.
15	But I don't think the Violence Prevention
16	Authority was was created to be a promotional tool
17	for elected officials. Would you Would you agree
18	with that?
19	A. 100 percent.
20	Q. It was stated on the House floor that
21	that that this particular Representative hoped to see
22	George Ryan's face promoting this on TVs, hear his voice
23	on radio, and his picture on placards because it's such
24	a good thing. So despite that and that comes from
25	the you know, from the transcript of the House

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1	debate you would say that the Violence Prevention
2	Authority was not created to promote the agenda of of
3	a political figure, an elected official, but it was
4	created strictly for the purposes of getting at the root
5	of violence from a multifaceted approach which requires
6	investment and good execution?
7	A. Yes. We were a mission-driven agency.
8	Q. All right. FY '11, you were you were given
9	a direct appropriation of my memory is failing me
10	here I think it was about \$10 million in in the
11	budget at the time. And there was about \$45 million
12	transferred from other line items in the FY '11 budget,
13	not contained in the appropriation for the Violence
14	Prevention Authority but that were used for the NRI
15	program. So where did those where did that
16	\$45 million come from in the budget?
17	A. They came from the Governor's lump-sum
18	allocation. As you recall, in FY '10 and in FY '11, the
19	legislature cut human services type agency budgets and
20	gave the Governor large lump sums of money and asked the
21	Governor to make the decision as to where those dollars
22	were to go. So these dollars that were made available
23	for the NRI program were from the Governor's lump-sum
24	allocation.
25	Q. So there there was no defining language in

	Page 33
1	the appropriation that would limit either your decision
2	or the Governor's Office or another agency's decision
3	about where money goes for what purpose?
4	A. If you're referring to the appropriation to
5	the Governor's Office, the lump-sum appropriation, no,
6	there was there you know, I I don't recall the
7	exact statutory language. There may have been something
8	that said for human service type organizations or
9	whatever. I I I can't speak to the the the
10	appropriations statute, but my understanding is that
11	this was a lump sum allocated to the Governor for
12	purposes in making funding decisions.
13	Q. So when when you became aware You were
14	aware, obviously, of the \$10 million appropriation
15	because it was your budget. And when you became aware
16	of, you know, a sizable amount of money, \$40 million, in
17	addition to what was already appropriated to you, were
18	there any initial concerns about the capacity of the
19	agency to administer that amount of money?
20	A. Well, not really. I mean, we had we had
21	had a ballooning of our appropriation in 2000 to
22	2000 through 2002 when the Safe to Learn program was
23	adopted, and we went from 1 or 2 million to 15 million
24	overnight and added staff to do that. Our Our plan
25	with NRI was to add staff to help us implement the

Page 34 1 program. 2 So -- And I want to say at this point I'm not 3 exactly sure about this 40 million figure. So just to say -- I -- I'm not sure where that exact figure is 4 5 coming from. 6 ο. I think that's a --7 Α. But there was --8 Q. -- two-year figure --9 Α. -- a large lump-sum amount of money appropriated or -- or -- or moved from the Governor's 10 11 lump sum to IVPA. 12 So you -- you were confident -- you were Q. 13 confident that the agency could handle the -- the 14 appropriation authority that was given to the agency by 15 both -- directly the General Assembly and the Governor's Office through a discretionary lump sum? 16 17 Α. I felt at the time that we -- through additional staff and through utilizing our basic 18 mechanisms of grant management that we would be able to 19 20 handle it. 21 I will say to all of you: My single most major regret of -- associated with the NRI program is 22 that I did not ask for more staff. We ended up with 23 24 five people as the NRI team to administer NRI. 25 If you recall too, this was a climate of

Page 35 cutbacks and head count decreases. So I felt like I was 1 2 eking out additional people to help us implement the 3 program. In fact, in the beginning -- in February --4 5 no -- in December, in December of '10, right after we had started the program, we received from GOMB, 6 7 Governor's Office of Management and Budget, a request to 8 turn in -- to submit budget figures that were a cut in 9 our budget significantly and a cut in our head count. 10 And in the e-mails and documents that -- that are online 11 is our response saying: Huh, you know, we -- we can't 12 sustain the kind of budget cut that you're talking 13 about, and we really can't sustain the kind of head count cut that you're talking about, given that you have 14 15 asked us to implement the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative and others. 16 17 So, you know, it was -- it was a climate of cutbacks. And I -- again, I regret that I didn't say, 18 you know what -- particularly six months into it. 19 20 And the other issue I want to say is that we 21 did not know at the outset, really, how -- how difficult 22 and challenging this program was going to be. And so, 23 you know, it really took us a while to -- to figure that 24 out. And we were very engaged in -- in -- in --25 in making it work and in a climate where staffing was

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1	being cut rather than being increased.
2	Q. When the selection process So So after
3	you received you got you got a feeling for the
4	amount of money that was that was being directed
5	toward the program, a large amount of money that, again,
6	came from both an appropriation to your agency and an
7	appropriation to a discretionary lump sum
8	A. May I clarify
9	Q. Sure.
10	A what you're saying?
11	Q. Sure.
12	A. The NRI program Are you saying the NRI
13	program received an appropriation and the Governor's
14	lump-sum money? That is not the case in FY '11. It was
15	the case in FY '12. In F In FY '12, the program
16	received Year 2, the program received NRI program
17	received a \$10 million appropriation from the General
18	Assembly and then was supplemented with
19	Q. With the lump sum.
20	A with additional lump-sum dollars.
21	Q. Gotcha. So So once you had once you
22	had in both years, once you had an idea of the money,
23	there there was a selection process that began. And
24	I want to go back to back to 1995 and the words
25	"statewide mission." Statewide mission were used for

	Page
1	for the enabling legislation that set up the Violence
2	Prevention Authority. And I think you would you
3	would be the first to recognize the the challenges
4	that we face with both poverty and violence are not just
5	challenges that are exclusive to the City of Chicago.
6	So during the selection process and I'm
7	sure we'll get into much more detail. But my question
8	revolves around the idea that NRI was concentrated in
9	one part of the state when you could, I think, make a
10	credible argument backed up by evidence and statistics
11	that that communities such as Decatur or the East
12	Side of Springfield would be at the time and today
13	experiencing the same if not greater violence when it
14	comes to, you know, guns and and things that are
15	associated with everything that NRI was intended to get
16	at. Was there a determination to make the selection
17	process exclusive only to Chicago or neighborhoods in
18	Chicago?
19	A. We were asked by the Governor's Office to
20	develop the NRI program for the Chicago area. And I
21	would add to that that we, again, were coming off a

terrible summer in Chicago and the levels and the

pervasiveness and just the sheer numbers as compared

to -- to -- to the balance of the state were really

high. And that was the -- the -- The Chicago area

22

23

24

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1	communities were calling out to the Governor's Office,
2	asking for help in this area. So it was a really major
3	issue at the time. But we were asked to implement the
4	program in the Chicago area.
5	Q. And that was a that was a specific request
6	that
7	A. Correct.
8	Q that the program be limited to Chicago
9	neighborhoods?
10	A. Chicago area.
11	Q. Chicago area neighborhoods. All right.
12	What In In In times past I have heard
13	you I've heard you remark and provide statistics and
14	evidence evidence-based, you know, data that that
15	shows what programs, prevention programs accomplish.
16	And you mentioned this in your in your opening
17	remarks, and you acknowledged that that there were
18	blatant errors, there were incredible mistakes with this
19	program on a small scale, on a small scale.
20	A. Where did I acknowledge that?
21	Q. Well, let me let me Please clarify. I
22	thought I I thought that's
23	A. I I What I said was that we would have
24	learned from the recommendations that came from the
25	auditor. I cer This program was not perfect. There

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1	are certainly problems and mistakes and so forth. I
2	don't know that the adjectives that you applied I would
3	necessarily comfortably apply, and I hope that through
4	questions maybe there could be some balancing
5	information about the the the findings.
6	Q. The focus has been on the relatively few
7	organizations that had problems, was was
8	A. Oh, I see.
9	Q the statement in your
10	A. Okay. All right.
11	Q the sentence
12	A. Okay.
13	Q in your statement. That's what I'm
14	A. Okay. I'm sorry.
15	Q referring to.
16	A. I didn't I misheard you.
17	Q. Right. So So why do you think the Violence
18	Prevention Authority was disbanded?
19	A. You know, that happened after I retired, and I
20	think you would have to ask those who were involved in
21	making that decision. I cannot speculate on that.
22	SENATOR MANAR: All right. Thank you,
23	Mr. Chairman. I appreciate it.
24	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you.
25	Further questions?

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1	Representative Reis.
2	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
3	And thank you, Ms. Shaw, for coming today.
4	And I certainly got to know you over the years on
5	Appropriations. And, you know, I just want to fully
6	say and I think I speak for everybody on the
7	Commission here that no one doubts your passion for
8	these programs. We might disagree philosophically about
9	things and that may be people amongst your own
10	party but that's not why we're here today.
11	We're here to discuss the audit and the fact
12	that, you know, we had some doubts about the way things
13	were being implemented in 2011 during our Appropriation
14	Committee hearings. We really had some serious doubts
15	in 2012. And I think that this this audit really
16	outlines those those problems. And And we'll see
17	with an audit that's been ordered on the Illinois
18	Criminal Justice Information Authority if, in fact,
19	these recommendations have been implemented.
20	I know Senator Manar has kind of went back on
21	the timeline, but I wanted to ask a few more questions.
22	EXAMINATION
23	BY REPRESENTATIVE REIS:
24	Q. Who makes up the Illinois Violence
25	Protection Prevention Authority's board members? Did

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1	you have appointments? Did the AG's Office? Did the
2	Department of Public Health?
3	A. By statute, the the agency's enabling
4	statute provided for two co-chairs of the Authority who
5	would be the sitting Attorney General and the sitting
6	Director of Public Health, because we took a public
7	safety and a public health approach to violence
8	prevention, the director or designee of a number of
9	State agencies that would be connected to violence
10	prevention ranging from the State Board of Education to
11	the Department of Corrections to the Department of Human
12	Services, Illinois Criminal Justice Information
13	Authority, so a variety of State agencies and their
14	their directors or designees. And then each of the
15	co-chairs had appointments. And the we we added a
16	few years later that the chairperson of the youth
17	advisory board that we created would also have a seat on
18	the on the Authority board, if you will.
19	Q. So you met several times a year, and they
20	voted on pretty much everything you moved forward with
21	up to that point, grant approvals? The board was very,
22	as I can tell, engaged and voted on a lot of things; is
23	that right?
24	A. The board Yes. The board voted on all
25	funding applications and funding awards. We We

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1	The staff took to the board at our quarterly meetings
2	any funding recommendations we had for that period. The
3	board approved the rules that we adopted for our grants.
4	They If we were going to initiate a new program that
5	was coming out of out of IVPA, we would consult with
6	the board in design. The board also conducted a
7	five-year planning process every five years, and we
8	would facilitate that process with the board.
9	Q. Okay. I also see here that Let me back up.
10	Has the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority
11	been disbanded or just NRI?
12	A. The Illinois Violence Prevention Act of 1995
13	was repealed.
14	Q. Repealed?
15	A. Repealed.
16	Q. So there's no board; there's nothing going on
17	now?
18	A. There's no board. The The fund that was
19	created by the Act, the Illinois Violence Prevention
20	Fund created in the State Treasury, became a fund of the
21	Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. The
22	Act was repealed.
23	Q. So I also saw that one of the sources of
24	funding for IV IVPA was the proceeds from the sale
25	of special "Prevent Violence" license plates?

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1	A. Correct.
2	Q. Are those license plates still in effect, and
3	where is that money
4	A. Oh, yes.
5	Q going now?
6	A. I drive around with one on my car. They are
7	still sold. They are one of the the many specialty
8	plates available. At the time that the Violence
9	Prevention Act was created, we were the second specialty
10	plate. There had only been the "E" plate, the
11	environmental plate before that time. And then the "PV"
12	plate was the second plate that was created as
13	Q. Do you recall how much
14	A a special plate.
15	Q money a year that generated?
16	A. You know, we waited for a while to
17	Q. No. I meant today.
18	A. Oh, today. I would say several hundred
19	thousand dollars.
20	Q. Do you know where that money
21	A. 3 3- to \$400,000.
22	Q. Do you know where the money is going today?
23	A. Oh, yes. That money Well, literally, in
24	terms of what grants have been made? The money goes
25	into the Violence Prevention Fund, and those dollars are

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1	used to implement the grants that the Illinois Criminal
2	Justice Information Authority makes relative to violence
3	prevention. And I my understanding is that some of
4	the programs that we started are are are
5	continuing, for example, the Safe from the Start
6	program, the program that that that provides
7	services to young children who have been traumatized by
8	violence, you know, mother kills father, kills self, and
9	then the child is traumatized and the services are there
10	for him.
11	Q. Certainly all terrible stories.
12	So going through the timeline here, in July
13	of 2010, the Illinois Violence Protection Authority
14	adopts administrative rules for administering grants.
15	This was long before a lot of things happened. What
16	made the board adopt these administrative rules to
17	oversee the grant process?
18	A. Well, first of all, let me say that that
19	IVPA started in FY '98, July 1 of '97. And we
20	experienced two-year compliance audits as did every
21	other agency, and there was no mention to us by anybody
22	of the of the need to or the the the need to
23	create rules until the Auditor General's Office in, I
24	think it was, 2007, I want to say, 2007 or 2008, told
25	the Authority as part of its compliance audit that they

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1	thought we should adopt rules for our grant-making. The
2	Attorney General's Office, the attorneys who were
3	working with us, consulted an old opinion by Jim Ryan on
4	this topic and advised us, the IVPA, that we didn't have
5	the authority to make rules and nor were we required
6	to make rules. So we kind of went back and forth with
7	the Auditor General's Office on that saying, you know,
8	Ah, we were the Attorney's General's Office is saying
9	we don't have the authority and that we don't have to
10	make rules, but we subsequently wanting to comply
11	with the Auditor General's desire that we create rules,
12	we went back to the legislature and I think it was
13	2009 and amended our enabling statute to enable us
14	to to literally make it clear that we were authorized
15	to make rules. Then we promulgated Then we we
16	made our rules. Our board adopted them, and they were
17	promulgated through the normal rule-making process.
18	Q. And I And I bring that up, Barb, because,
19	you know, you mentioned that, you know, we wish we would
20	have had this audit earlier because we learned a lot of
21	lessons from it, but yet you kind of did that when you
22	adopted those rules. And most of the, I think, findings
23	in this audit report were requirements in your own
24	administrative rules. So, you know, I just it leaves
25	questions as to why the rules weren't followed. But

1 we'll get to that in a little bit. 2 In July of 20- -- July 26th of 2010, the 3 Governor signed an executive order creating the Illinois 4 Anti-Violence Commission. And it goes through a lot of 5 whereas's, but at the end, it says: The Commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the 6 7 Governor and the General Assembly no later than 8 November 16th of 2010. So just kind of hold that 9 thought in your mind. 10 The Governor set up this Commission through 11 his executive order, and he wanted to find out how they 12 could better serve and better prevent violence, but yet 13 as early as August 20th, I think, the wheels started 14 turning that we're not going to necessarily wait on the 15 report and the findings of that Commission but we're 16 going to start our own -- our own program. And it 17 started out a different name. But I guess my -- my question first is: Who from the Governor's Office said 18 19 let's go ahead with this? Who gave you the directive to 20 start putting the parameters together for this new 21 program in August? 22 Α. I was approached at about the end of August, I want to say, 18th, 19th, somewhere in there, 17th, to --23 24 by Malcolm Weems from the Governor's Office of 25 Management and Budget. And I was told that the Governor

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Page 47 wanted to make a significant investment in violence 1 2 prevention and asked me to come up with a -- a model and 3 approach. 4 Q. Did anyone say, You've got a Commission out 5 there, Let's -- Let's wait for them, Let's see what 6 they're going to come back with? I mean, I know it was 7 a violent summer and that Commission should have had 8 lots of -- of information to put their recommendation 9 together. But, I mean, did anyone say, No, Let's wait, 10 We're getting a report in November? 11 Well, let's distinguish. I mean, the Α. 12 Commission was a -- a commission, not a State agency 13 that would have responsibility for developing or managing programs. It was a -- It was a commission that 14 15 was comprised of individuals who had all lost someone to violence, and that commission was planning hearings 16 17 throughout the state to get feedback, in general, about what we should do about violence in our state. Whether 18 or not they would have recommended specific programs or 19 20 what have you is uncertain. I think at the same time 21 and for the same reason that the Governor created the Commission, he made an investment in the area of the 22 state that was suffering the most. 23 24 Q. Did that Commission ever issue a report? 25 You know, I am -- Yes. I -- At least let me Α.

Page 48 say this. I remember draft copies of it. So I -- I --1 2 Q. If you have those --3 Α. -- I assume that there --4 Q. -- we'd like to see --5 -- was a -- a -- an eventual formal report. Α. 6 I'm not quite sure that anyone on the Q. 7 Commission has that, and we've been told that they never 8 issued a report. But if -- if for some reason you might 9 have that --10 I wasn't a member of the Commission. Α. 11 No. But -- And that's why I asked you if --Q. 12 if the report --13 Α. I thought --14 **Q**. -- was issued --15 -- that it was. Α. 16 Q. -- and you thought that it was. 17 Okay. So you started putting this together. And it's my understanding from -- from notes and e-mails 18 19 that it started out as a 12 lead agency or 10, 20 \$10 million --21 Α. No. Twenty. 22 Q. -- and then in a matter -- Okay. And then in a matter of days, it went to 30, and it just kept 23 24 increasing. 25 You talked about your track record prior to

	Page 49
1	that point being very good, administering programs and
2	stuff. Why didn't you just say, you know, Why don't we
3	try a pilot program, Why don't we try this in four or
4	five communities additionally to what we're doing now,
5	instead of it going boom, boom, boom, boom, clear up to
6	23 agencies and, you know, 199 coordinating partners and
7	120 providing partners in a matter of weeks?
8	A. Well, there are several things I want to say
9	in response to that. First, the opportunity to do what
10	needed to be done on a scale that the NRI program and
11	the Governor's investment suggested was an opportunity
12	that the Violence Prevention Authority that that
13	I I didn't think we would want to miss. I mean, here
14	was an opportunity to really, really provide communities
15	with some meaningful resources. Most of the programming
16	that we had been able to support up to that point was a
17	program here, a program here, a program here, nothing
18	that was comprehensive and engaged the community as a
19	whole in a variety of types of interventions at a
20	variety of points in children's lives from elementary
21	trauma reduction, school-based, to reentry for kids
22	coming back in the communities from from correctional
23	facilities. So it was an opportunity to make a
24	difference at a time when kids were dying and the
25	violence was extreme. So it Again, we took it on

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1	with vigor because it was an opportunity to really make
2	a difference.
3	Q. But, I mean, looking back and we have this
4	long list of things that were deficient it would have
5	seemed to me that it would have been much better to
6	start out with a pilot program and grow with size. But
7	I know you were wanting to get things going that
8	particular fall.
9	On an e-mail of September 5th to Ivan and
10	Malik, you said: We appear to be about to take off on a
11	big ride, build a strong violence prevention movement in
12	Chicago that truly works at the community level and
13	enriches everyone involved. What did you mean by
14	"enriches everyone involved"?
15	A. I meant that it en it it enriches the
16	violence prevention community, it enriches communities,
17	it enables youth to have a role in the program. That's
18	what I meant.
19	Q. Is it the role of Government, though, to
20	enrich people or businesses with taxpayer money?
21	A. You know, "enrich" is not a term that
22	necessarily applies to money. Enrich means to to
23	to grow and to build and to empower.
24	Q. Okay. You mentioned Paula Wolff in a couple
25	e-mail documents. Who is Paula Wolff, and how did she

1	help get the anti-violence it's from Monday,
2	September 6th. And it's just, Hi, Paula, Here is a
3	brief summary of the information about the Governor's
4	Save Our Youth initiative, which is what the precursor
5	name was. It talks about the steering committee, and it
6	talks about being on a fast track and that you're real
7	excited. So I just wondered who Paula Wolff was.
8	That's my question, not the e-mail itself.
9	A. Many of you probably know Paula Wolff. Paula
10	Wolff at the time was with Metro Metropolitan
11	Metropolis Strategies and a leader in youth justice
12	system reform and a member of a number of groups I was
13	involved in. I met Paula years before, when she was in
14	Governor Thompson's office and I was administering the
15	domestic violence shelter and service system. So we
16	were colleagues and friends.
17	Q. So as September moved along, you mentioned
18	several times that this is very fast track, and you put
19	together a lead agency profile. And there's several
20	things mentioned in there. Members of the Commission
21	should have it, and they should have read it. But in
22	that, the most glaring thing that stood out to me was
23	that after the protocol was put together and the
24	applications went out that they were due on October 8th
25	of 2010. If you want to be a lead agency, you need to

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Page 52 1 have your application and all of the supporting 2 documentation in by October 8th. I mean, that's listed 3 on the application itself. So let me distinguish something for you, 4 Α. 5 Representative. The profile sheet is distinct from the proposal. There was -- We -- We put out a request for 6 7 proposal, and the applicants to be lead agencies had to 8 complete that proposal and submit that proposal by October 8th. 9 10 ο. Right. I understand that. 11 Α. The profile sheet is a different thing. 12 Well, I meant after you put the parameters Q. 13 together for the program, then you put the application 14 together, is what I meant. But, yes, it's clearly 15 stated, and you agree that they were due on October 8th? Α. 16 Yes. 17 Q. Okay. September 14th, 2010, you have an e-mail that goes out to a group of people, which now 18 19 looking at, was the 23 lead agencies that were 20 eventually chosen. And I'm just wondering how on 21 September 14th we knew who the 23 lead agencies were 22 when the applications weren't due until October 8th. 23 Α. Well, as you know from the -- the various 24 documents in the audit, the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority turned to elected -- local elected officials 25

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1	to recommend, recommend lead agencies who could be
2	potential candidates for the lead agency position or the
3	lead agency role, and the Illinois Violence Prevention
4	Authority then provided to those recommended entities
5	this request for proposal. So at that time we we had
6	a list of that's what the pro profile sheets
7	were. The profile sheets were sheets that gave us the
8	basic information about the recommended the
9	recommended lead agency. The e-mail that went out to
10	those people, I believe, is an e-mail I think it's
11	notifying them of the like the bidders' conference
12	that we were having for for those who were for the
13	applicants' conference, I should call it, for the
14	applicants for these dollars and gave and answered
15	their questions about the RFP itself.
16	Can I Can I ask what e-mail you're
17	referring to?
18	Q. September 14, 2010, and it does mention the
19	September 16th applicant meeting, but it also says,
20	Applications must be submitted by October 8th.
21	But then here's a another e-mail from
22	September 14th saying that some people had contacted
23	either you or Toni Irving or someone, saying that they
24	were interested in but the e-mail says: Let them
25	know that they were not selected as a lead agency and

Page 54 1 that they should not attend the meeting on 2 September 16th because the meeting is for lead agencies 3 only. Right. There were -- Again, we turned to 4 Α. 5 local elected officials because they know their communities and asked them to recommend an applicant for 6 7 the NRI funds, one for each community. There were, I 8 would say, maybe two, maybe three faxes that came in 9 from organizations that had somehow heard about this and sent in information, saying that they wanted to apply 10 11 for these funds, and we informed them that they were not 12 the recommended -- they were not the agency selected by 13 their local alderman to apply for these funds. 14 But that isn't what the application stated. Q. 15 The application says you submit your -- your proposal 16 and that we'll decide by October 8th who's going to be 17 lead agency. We will decide whether your application is 18 Α. acceptable. There -- Again, we had -- we had been 19 20 operating a -- a collaborative grants program for many 21 years as an agency where we would outreach to individual 22 organizations and invite them to apply to -- through a 23 proposal process. We always issued a proposal to any --24 any applicant for funds. This was not a competitive 25 grants program. We did not make it available to anyone

	Page 55
1	who was interested. The application was available to
2	those who had been recommended to apply.
3	Q. Okay. Well, I guess where I'm headed with
4	this is now suddenly the fast track really turned into a
5	fast track and that we we bumped up who was picked as
6	a lead agency even before the October 8th deadline. And
7	I think there's several documents that shed light on
8	this.
9	But back to your your thing that aldermen
10	were picked to asked to pick lead agencies
11	A. To recommend lead agencies.
12	Q. To recommend. I guess that's one of the
13	things that we're so troubled about, was that how come
14	you went to certain aldermen and said, Pick somebody in
15	your district or your area or your community, how this
16	is a fair-and-open process to get the funds truly to the
17	areas that had the most crime. I mean, did you have a
18	problem going to aldermen and and such, saying, Who
19	do you recommend?
20	A. Well, several things I want to pick up on what
21	you said in your question. First of all, we didn't go
22	to just certain aldermen. We reached out to the
23	aldermen who who who who were whose whose
24	district wards whose wards covered the community
25	areas where we were intending to place NRI. Those

	Page 56
1	aldermen And in some cases there were two or three
2	aldermen for a particular area. So they had to work
3	together to identify their recommended lead.
4	Q. Was any background checks done? I know it
5	says in your administrative rules that background checks
6	on these agencies were supposed to be done, whether they
7	were in good standing, whether they had administered
8	grants on previous occasions correctly. Was any of that
9	done, or was this just taken
10	A. Oh, yes. As part of the application process,
11	we certainly did look at the the the standing
12	of of
13	Q. So Chicago Area Project didn't raise any red
14	flags?
15	A. No, it did not. Chicago Area Project was a
16	grantee of a number of State agencies at that point, a
17	highly regarded network of providers of youth services
18	and
19	Q. And they never had any problems implementing
20	grants?
21	A. We had no knowledge of any problems that
22	Chicago Area had in administering grants.
23	Q. Okay. How How was the NRI rolling out of
24	this how was it tied together with the Illinois
25	Children's Mental Health Partnership? Was there any

	Page 57
1	collaboration there?
2	A. There was some collaboration in that the
3	the Children's Mental Health Partnership had funds
4	available through DMH, the Department Division of
5	Mental Health, DHS, that were to be used to build a
6	model of the Mentoring Plus Jobs and Parent Leadership
7	initiative. This is prior to the start of NRI. And so
8	when NRI came on board, those funds we utilized to help
9	us get started with our evaluation process.
10	Q. Did that come that money come from ME
11	MEE? What is MEE's
12	A. From ME
13	Q cause?
14	A. MEE, Motivational Educational Entertainment,
15	is a social marketing firm that had that that
16	that the Children's Mental Health Partnership had worked
17	with for four or five years prior to NRI. This was a
18	an entity that specialized in social marketing on
19	on on on public health issues for black and brown
20	youth primarily, aimed at issues of of of drug
21	use, mental health, sexual health, healthy sexual
22	behaviors, violence prevention. And their model for
23	M Plus J, Mentoring Plus Jobs, component of NRI and the
24	Parent Leadership component were the models that we
25	utilized in the NRI system.

Page 58 1 **Q**. Did they give you any start-up money? 2 Α. Pardon? 3 Q. Did they give you any start-up money? MEE give us start-up money? No. 4 Α. 5 Okay. Sticking on the -- your administrative Q. rules, Section C of your administrative rules talks 6 7 about proposed budgets and line-item costs for 8 personnel. I'm certain that that would include time 9 sheets and things like that. As we found out, a lot of 10 that wasn't done, time sheets, budgets submitted on 11 time. Were there any provisions in your administrative 12 rules for penalties for those agencies that didn't 13 comply with the rules of the grant? Well, our -- our rules -- if I recall -- and 14 Α. again it's been -- it's been a few years. Our -- I 15 recall our rules indicating that prior performance 16 17 should be taken into consideration when awarding grants. The -- The -- I'm trying to remember. There were two 18 19 parts to your question, time sheets and --20 I mean, they -- they were -- they were Q. 21 obviously in violation. So was there any penalties put 22 in --23 Α. You know, late reports -- late reports -- IVPA 24 never prior to IV- -- prior to NRI ever considered a 25 late report grounds for discontinuing a grant. Late

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1	reports happen for a variety of reasons
2	Q. But it says in your
3	A and we worked hard with our grantees to get
4	their reports in on time. If they weren't in on time,
5	we called them and we we worked with them to get
6	those reports in on time. We did not We were not out
7	to discontinue programming on the basis of late reports.
8	Q. But yet your administrative rule says that
9	they have to be in on a certain time and
10	A. Well, sure. There are The rules say
11	that that that we are to establish due dates,
12	which we had, and there were occasions when many
13	occasions with NRI, again, where those reports were
14	late, but we were running a complex program. We were
15	We were working with lead agencies, and they had to
16	they had to get the reports from their subs in order to
17	turn in their reports to us. And it it there
18	were there were some delays. There's no question
19	about that. But, again, that is not unusual for the
20	start-up of a program like this and the complex nature
21	of the work that we were asking and coaching and working
22	with lead agencies to do.
23	Q. Back to my point that maybe we should have
24	done a smaller program to get this thing up and started,
25	so.

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1	It also says that one of the requirements is
2	to maintain, for a minimum of three years after the
3	completion of the award, adequate books, records,
4	audits, and supporting documents to verify the amounts
5	recipients, and uses of all disbursements of funds?
6	A. Correct.
7	Q. I think there's many examples in here where we
8	don't know where that stuff is at. If I recall, a bus
9	went through an office and documents were lost. There's
10	money that we don't know how it was spent, money that
11	was reallocated but really wasn't approved by the board.
12	I think this is where we start getting into all of the
13	deficiencies that are outlined in the in the report,
14	but yet I think a lot of this stuff was known to you
15	guys in 2011 but yet it wasn't fixed.
16	A. You said a lot in that question
17	Q. I (inaudible).
18	A so I guess I need you to help me focus on
19	what part of that you would like me to
20	Q. I just
21	A answer.
22	Q want to know why you had administrative
23	rules and throughout your two years there that the rules
24	really weren't enforced.
25	A. The rules were enforced. We had contracts.

	Page 61
1	We didn't put a dime out until there was a signed
2	contract. We We followed the process of receiving
3	quarterly reports and not making payments until those
4	quarterly reports were received. That was our general
5	practice. We required those quarterly reports. We
6	monitored those quarterly reports. We We We did
7	not do the kind of enforcement review that you're
8	talking about, but that was not generally what we did
9	with our grantees. We relied upon reports they turned
10	in.
11	Now, I will say at this point the Governor's
12	Office did want us to do more extensive monitoring. And
13	they did provide two additional staff people to
14	which which made the total five, five NRI people.
15	We, however those two people It wasn't enough.
16	Those two people were immediately consumed with the
17	process of of having RFPs, issuing contracts,
18	revising contracts, approving subcontracts, monitoring
19	quarterly reports. And we weren't able to get to the
20	kind of expense documentation that you're talking about,
21	expense documentation, which is very different than
22	tracking funds and where they went.
23	Expense documentation is you give me a rent
24	receipt, you give me your payroll records, you back up
25	your expenses. We had in our grant agreement language

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1	that specifically stated that if we needed to see that
2	information and in a number of cases we did you
3	must provide it to us, but it was not standard procedure
4	to have people sending us boxes of their accounting and
5	backup documentation.
6	Again, the Governor's Office asked us to do
7	that and added staff. They were Those staff were
8	consumed in the work of of implementing the program,
9	and we were able to get to that process in the spring
10	of 2012.
11	Q. Okay. I think there's lots of questions
12	probably from other members about the stuff that went
13	on or didn't go on during this process.
14	I want to jump ahead to November 5th of 2010.
15	(Discussion off the record.)
16	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: I was thinking for
17	Barbara. I think that
18	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Well, I think this is
19	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: for her specifically
20	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: She'll She'll remember
21	this one.
22	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Well, I that's kind of
23	interesting, but
24	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: I do
25	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: at least have a stack

Page 63 made up for each of our witnesses. 1 2 MR. THEIS: It would be helpful, when you refer to 3 a specific e-mail, at least to give us the date and if you have a copy of it available so we can have it --4 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And we -- through --5 MR. THEIS: -- in front of us. 6 7 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: -- our discussions, we 8 have those. 9 REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Okay. BY REPRESENTATIVE REIS: 10 11 Q. This one is dated November 5th, and it's to 12 Ann Spillane, Spillane, of the Attorney General's 13 Office? 14 Yes. Α. 15 Q. Okay. 16 Α. Spillane, Ann Spillane. 17 Q. And it says: 18 Hi, Ann, I'm just checking in to see if there 19 has been a decision on the raises, slash, bonuses for my 20 managers. I don't know if I made it clear, but I would 21 prefer to do raises, particularly given that, as a 22 result of Tuesday's outcome, there is now a likelihood 23 that this big initiative will continue beyond year one. 24 What was the purpose of that inter- -- e-mail? When IVPA was created, each of the co-chairs, 25 Α.

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1	the parent the parent co-chairs, the Attorney
2	General's Office and the Department of Public Health,
3	took on various administrative functions for IVPA so we
4	did not have to create our own HR department and our own
5	computer networking system. The Attorney General's
6	Office handled all of our HR, our human resources. I
7	had as part of the the annual process of of
8	putting forth recommendations for salaries and so forth
9	for the next year they had to be signed off on by the
10	Attorney General's Office. I had made recommendations
11	at that point that my managers who had undergone huge
12	amounts of work over the past months in setting up the
13	Safety Net Works program in the previous two years and
14	NRI I had suggested a raise for them. And I was
15	checking in with Ann to see if those raises had been
16	approved.
17	Q. One day
18	A. This was part of our our our HR
19	relationship.
20	Q. One day after the election?
21	A. The The The recommendation had been on
22	the book had been upstairs in the in Ann
23	Spillane's office for months. The recommendation had
24	been made much earlier.
25	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: I want to focus on two

Page 65 things, and then I'm going to let some other people ask 1 2 questions, Mr. Chairman, and I reserve the right to come 3 back. REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Absolutely. 4 5 BY REPRESENTATIVE REIS: 6 A study was going to be done on this program, Q. 7 and it was suggested that the University of Chicago 8 crime lab evaluate the NRI program, including the 9 cost-benefit analysis, and they agreed to do this 10 pro bono. Why didn't the Illinois Violence Prevention 11 Authority utilize that study of evaluating the program? 12 First of all, let me say that I was not aware Α. that the University of Chicago was offering to do a 13 pro bono study. I met with the University of Chicago. 14 15 I went to their offices, to the lab, to the crime lab. They described the type of studies that they do. There 16 17 was no cost discussion in that meeting. So, number one, I -- I was surprised when I saw in the audit that --18 that there was a statement that the University of 19 20 Chicago had offered a pro bono study. 21 It's our understanding that the Governor Q. 22 recommended that we use that -- that you use that. 23 Α. I did not receive any recommendation from the 24 Governor's Office that we conduct the study through the 25 University of Chicago. I vaguely remember a

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1	conversation with Toni Irving about wanting to about
2	data sets and the type of data sets that the University
3	of Chicago had. I I at no point received direction
4	that the University of Chicago would would be the
5	should be the the place where we do our evaluation
6	work.
7	Q. Well, I guess, regardless of that, the
8	University of Illinois was chosen, right?
9	A. The
10	Q. Over the
11	A. The University of Illinois was a sister State
12	agency, State entity, inter intergovernmental
13	agreement. It had the capacity and the expertise to do
14	the kind of study we needed. And that's that's the
15	other thing I want to emphasize here. We At the time
16	that we were initiating the Neighborhood Recovery
17	Initiative Let me find this in here because I want
18	to I want to be clear. 16. Okay.
19	There it is. Okay.
20	So the type of study that the University of
21	Chicago discussed was certainly the type of study that
22	we might have wanted to do several years into the
23	program. What we needed at the time that we were
24	initiating the program was a data system that could help
25	us collect data that would help us determine if we were

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1	succeeding at maintaining an an a data system,
2	implementing the program components and delivery models,
3	providing the services, having the community providers
4	regularly enter that data. We were building a program
5	and needed to determine if we could do it, if we could
6	take these models to scale across 23 communities, if we
7	could perform perform the services at the level that
8	we had perceived that we could. We We needed to
9	build a system that would answer some basic questions as
10	well as some intermediate outcomes. We had an
11	evaluation design, and we established a data system that
12	enabled us to collect participant data online.
13	And this is You know, I really want to say
14	this. This was This was kind of a challenging part
15	of the the audit for me because we were so proud of
16	the the the data system that we had
17	established. We went into this from the get-go knowing
18	we needed to do evaluation. We requested \$500,000 in
19	the total budget to be available for evaluation, which
20	is, by the way, like 1 percent of the or less than
21	5 percent, rather, of the total cost of the program.
22	We We knew we needed to evaluate and study and
23	collect data that that would enable us to figure out
24	what we were doing and whether we were having impact.
25	Every one of our components had two outcome two

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Page 68 outcome goals that we measured through pre- and 1 2 post-surveys. So we did not --3 Ο. Well --4 Α. We took this seriously. 5 All -- With all due respect, first of all, the Q. Auditor General's report said that the Governor's Office 6 7 definitely recommended the University of Chicago crime 8 lab and that the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority 9 officials declined that and said that they -- it wasn't the type of --10 Α. 11 Excuse me. 12 -- study that they wanted. But the study you Q. 13 picked did not measure the success of the programs as to 14 whether or not it was truly reducing violence. And 15 that's been baffling to all of us since May -- or since 16 this report was issued, as to why you would conduct a 17 study of a program that didn't measure whether or not it reduced violence. 18 Again, that was something we ultimately wanted 19 Α. 20 to do if the program continued over a long period of 21 time, but there are a number of reasons why it was not feasible to make that -- that kind of determination at 22 23 that stage of the program. Number 1 -- and I think Director Cutrone 24 25 mentioned this when he spoke before the Committee -- the

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1	program only reached a very small percentage of
2	community residents with prevention services. This was
3	not go out and stop the shooting. These were prevention
4	services that reached young children and teenagers
5	and and in the hopes that these interventions
6	would would reduce risk and and keep these kids on
7	track. This was not You cannot expect those kind of
8	interventions to have immediate impact on violence
9	prevention.
10	Number two, a public health approach addresses
11	risk factors and protective factors that are upstream in
12	the hopes that it would impact and potentially reduce
13	the the violent behavior later in the life of a
14	child. It's a setup for failure, to prevent to to
15	expect these primary prevention strategies to have an
16	immediate impact on rates of violence.
17	I can tell you over the years we would get
18	applications from a youth group in a given community
19	that would say: We're going to offer this this
20	this after-school program for 30 youth in our community,
21	and we're going to reduce the violence in our community
22	by 25 percent.
23	And we would say to them: That's a problem
24	for you. It's an unrealistic expectation. You can't
25	impact crime rates of a whole community area by

	Page 70
1	providing an after-school program for for 30 kids.
2	The same applies here. We were doing
3	preventive services. And our ability to measure while
4	the program was developing and being formed and our
5	focus needed to be on setting up the program and having
6	people deliver it with fidelity and measuring
7	intermediate successes.
8	For example, with the school-based counseling
9	program and the trauma reduction services, were we
10	reducing symptoms of trauma? That's what we were
11	measuring, not whether those kids would the the
12	services that we provided for those elementary school
13	students were somehow going to stop the levels of
14	violence that year.
15	Q. But this somewhat contradicts what you said at
16	the beginning as to why this program was so important to
17	get up and running so quickly, is that we had 700 youth
18	die and this was a serious program for a serious problem
19	and we had to get it rolled out right away. But yet now
20	you're saying that you really can't measure that
21	two years into the program with a study because you're
22	just trying to get it out there and get it started and
23	you can't measure anything yet.
24	A. I didn't say we can't measure anything. We
25	measured a lot. We cannot expect this program in the

	Page 71
1	first few years as it was being developed and as the
2	capacity of these communities and as the infrastructure
3	was being developed to expect that program to have an
4	immediate impact on rates of violence was unrealistic.
5	We needed a study that helped us determine if
6	we were if we were effectively implementing the
7	program and gathering the data we needed and whether the
8	individual components were having some positive
9	outcomes. And we measured each of those components in
10	terms of those outcomes.
11	Q. So you felt that, right or wrong, the results
12	of your study was that it was having positive results?
13	A. That's not what I said.
14	Q. No. That's an additional question. Do you
15	feel that as a result of the \$500,000 study, that it
16	give you the data you wanted, that things were being
17	done right, and that something should be continued?
18	A. The original results of the of the study
19	"study" is an awkward word here because it really wasn't
20	a study. It was an evaluation and data system that we
21	set up that And that data and evaluation system did
22	tell us how many youth we reached. It did tell us what
23	services they were provided. And it did tell us what
24	what what was the impact of the program on those
25	measures.

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1	Let me say that and we can talk more about
2	this if you want this was the first 18 months' worth
3	of data in a rapidly growing program. We were where
4	we were teaching the 190 providers out there to utilize
5	the data system and to enter the pre- and post-surveys.
6	And, yes, there were data problems. And what we learned
7	from the first report were the things that we needed to
8	strengthen and do better to have the data system really
9	work. But we set it up. We put many, many hours into
10	establishing a data collection system that would give us
11	information about the the program participants, the
12	level of service provided, and the intermediate outcomes
13	of those components.
14	Q. Well, and I It's not because maybe Well,
15	I mean, the e-mail that came last night in everyone's
16	packet
17	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: And I'm assuming,
18	Mr. Chairman, everyone has it.
19	BY REPRESENTATIVE REIS:
20	Q. The last couple pages is an e-mail from
21	Mr. Stermer, who was the Governor's Budget Director,
22	talking about the budget concerns for January of 2011,
23	which would have been for fiscal 2012.
24	They and many others will also
25	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Mr. Reis, can we get her a

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1	copy of that packet? Staff is going to run her my copy
2	down.
3	MR. THEIS: We don't have a printed copy of the
4	ones that just went online yesterday, so that would be
5	helpful.
6	THE WITNESS: Yeah, nor have we seen it.
7	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Well, I'm not asking a
8	question. I'm just making a statement.
9	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Oh, okay. I'm sorry.
10	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Okay.
11	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: She should still
12	probably still have that.
13	BY REPRESENTATIVE REIS:
14	Q. Mr. Stermer states that: They and many others
15	will also start talking immediately about the
16	Neighborhood Recovery as being funded by dramatic
17	reductions in existing programs that are clearly
18	accountable and successful. As you know, I am not at
19	all persuaded that any of these ideas in the
20	Neighborhood Recovery have any solid evidence to show
21	they achieve their goals.
22	So there was even concerns in the in the
23	Governor's own circles that the program wasn't working.
24	My last line of questioning before I turn it
25	over again

Page 74 MR. THEIS: I'm -- I'm sorry. Was that a question? 1 2 REPRESENTATIVE REIS: No. It was --3 MR. THEIS: Oh. 4 REPRESENTATIVE REIS: -- a statement. MR. THEIS: Oh. I -- Okay. We're here to answer 5 6 questions. 7 BY REPRESENTATIVE REIS: 8 Q. We talked about the 2012 budget, and then you 9 had this evaluation. You had 18 months on the ground. There were some serious concerns in the House 10 11 Appropriations about going forward. And we had 12 discussed cutting the NRI funding out because we were no 13 longer going to give the Governor a lump-sum budget. 14 You had a lot of people come to that hearing if you 15 remember. The fire marshal got us in trouble. And you 16 were full steam ahead on taking the program into the next year, correct? 17 There was strong advocacy on the part of the 18 Α. organizations -- I didn't have them come. They came. 19 20 And we were -- were absolutely wanting what the Governor 21 had recommended in his budget. The Governor recommended full funding for the program, and he --22 And he did. 23 Q. 24 Α. -- wanted to see the program continue. 25 But I guess my point is, is that the Governor Q.

	Page 75
1	had made his recommendation. You guys came in with
2	hundreds of people, very passionate in your remarks.
3	They were very passionate in their remarks. I'm not
4	going to mention e-mails specifically, but there was a
5	trail of e-mails saying: We've got a call to action.
6	Call your legislator. Call Representative Raoul. Call
7	Representative Reis. We've got to have this moving
8	forward. But yet all we heard this summer from the
9	Governor and the administration is that once he
10	recog once he recognized there were problems, he
11	shut the program down and ended it. And that wasn't the
12	case, was it?
13	A. I'm sorry. You're moving from I'm
14	Q. No.
15	A. I'm not sure where
16	Q. We were discussing
17	A what you're asking.
18	Q moving this forward in 2012, in the 2012
19	budget, which would have been
20	A. Which you did. We There was a \$10 million
21	appropriation
22	Q. We cut it back, but then he increased the
23	funding again. But my point is all summer the Governor
24	said he recognized the problems with NRI, and he ended
25	the program.

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1	A. That was 2012. But your the request the
2	request for 20 that was after 2012.
3	Q. That was for 2013. Because you came in 2012,
4	which would have started in
5	A. It came in in
6	Q July 1st of 2012.
7	A 2012 for for 2012 funding. Well, I'm
8	not Are you talking about fiscal year '12, or are you
9	talking about calendar year '12
10	Q. Calendar year
11	A for 2013.
12	Q '12 in our House Appropriation hearings for
13	fiscal year 2013.
14	A. Which, of course, started in the fall
15	Q. In July.
16	A of of of
17	Q. 2012.
18	A 2012. Right.
19	Q. But there was no attempt by the Governor to
20	say, This program is a disaster, It's not being run
21	right, We're going to end it, was there?
22	A. Not to my knowledge.
23	Q. That's what I thought.
24	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: All right. Thank you,
25	Mr. Chairman. Maybe I'll have some questions later on.

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1	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions?		
2	Representative Sandack.		
3	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.		
4	Good morning. I think it's the morning still,		
5	right? Are we still in the morning?		
6	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Five minutes.		
7	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Five minutes.		
8	Soon to be good afternoon, Ms. Shaw.		
9	EXAMINATION		
10	BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK:		
11	Q. I want to kind of take a little bit from what		
12	Senator Manar started and some of the concepts from		
13	Representative Reis because I reread your opening		
14	statement and rethinking it, in juxtaposition to the		
15	audit, it looks like we have a tale of two tales.		
16	Because what you say and I have your written remarks		
17	here and what I've read several times from the audit		
18	are just not jiving. If I'm hearing you right and I'm		
19	reading your words right, good intentions and specific		
20	outcomes intended notwithstanding, is it your testimony,		
21	ma'am, that the NRI program was a successful program?		
22	A. Yes. That Which is not to say, which is		
23	not to say, that there weren't problems and issues		
24	that in in management of the program that couldn't		
25	have improved. What the audit doesn't speak to And		

Page 78 it's not its purpose. But what the audit doesn't speak 1 2 to is what we did accomplish and how much was done. Well, we'll get to that --3 Ο. Α. And --4 5 -- in a second. Because -- Because --Q. 6 To Mr. -- Representative Reis's last questions about the 7 results, how they were measured, by whom, and what 8 counts as successful versus aspirational, we'll get to 9 that. 10 Do you take issue with any of the comments and 11 recommendations in the audit from the Auditor General? 12 Α. I think that there are some findings that 13 could be seen in another perspective. 14 **Q**. Like what? Give me an example. 15 The whole issue of -- Let me figure out Α. which -- which to address. I mean, there -- this audit 16 17 is huge. There are some -- some specific findings that I think, if double-checked, could be corrected. And 18 then there are questions that are -- arise about -- for 19 20 example, let's -- let's go to the issue of budgets 21 changing from one year to the next. That's explainable 22 from my point of view in a way that wasn't explained by whoever responded to the audit. There -- There -- There 23 24 are a lot of -- Had I been there, there were a lot of responses to the audit that I might have -- have given. 25

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1 Q. Did anyone from the Governor's Office ask you
2 to help with any type of response to the audit?
3 A. Well, I was there for
4 Q. I'm focusing now on what the audit says.
5 A. In response to the audit?
6 Q. Right. Because you said I think you said
7 that there may have been some things that you could
8 explain or maybe you didn't agree with. And my
9 question, Ms. Shaw, is: Did anyone from the Governor's
10 Office ask you to help reply to the audit or explain the
11 audit?
12 A. From the Governor's Office?
13 Q. Yes.
14 A. No.
15 Q. Did anyone ask you to respond to the audit and
16 offer commentary on it?
17 A. The Director of the Illinois Criminal Justice
18 Information Authority
19 Q. Jack Cutrone?
20 A did Jack Cutrone, did ask for responses
21 to a few very specific items in the audit.
22 Q. And how did that
23 A. Not to the audit as a whole.
24 Q. Did he e-mail you, call you? How did you
25 correspond with Mr. Cutrone about trying to add or offer

Page 80 1 responses to the audit? 2 Α. He e-mailed me. 3 Q. And you e-mailed him back? Α. I did. 4 5 Okay. Do you know if those e-mails are still Q. 6 around? 7 Well --Α. 8 Q. Do you have yours still? How's that? 9 Α. These were in my personal e-mail. 10 Well, you weren't with the State anymore, Q. 11 right? 12 Α. That's correct. All right. So that's what I'm asking you. Do 13 Q. 14 you still retain those communications? A. I don't know if I still have them, but it's 15 possible. 16 17 Q. Have you talked to Mr. Cutrone about your testimony today at all? 18 19 A. No. 20 Have you talked to anyone other than that Q. 21 good-looking gentleman to your right about your 22 testimony today? 23 MR. THEIS: Just if we could be a little more specific --24 25 REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Sure.

Page 81 MR. THEIS: -- about talking to anyone. Some of 1 2 that is attorney-client and --3 BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Well, I don't want any attorney-client 4 Q. 5 communications, and I don't want any communications with Mr. Theis, Theis, excuse me, or anyone else that would 6 7 be a part of his law firm or any other lawyer. Have you 8 talked to anyone else other than your legal team, 9 advisors, et cetera, about your testimony today? 10 MR. THEIS: And just so that we're -- we're clear, 11 are you talking about someone in government, in the 12 Governor's Office, family members --REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Sure. 13 14 MR. THEIS: -- friends? I mean, I think --BY THE WITNESS: 15 Well, sure. I -- I talk to my husband. I 16 Α. 17 talk to friends. 18 Q. Anyone from the Governor's Office? 19 No. Α. 20 Did anyone contact you from the Governor's Q. 21 Office? 22 Α. No. 23 I'm going to go through some names here Q. 24 because Senator Manar started the questioning and I 25 think Representative Reis followed up.

Page 82 1 Whose idea was the Neighborhood Recovery 2 Initiative? 3 Α. It depends on whether you're asking whose idea was it to invest in violence prevention, which came from 4 5 the Governor's Office. The plan, the model, the approach came from the Authority. 6 7 So the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority Q. 8 was the -- the originator of the program, the 9 Neighborhood Recovery Initiative? 10 Was the -- We -- We recommended a -- an Α. 11 approach and a design. 12 Okay. Did you come up with a name too? 0. 13 Α. I think initially we did. Initially we -- we called it the Save Our Youth or something along that 14 15 line, and the Governor's Office chose the Neighborhood -- Governor's Neighborhood Recovery 16 17 Initiative. 18 Q. And I'm going to ask you to be specific when 19 you can. Who at the Governor's Office, if you can 20 remember, helped with the name being formulated to NRI? 21 Α. I can't tell you that. I can tell you that I was primarily interacting with Toni Irving and Malcolm 22 Weems at the time, and somehow at some point it was 23 communicated to me that that's the name that the 24 Governor wanted this to be called. 25

Page 83 1 Q. Okay. And -- And that's a good idea. We 2 should put some time constraints or parameters better 3 around this. We're talking July, August of 2010, 4 correct? 5 Α. We're talking August, September. August, September? 6 Q. 7 Α. And, remember, it -- it -- it was the third 8 week in August when I was first approached with --9 Q. Right. -- the --10 Α. We'll get to that. And -- And that was by 11 Q. 12 Mr. Weems, I think you earlier --13 Α. Yes. 14 Q. -- said, correct? 15 Α. Yes. 16 Q. Okay. And you just offered a little earlier 17 that you primarily dealt with Dr. Irving and Mr. Weems from the Governor's Office; isn't that correct? 18 19 A. Primarily. 20 Primarily. Who else did you also interact Q. 21 with from the Governor's Office? Well, in the early stages, Billy Ocasio was 22 Α. involved in meetings and discussions. I think there 23 24 were one or two meetings where Jack Lavin was present. From the Governor's Office? I think that's about --25

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1	And, of course, you know, during my regular budget		
2	sessions, I would deal with the Budget Director, David		
3	Vaught, but not in the necessarily in the context of		
4	this the opening of this NRI. The people I		
5	mentioned.		
6	Q. And let's stay in that parameters that you, I		
7	think, identified, August, September of 2010. You		
8	identified Billy Ocasio, Jack Lavin, and maybe		
9	Mr. Vaught with respect to budget areas in addition to		
10	Mr. Weems and Dr. Irving, correct?		
11	A. Right. Although I I I don't think		
12	Director Vaught		
13	Q. Okay.		
14	A at the time was in		
15	Q. In these initial meetings, various		
16	conversations and meetings, was someone taking notes of		
17	these conversations?		
18	A. Not to my knowledge.		
19	Q. And to kind of hone in on Mr. Ocasio at first,		
20	what do you recall talking with him about and/or his		
21	involvement in the initiation of or the inception of		
22	the NRI program?		
23	A. Oh, I don't have a very detailed recollection		
24	of that.		
25	Q. Generally would		

Page 85 1 Α. I know --2 **Q**. -- be (inaudible). 3 Α. -- that he -- he -- he -- he was involved in engaging Latino ministers to learn more about the 4 5 program and he was interested in whether there were Latino communities that were being served by the 6 7 program, which there were. He -- That -- He was just 8 part of the team. 9 Okay. Doctor Irving, the same question. What 0. 10 do you recall, at the inception of NRI, her comments or 11 involvement with respect to NRI at the beginning? 12 Α. Well, I certainly can't remember specific comments, but --13 14 Q. I think I said generally. 15 -- Toni --Α. 16 Q. I'm just looking for an overview. 17 Α. -- Toni and Malcolm were the key people from the Governor's Office who were working with me to 18 develop the program, Malcolm from a budget perspective, 19 finances and general direction, and Toni more from 20 21 the -- the sort of programmatic side. 22 Q. The same thing with Jack Lavin. And then 23 we're going to -- I'm going to ask you some questions 24 about some of your e-mails and some of the 25 communications at least that's been developed as a

Page 86 1 record. 2 Go back to Mr. Lavin. What involvement, 3 again, generally at the inception of NRI do you recall 4 Mr. Lavin participating in or offering? 5 You know, his participation was so limited Α. that I can't even tell you literally what meeting, what 6 7 day. He really was present maybe for one or two meetings that I participated in. There may well have 8 been interactions in the Governor's Office that involved 9 him, but in terms of meetings that I was involved in, I 10 recall that he was involved in one or two. So -- And I 11 12 didn't have much direct contact with him at all. I included him on e-mails, on things, but it was not -- it 13 was not anywhere near the level of interaction that --14 15 All right. And I'm going to ask you about two Q. 16 more gentlemen, Warren Ribley and Andrew Ross. Did you 17 have any involvement with those gentlemen? I really didn't. I had -- You know, there was 18 Α. an economic piece to this that -- that -- that I really 19 had no connection to or real knowledge of. 20 The only 21 interaction I recall with Mr. Ross was that he -- he was planning the -- or part of planning the -- the 22 announcement of the program. And so there's an e-mail 23 24 or two about what the agenda was going to look like and 25 what the plan was for the press announcement of the

Page 87 1 program. 2 Okay. From its inception generally and using Q. 3 your words, mid to late August, what was the time constraints? Was -- Did anyone from the Governor's 4 5 Office say to you, All right, Barbara, we want to get this program out the door by X date? 6 7 I was asked to get the program out and running Α. 8 within a couple months. 9 In your experience with the State of Illinois, Q. as its original Director of the Illinois Violence 10 11 Prevention Authority, this was the largest project you'd 12 ever been given; isn't that correct? 13 Α. Yes. 14 Had you ever on a smaller project been given a Q. 15 time window of a couple of weeks or a few weeks or a couple of months to get something out the door? 16 17 Α. No. 18 Q. So this was the only time and it was the 19 biggest project you've been asked to get something 20 accomplished in a really truncated portion of time; 21 isn't that correct? There was an urgency about the violence 22 Α. problem, and we were encouraged to get this program up 23 24 and running. 25 There was an urgency. There's no question Q.

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1	about it. But I just heard your answers to	
2	Representative Reis talking about this project being a	
3	long-term type of preventative solution. You weren't	
4	looking at quick efficacies? There was no way that we	
5	were going to stop violence because this money was out	
6	the door in six weeks, right?	
7	A. This was an investment in communities and	
8	Q. But why	
9	A an investment in	
10	Q. Why a hurried investment?	
11	A violence prevention strategies in	
12	communities.	
13	Q. I'll accept that. And I think I have no	
14	doubt you're being completely forthright. Why does it	
15	have to be expedited then?	
16	A. Because it was an urgent problem and we were	
17	asked to get it going.	
18	Q. But you wanted this to	
19	A. We were	
20	Q work too?	
21	A responding Of course.	
22	Q. Okay	
23	A. And I I hold that it did.	
24	Q. Oh, but you can't show me anything that has	
25	any metrics, any accountability because the audit is	

Page 89 1 absolutely clear we don't have a report saying this is 2 what this money did, this is what it accomplished. 3 Α. Oh, well, that's not exactly the case. I mean, there were --4 5 Q. Where can I go --Α. -- there were -- we -- we reported on a number 6 7 of people that participated in these programs, the -the services that they received, and the beginnings of 8 9 the intermediate outcome data that were just coming out as I was -- in those last few months I was there. 10 11 There -- They were pointing out data problems with the 12 pre- and post-surveys but were able to indicate some -some measures of success. 13 But from my perspective, the greatest measure 14 of success of NRI, number one, is that we established 15 these community networks and engaged hundreds of 16 17 organizations in delivering very important services to communities. We reached thousands of kids. We had 18 thousands of jobs. And, remember, that was a primary 19 goal of NRI too, jobs, jobs, reaching neighborhood 20 21 recovery, recognizing both violence and economic 22 distress. So we -- we provided summer jobs for kids. 23 We provided jobs for mentors. There were counselors. There were --24 25 Ms. Shaw, did you think -- were you worried, Q.

Page 90 1 though? You had a small department. All of a sudden 2 the -- you didn't get additional personnel, although I 3 think you said earlier that's the greatest regret, you didn't ask for --4 5 Α. Well, we did get additional personnel. We didn't get enough. 6 7 Right. Was there any concern in your mind Q. 8 from mid-August of 2010 through October that the size 9 and scope of this program that you are now running and 10 the marching orders of getting it done real quick --11 were you concerned that that wasn't going to get done 12 right? 13 Α. It was a massive undertaking. We worked very, very hard. We accomplished a great deal. And at no 14 15 point did I feel that what we were doing would -- was and would be a failure. 16 Fair enough. We live in a -- We can't suspend 17 Q. our disbelief in life when we go through endeavors. You 18 19 knew there was an election coming up, right? 20 Α. I'm a thinking person. Yes. 21 And I think a thinking person knows reality. Q. 22 Were you ever asked to expedite this program because of 23 the impending election? I was not. 2.4 Α. 25 Did you think maybe because this is the Q.

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1 largest	endeavor you've ever undertaken, you'd never
2 earlier	been given time parameters of such expedited
3 scope, m	aybe that's what this was all about, getting
4 this dor	ne right before an election? Had that crossed
5 your mi r	nd?
6 A.	What crossed my mind and what I responded to
7 was the	urgency of the violence problem in the Chicago
8 area, ar	nd I was delighted that the Governor wanted to
9 invest i	n violence prevention and wanted to get
10 somethir	ng going quickly. And that was the situation
11 Q.	That was the extent
12 A.	from my
13 Q.	of your thinking?
14 A.	from my I can't speculate as to
15 Q.	Well, I'm not asking you to speculate. I'm
16 asking y	you, a thinking person, what you were thinking at
17 that tim	ne. Did it
18 A.	I was thinking there's an urgent violence
19 problem	and the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority
20 has beer	given resources to do something we have always
21 wanted t	to do, which is take this programming to scale in
22 multiple	e communities.
23 Q .	It's like a mandate of heaven, right? This is
24 a proje c	t you always wanted to do, and all of a sudden
25 now you	had the money and you had quick marching orders,

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1	nonetheless, but you're going to be able to now tackle		
2	something you've wanted to tackle?		
3	A. And we did.		
4	Q. I think the Auditor General might disagree in		
5	that audit that we have in front of us, and the purpose		
6	for this, I would suggest, may differ with your		
7	conclusion on that. And we're going to get into that.		
8	One more question before we get into the		
9	documents. Did you ever talk to Governor Quinn about		
10	this project?		
11	A. The day of the announcement.		
12	Q. Which was when? Remind me.		
13	A. Oh, gee, ear early October.		
14	Q. And you had a		
15	A. Early October.		
16	Q conversation with him about the project		
17	then?		
18	A. I mean, we were		
19	Q. In a group?		
20	A. In a group. We were standing in front of a		
21	microphone.		
22	Q. Where were you?		
23	A. Oh, gee. We were somewhere on the South Side.		
24	I don't remember.		
25	Q. Do you remember the tone and tender of of		

Page 93 1 his words at that --2 Α. I don't know. 3 Ο. -- event? 4 What was your mind-set then? I was asked at that press conference to 5 Α. describe the NRI program, and I was very excited about 6 7 the kind of work that we were going to undertake. 8 Q. Were you distressed that the Governor pulled 9 the plug on NRI? Well, he says he did, anyway. I mean, 10 are you distressed by the multiple media reporting of 11 the Governor -- the Governor's comments that, We shut it 12 down when we learned all these bad things that happened 13 from the audit report? 14 I was disappointed. Α. 15 Q. Because you thought it was a success, correct? I thought it was a good program and it -- I, 16 Α. 17 again, acknowledge, no question, that there were findings and issues relating to the management of the 18 program, but what that audit didn't address was what we 19 20 did do and what we did accomplish. 21 Let's talk about certain things. Ο. And I'm 22 looking at the audit report. In September of 20- -- I'm 23 sorry -- September 11, 2012, there was a meeting with 24 the -- Mr. Holland's office, Malcolm Weems, Toni Irving, 25 and Era Laudermilk. Do you know Era Laudermilk?

Page 94 1 Α. I do. 2 And the Auditor General's report -- this is Q. 3 CM-7 -- says that the Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff, 4 Toni Irving, and Associate General Counsel, Era 5 Laudermilk, said, quote, Throughout the meeting that they did not understand why Barbara Shaw was unable to 6 7 provide certain documents for the audit. Had you ever 8 been told that you were being blamed for not producing 9 documents responsive to Mr. Holland's office's requests 10 for documents? 11 Α. I'm not sure I understand your question. 12 Had anyone ever told you that they blamed you Q. 13 for failing to produce certain documents responsive to 14 the request of the Auditor General? 15 Nobody told me ... Α. 16 Did anyone say, Hey, Barb, you didn't produce Q. 17 documents, It's your fault the Auditor General doesn't have what he needs to finish his report? Is that vague? 18 19 Α. No. 20 No one ever said that? Q. 21 Α. I recall -- I'm trying to think. There were 22 conversations where Ann Spillane mentioned to me that --23 that people in the Governor's Office had expressed that 24 sentiment that you read there, that somehow I was not 25 providing documents.

Page 95 1 Q. Is that true or false? 2 Α. It is not true. I -- I -- I did my best to 3 respond to the requests for documentation, and I'm not saying I didn't miss something because that was a pretty 4 5 wild period that last few months. I had planned to retire and was -- was going to retire; and the program 6 7 had been moved; and the audit was there; and I was wrapping up. But I did my best to -- to do a 8 9 responsible job of responding to the Auditor General's 10 request for information. The Office of the Auditor General asked 11 Q. 12 that -- There were ten questions that are associated 13 with the audit documents, CM-7. Question 6 says, The 14 IVPA, the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority, put 15 out a requests for -- RFP documents to lead agencies 16 prior to the announcement of the NRI program. Did the 17 Governor's Office authorize that activity? Do you see 18 that? IVP put out RFP documents ... 19 Α. 20 Yes. 21 Q. You see that. Okay. The transcript from 22 Dr. Irving's response is as follows, quote: 23 IVPA was responsible for carrying out the 24 program. Since the goal was to cut down on violence, 25 the Governor's Office thought the IVPA would be the

Page 96 1 right place to house this effort. Irving added that the 2 MEE model for the NRI program was developed by the guy 3 from UIC --Α. 4 Wrong. 5 -- that is now evaluating the program for Shaw Q. 6 and IVPA. 7 Α. Wrong. 8 Q. The Governor's Office wanted the crime lab to 9 do the analysis of the NRI program, but Shaw wanted this contract at UIC. 10 11 Do you -- Is that correct or incorrect? 12 Α. There are a number of incorrect statements --13 Q. Okay. 14 -- in this -- in this -- in this response. Α. 15 Break them down for me. Q. First of all, the fellow that developed the 16 Α. 17 MEE Model was not the guy from UIC. Okay? The --The -- The -- So that's -- that's a -- that's just 18 19 wrong. 20 Was the MEE model -- But was the MEE model, Q. 21 the MEE model, the basis for the NRI program? 22 Α. For two of the components. 23 Q. Okay. Not for three -- Not for the other three. 24 Α. 25 Okay. Q.

	Page 97
1	A. Just for two of the components, Mentoring Plus
2	Jobs and Parent Leadership.
3	Q. Okay. Anything else that's incorrect about
4	A. Now
5	Q Dr. Irving's comments?
6	A I want to I want to point out that her
7	response says: The Governor's Office wanted the crime
8	lab to do an analysis of the NRI program.
9	Q. Okay. So
10	A. It doesn't May I
11	Q. You made sure you put
12	A. May I finish.
13	Q. You may.
14	A. It doesn't It doesn't say the Governor's
15	Office told Barbara Shaw to utilize the University of
16	Chicago. I never heard that level of direction or or
17	push from the Governor's Office.
18	Q. Or Dr. Irving, right?
19	A. Right.
20	Q. So I want to be clear because we're going to
21	hear from her. I want to be clear. She never told you
22	or anyone else from the Governor's Office's that they
23	wanted you to University to use the University of
24	Chicago's free evaluation services?
25	A. I am saying that I never never in any

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1	communications And maybe I missed something, but I
2	never understood or heard that this the the
3	University of Chicago was offering a free study. It
4	really was a total surprise to me when that came out,
5	number one.
6	Number two, I I mentioned earlier that at
7	some point I remember And, remember, this was 4 years
8	ago, 4 $1/2$ years ago. I do remember a conversation
9	with one conversation with Toni about data and data
10	sets and the kind of study that that that that
11	she had in mind and my responding to I don't remember
12	even the content of the of the conversation. I
13	remember it was about data sets and it would be good if
14	we could hook up this with school data and crime data.
15	And And I And I remember I know what I said
16	But I certainly remember that, again, as with the
17	with the discussion with the University of Chicago, that
18	that wasn't exactly what we needed at that point in
19	time. But I never heard, We want you to do this
20	evaluation with the University of Chicago, do it. I
21	would have responded to that and dealt with that as a $$
22	as a as as a directive.
23	Number two, I never heard or understood my
24	communication with the University of Chicago to to
25	reflect that there that they were willing to do a

Page 99 study free of cost. 1 2 Ms. Shaw, could you just quickly -- Because Q. 3 this jumped out at me as ironic perhaps but may be 4 completely kosher. The model that NRI was -- was 5 utilizing, this MEE program, developed by --6 Α. Two of the components. 7 Q. Two of the components from the University of 8 Illinois -- University of Illinois at Chicago --9 Α. No. 10 Oh, that --Q. 11 Α. No, no, no. That's what's wrong in here. 12 Got it. Okay. Because you asked UIC to Q. 13 evaluate, and it would strike me as ironic if someone 14 from the University --15 This is wrong. Α. 16 Q. -- was evaluating their own project. 17 Α. This is wrong. 18 Q. So Dr. Irving is just wrong on this? 19 That -- She's wrong on that. Α. 20 Okay. You may have seen some media reports Q. 21 with respect to the Governor's contention and 22 particularly Brooke Anderson from the Governor's Office 23 commenting that allegations had been taken seriously and 24 they're working on tightening up grants in addition to, 25 quote, ditching the program, the agency, and the people

Page 100 1 that ran it. Did you hear any comment -- Have you ever 2 read --3 Α. I'm sorry. What are you reading from? 4 Q. A comment from Brooke Anderson. It was on --5 I think it was May 28, 2014, a CBS Chicago story that said it's attributable to Spokesperson Brooke Anderson 6 7 on behalf of the Governor, that said, We take these 8 allegations seriously and, quote, ditching the program, 9 the agency, and the people that ran it. Do you have any 10 response to that kind of commentary? 11 Α. (No verbal response.) 12 0. Were you ditched? Did the Governor --13 Α. I was not ditched. I resigned. I had planned to resign and planned to retire actually before the NRI 14 15 program came along but decided I would, of course, see that through and had planned to retire at the end of 16 17 2012, prior to -- to -- to any of the decisions that were made about the program. 18 19 Q. I think this was -- thank you -- alluded to in 20 your opening, and I -- I -- I'm not sure if it was 21 Senator Manar or Representative Reis or maybe my 22 imagination. We were -- You were talking about the 23 inception of the program, dealing with the most violent 24 neighborhoods in -- in Chicago or in the Chicagoland 25 And I remember Senator Manar rightfully area.

Page	10	1
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1	intimating perhaps that the initiation of the Illinois
2	Violence Prevention Authority wasn't just a Chicago or
3	Chicagoland issue, it was a statewide program. And
4	certainly why it was only focused in Chicago or
5	Chicagoland is a little curious to me, but what's more
6	curious is there were certain neighborhoods that were
7	excluded, that didn't get NRI money, that clearly are in
8	the top 20 of the most violent neighborhoods in Chicago.
9	Explain to me, Mrs. Shaw Ms. Shaw, how it
10	is that West Englewood, Chatham, New City, South
11	Chicago, West Town, Near West Side, and West Pullman are
12	excluded from NRI monies, but neighborhoods like
13	Hermosa that one I found amazing Thornton
14	Township, I think, got money, Cicero, but certainly not
15	Decatur and certainly not East Springfield. But how is
16	it that those neighborhoods within the parameters you've
17	addressed were excluded?
18	A. Well, let me just say that "excluded" sounds
19	like there was an active decision that said no, no, no,
20	no, no. There was not an active decision that said no
21	to those communities.
22	Number one, the program we were asked to
23	implement the program in the Chicago area and in the
24	south suburbs.
25	In the two years prior to NRI, the Safety Net

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1	Works program was initiated out of the Governor's
2	Office. And the Safety Net Works program was a violence
3	prevention program that involved a half a dozen State
4	agencies convened by DHS and sitting around a table to
5	plan Safety Net Works. And the Department of Human
6	Services reported to our group that they had conducted
7	an analysis of of of communities, and they used
8	multiple now, this is really important because it's
9	not just about the violent crime rate in each community
10	in Chicago at the time. They looked at at least
11	that's what's reported and that's what we put out in the
12	RFP. They for Safety Net Works, that these
13	communities were identified as having high rates of
14	violence, poverty, and youth disaffection from school,
15	i.e., push-outs
16	Q. So let me just stop you, Ms. Shaw. Did West
17	Englewood not qualify then?
18	A. I can't tell you. All I'm saying to you is
19	that we relied upon the list of communities that the
20	Department of Human Services produced for the Safety Net
21	Works program. We said at the time: Okay. We've got
22	to get going. Let's go with the communities that had
23	not in the not too far, distant past had been
24	identified and communities many of which we were
25	already working in, so we knew there was some basic

Page 103 infrastructure there. These were the communities that 1 2 we went with. 3 Q. Okay. You -- You mentioned a --MR. THEIS: Can we have --4 5 BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: 6 Q. -- a study --7 MR. THEIS: Just a moment. (Discussion off the record.) 8 9 MR. THEIS: At some point -- I mean, if you want to ask this next question. She just asked me if we could 10 take a five-minute --11 12 REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Absolutely. MR. THEIS: -- break now to --13 14 THE WITNESS: I needed --15 MR. THEIS: -- use the restroom. 16 THE WITNESS: -- a restroom break. 17 REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Absolutely. 18 THE WITNESS: If we could do that at some point if 19 it's convenient. 20 REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Yes, absolutely --21 THE WITNESS: Okay. REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: -- go. We'll take a 22 five-minute -- if that's okay. 23 24 THE WITNESS: Is that all right? I'll be right back. 25

Page 104 REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: I'm looking at the 1 2 Chairmen, the Co-Chairmen. 3 Could we take a five-minute break. The 4 witness --5 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Sure. 6 REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: -- requested it. 7 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Yes, absolutely. As a 8 matter of fact, why don't we take 15 minutes. Some of 9 you folks may need --10 THE WITNESS: Thank you. REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: -- to take a walk as well. 11 MR. THEIS: Some of the members get to come and go, 12 13 but --14 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Okay. 15 MR. THEIS: -- the witnesses don't. 16 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: We'll be at ease to the 17 call of the Chair. 18 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 19 (A short break was had.) 20 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: The time is now 12:54. 21 I'd like to call the Audit Commission back to order. 22 We are in the middle of questioning by Representative Sandack to Barbara Shaw. 23 24 And, Representative Sandack, you have the 25 floor.

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1	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Yeah. We're We're
2	beyond the middle. I only have a few questions left.
3	And thank you.
4	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you.
5	THE WITNESS: Thank you for the break.
6	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Of course. I needed it
7	too.
8	BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK:
9	Q. We were talking about $$ and I used the word
10	"exclusion." You said it wasn't an exclusion, certain
11	communities and neighborhoods in Chicago that didn't get
12	NRI money. I want to just talk about one that did
13	because there was some e-mail associated with it,
14	Hermosa. How is it that Hermosa received NRI money? Do
15	you know?
16	A. Hermosa received funding for violence
17	prevention activities from the Illinois Criminal Justice
18	Information Authority well after I left.
19	Q. Do you know how it happened?
20	A. So I You know, I've seen the e-mails.
21	Q. During your time when you before Hermosa
22	got its money, did Mr. Ocasio ask why certain
23	neighborhoods didn't get NRI funding?
24	A. No. He He He No. He As I recall,
25	he he looked at the list and wanted to know who did

	Page 106
1	get funding to check to see if Latino communities were
2	attended to. The Hermosa decision was made much later,
3	much, much two years later, for Year 3.
4	Q. Do you think there's any fair criticism about
5	the communities that didn't get NRI funding still being
6	the top 20 some of the most violent neighborhoods and
7	probably needy, if we're going to address violence
8	prevention? A neighborhood like West Englewood, is it
9	fair to say that they were on the short end of the stick
10	because they didn't get any help when you were helping
11	other communities, communities that were, frankly, not
12	as violent?
13	A. Again, the the the the selection of
14	the communities was not based solely on violence. It
15	was also based on some of the major risk factors that
16	contribute to violence, such as poverty and such as
17	youth who had been expelled or suspended or were
18	disaffected from school. And all of those factors were
19	taken in. I relied on the list of communities that
20	were was produced by DHS.
21	Q. And DHS supposedly had this report. And the
22	Auditor at page 73 talks about 7 of the top 20 Chicago
23	neighborhoods that had violence problems not getting or
24	receiving NRI money. And it refers to the Department of
25	Human Rights Services or Safety Net Works program.

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1	Do you have a copy of the Department of Human Rights
2	Services' analysis?
3	A. No, I don't.
4	Q. Because neither does
5	A. I've never had a copy.
6	Q the auditor. That
7	A. I understand. I've read all that, and I
8	understand that that years before This was
9	six years ago, six years ago. This was 2008
10	right? in 2008 when there was a different
11	commissioner or a different Secretary for DHS and
12	different staff. I understand that they were not able
13	to provide that documentation, but that was never in my
14	possession or my responsibility, so.
15	Q. But it was the source, was it not, of which
16	communities received NRI funding and obviously which did
17	not? And so it was a criticism and I think a pretty
18	fair one that the source document that supposedly sets
19	forth these objective indicia and this analysis you
20	speak of that goes beyond just the most violent
21	neighborhoods we can't find it. There's no objective
22	indication that it exists, and there's nothing in the
23	record that shows this analysis was actually used.
24	And And that's problematic, wouldn't you agree?
25	A. What do you mean when you say that it wasn't

Page 108 actually used? It was --1 2 How do I know --Q. 3 Α. -- used. How do I objectively know it was used? 4 Q. 5 What -- What can I look at? What source document? 6 Α. Well, as I mentioned to the auditors, the --7 the Safety Net Works RFP, which was developed with DHS and with the other agencies, by IVPA -- because we 8 9 administered those grants, DHS monitored the programmatic aspects -- that RFP, that very first RFP 10 says that the only communities eligible to apply for 11 12 these funds are the following communities that have been determined to be -- and it names, you know, violence, 13 poverty, and disaffection from school. It names 14 those -- those factors. 15 So it's listed --16 Q. 17 Α. So that's the -- that's the documentation that I can point to. 18 19 Q. Okay. So it lists things that there's no 20 source behind it, and that's what the auditor 21 criticizes --22 I understand. Α. 23 Q. -- frankly. I understand. 24 Α. 25 Okay. Q.

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1	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Okay. Just Thank you
2	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Senator Barickman.
3	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Thank you, Representative
4	Sandack and Chairman Mautino.
5	EXAMINATION
6	BY SENATOR BARICKMAN:
7	Q. Just You know, the Safety Net Works program
8	has been referenced repeatedly by the members, and I
9	just want to understand how the decision-making
10	approached that list.
11	Safety Net Works, in my understanding, is an
12	initiative that started under the Blagojevich
13	administration that identified a set of communities
14	around the state as being highly violent or
15	A. As having several factors.
16	Q. Understood. Here's Here's what is missing
17	on that. That list included a number of communities
18	outside of the City of Chicago?
19	A. It did.
20	Q. It had East St. Louis, Decatur, Peoria, and
21	otherwise. And it's not clear to me how the decision
22	was made to eliminate those non-Chicago area communities
23	from this NRI initiative. If NRI was based on the
24	Safety excuse me. If NRI was based upon this Safety
25	Net Works list but only certain communities within

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1	Safety Net Works were the recipients of NRI dollars,
2	then where did that decision come from? Was that a
3	decision made at IVPA? Did the Governor's Office say,
4	We just want this in Chicago? I mean, what
5	A. As I've said before, the Governor's Office
6	communicated that they wanted to start with this program
7	and initiate this program in the Chicago area. So we
8	went to the communities on that list that were in the
9	Chicago area.
10	Q. Okay. And I And I saw in the e-mails in
11	October it was October 25th, 2010, you sent an e-mail
12	to Michelle Sadler. I'm not sure today what role
13	Michelle Sadler had within the Quinn administration,
14	but, regardless, your e-mail asked about taking NRI to
15	Rockford, Decatur, and East St. Louis. We don't have
16	The Audit Commission doesn't have the response to that.
17	But either in that communication or others, did you
18	bring to the attention to the Governor's Office that
19	you wanted to bring NRI outside of Chicago, and if so,
20	what what was the response?
21	A. You know, I can't recall the exact details,
22	but there was the reason for that e-mail from me to
23	Michelle Sadler, who I believe at the time was acting
24	Chief of Staff I want to say that that's right, but
25	you know, I'm doing my best with my memory that there

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1	was some discussion that I don't know even who
2	originated it about, well, is there a possibility of
3	taking this program to other parts of the state. And it
4	never got resolved in the discussion. So I was
5	following up to say, Is there any further consideration
6	being given to this? I did not bring that to the to
7	the table, I don't think. And if I did, it was because
8	perhaps somebody had asked about it. I You know, I
9	was focused on doing what we were asked to do, but there
10	was some discussion somewhere about that possibility.
11	Q. And just to close the loop on on another
12	thing Representative Sandack brought up regarding
13	Hermosa He said: Do you know why Hermosa was added
14	to the mix? You said, No, but I've seen the e-mails. I
15	presume you're suggesting the e-mails that came from
16	Toni Irving to, I believe, Jack Cutrone that said add
17	Hermosa to the mix. Is that what you're referencing?
18	A. I'm referring to the e-mail or a statement
19	from Jack Cutrone saying that Toni Irving directed him
20	to add Hermosa.
21	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Thank you.
22	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Representative Sandack.
23	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Thank you.
24	Just a couple quick areas.
25	

Page 112 1 EXAMINATION 2 (Continued) 3 BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: We were talking of the UIC, UC evaluation 4 Q. 5 component. You were very clear that you don't remember anyone directing you to look at, let alone undertake the 6 7 University of Chicago's offer to do the evaluation for 8 free. 9 Α. I don't know that I didn't say -- I didn't say "look at" because I was -- I'm vague about that. But I 10 11 was not told, We want you to use the University of 12 Chicago to do a study. 13 Q. Does the name Roseanna Ander mean anything to 14 you? 15 Of course. She is the -- the -- I think Α. Executive Director is her role at the crime lab. 16 17 Q. University of Chicago's crime lab? 18 Α. Mm-hmm. 19 Would it surprise you that she said she Q. 20 contacted you and offered to have the lab conduct the 21 evaluation at no charge? A. I saw that. And when I saw it in the -- in 22 the audit, it -- it -- it surprised me. I honestly do 23 24 not recall that conversation. I recall me reaching out to her and going to her office and sitting down and 25

Page 113 talking about what -- the -- the kind of study that they 1 2 did where cost was never discussed. So I don't recall 3 that conversation. 4 Q. All right. Because this is pretty important 5 because we were talking about a direction coming from the Governor's Office. This is a comment from the 6 7 Executive Director of the crime lab at the University of 8 Chicago saying she talked to you and offered to you to 9 do the evaluation for free. 10 I hear that. All I'm saying is I do not Α. recall that conversation. 11 12 Okay. I think you and your attorney were Q. 13 given some e-mail -- a packet that we got yesterday. 14 And I'd like to turn your attention to the sixth page, I 15 think. It's the bottom of the -- of what looks like at 16 the top a Ben Nuckels to Jack Lavin e-mail strand, and 17 the bottom says September 5, 2010, at 2:53 p.m., from 18 jacklavin@aol.com. 19 Α. I'm sorry. Where are you? 20 The bottom of -- I think it's -- Here, I'll Q. 21 number them --22 Α. What page? 23 Q. They're not paginated. 2.4 I know but of this grouping. Α. 25 MR. THEIS: What's the date on it? Maybe that

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1	will
2	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: It's page 6. The date is
3	September 5. It's the very last line entry at the
4	bottom. It says, Sent from my iPhone.
5	BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK:
6	Q. Page 6. You're looking at the wrong e-mail
7	A. One
8	Q I bet.
9	A two.
10	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Can staff also pass out
11	some copies to the Representatives as well.
12	BY THE WITNESS:
13	A. This one that has redactions on it?
14	Q. Mine doesn't have redactions, but maybe yours
15	does. Okay.
16	MR. THEIS: I think
17	BY THE WITNESS:
18	A. Does it start with "Black paid media" up top?
19	Q. Yes.
20	A. Okay.
21	Q. I'm looking at the sixth page, at the bottom,
22	on It says, On September 5, 2010. Do you see that?
23	A. Yes. And then go
24	Q. Okay.
25	A to the next page. Okay.

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1	Q. Exactly. And then go to the next page. Thank
2	you. Because this is a strand that goes for quite
3	awhile.
4	A. May I May I May I look at it for just a
5	minute, please.
6	Q. All right. I'm going to read the top part.
7	It says This is to Mr from Mr. Lavin. We are
8	This is September 5, 2010:
9	If we are trying to get the base out and
10	that's the key to our victory, we better prioritize
11	correctly. We spent a lot of money in the AA community
12	in the primary. We did a lot of robocalls utilizing
13	Congressmen Davis, Rush, and Jackson. We also did radio
14	with the same people. Obama can be positive and get
15	people to be more excited about PQ. The Congressmen and
16	an ad like Andy suggests, from a typical AA family,
17	particularly woman, can play why Brady should would
18	be a disaster. The AA community tends to break late, so
19	we have some time. The Governor's Neighborhood Recovery
20	Initiative will also help on the jobs and the
21	anti-violence messages.
22	Do you see that?
23	A. I do.
24	Q. We were talking earlier about whether I
25	asked you if politics played any role in your mind,

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1	because you're a thinking person, about the expedited
2	nature of the program you had been handed, the largesse
3	of it, and the unusual circumstances of how quickly to
4	get it out. You see Mr. Lavin, with whom you earlier
5	testified you had at least one or two conversations with
6	because he was the at that time I don't know what his
7	title was. What was his title at that time?
8	A. Jack was the Chief of Staff.
9	Q. Okay. So this is an e-mail You're not on
10	it, but it certainly talks about a pervasive attitude
11	and unmistakably references the the NRI program.
12	Ma'am, did it bother you that you were being asked to do
13	something pretty incredible in a short period of time
14	that you'd never done before, in the backdrop of a
15	coming election that everyone knew was coming?
16	A. You can say I'm disturbed, crazy, whatever you
17	want to say
18	Q. I would never do that.
19	A but I was not disturbed. I was excited
20	about the opportunity to really invest significantly in
21	violence prevention in these communities.
22	Q. I I don't
23	A. And, you know
24	Q doubt your intent.
25	A it

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1	Q. What I'm asking, though, is I I have no
2	doubt about your intent, your aspirational goals, and
3	the effica or the the the outcome you wish to
4	see happen. But I'm asking you: Did you not think that
5	this had anything to do with an election coming up?
6	A. Elected officials, presidents, governors often
7	introduce initiatives and programs to respond to the
8	needs of constituencies that they serve. So it it
9	wasn't a shock to me that this was happening during that
10	time.
11	What I do want to say here is the Governor's
12	Office never told us who to give the money to, what
13	communities to go in, what agencies should get that
14	money. There The elections did not play a role in
15	where that money went.
16	Q. But it was only going to Chicago, right?
17	A. Chicago
18	Q. And the south suburbs?
19	A area.
20	Yes, where the where
21	Q. Okay. So
22	A the violence was the most disturbing.
23	Q. It was going to certain areas. And you see
24	Mr. Lavin's e-mail. You see what he's saying in this
25	e-mail, right? Do you think anything he's saying in

Page 118 1 there is wrong? 2 Α. I'm -- I'm not going to comment on --3 Q. Okay. Α. -- Jack Lavin's comments. 4 5 Q. Can you take a look at ... 6 (Discussion off the record.) 7 BY THE WITNESS: Α. It's not my business to do that. 8 9 Do you have the board of -- minutes of the Q. meeting of September 30th. It's a little later that --10 11 Α. Yes. 12 Q. -- same month for --13 Α. Yes. 14 Q. -- your board, the Illinois --15 Yes. Α. 16 -- Violence Prevention --Q. 17 Α. Yes. -- Authority. Look to --18 Q. 19 I know exactly where you're going. Α. 20 Well, let me get there, and -- and I -- I'd be Q. 21 appreciative. 22 Α. I'm sorry. 23 Q. The second full sentence says: Malcolm 24 explained that the Governor's Office is committed to 25 allocating some of the funds for this initiative

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1	immediately and will allocate the rest after the
2	election. Do you remember him saying that?
3	A. Here's what I want to say to you about this:
4	Number one, this is not a quote. This is not a quote.
5	These are minutes that I produced. And I can't tell you
6	whether he said it or whether I, in a moment of
7	stupidity, put it this way.
8	I can tell you what was meant and what was
9	said, and the point was I really want to finish this.
10	The point was that the question had been raised about
11	these organizations out there that are going to be
12	participating in the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative,
13	how do we know that they're going to get their money,
14	how how do we know that they're going to actually be
15	able to move. And that's when the the the
16	the the response was basically and I'm I'm
17	paraphrasing. That's the point. The The response
18	was these dollars we made some of the dollars
19	available now so that things could get off the ground
20	and the balance will be made available after by
21	December, after the election, regardless to the outcome
22	of the election, is what was being communicated. That
23	money is there for the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative.
24	I wrote these minutes.
25	Q. Right.

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1	A. I eat this. I take responsibility
2	Q. Ms. Shaw
3	A for how this
4	Q. Well, hold one.
5	A is worded.
6	Q. Hold on. That was
7	A. It is not a quote.
8	Q. That was a lot of extrapolation, but let's go
9	through some simple yes/nos.
10	A. It's what happened.
11	Q. These are board minutes that you prepared?
12	A. I prepared them.
13	Q. And this was approved by the board?
14	A. There was approved by the board.
15	Q. And the words "in December" or at
16	"irrespective of who wins," are absolutely nowhere in
17	this document, are they?
18	A. No.
19	Q. And the statement attributed to Malcolm
20	Weems we'll ask him directly. But there's no hyphen;
21	there's no extra comma; there's nothing else other than
22	money will go out immediately and money will go out
23	when after the election; isn't that correct?
24	A. From a timing perspective. That's what that
25	says.

Page 121 1 Q. Okay. 2 Α. From a --3 Q. Last question. -- timing perspective. 4 Α. 5 From a timing perspective. Document 47. I Q. don't know if you have that. 6 7 REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Would you please give that 8 to her. (Discussion off the record.) 9 10 BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: 11 Q. It's coming right now. Hang on. 12 Just a couple of questions about prior to your 13 retirement, June 1 through 4 of 2012. 47 is the 14 document. 15 (Document tendered.) BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: 16 17 Q. Take a moment and just take a look at that. 18 Where -- Where -- What do you want me --Α. 19 Q. The e-mails on --20 Α. -- to have? 21 -- page 18- --Q. MR. THEIS: Do you want her to focus on a 22 23 particular area so we can --24 REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Yes, 189 to 201. 25 BY THE WITNESS:

Page 122 1 189? This is 198 to 199 --Α. 2 Well, again --Q. 3 Α. -- to 200. 4 Q. 18- -- No. I've got a -- I've got a typo on 5 mine. Excuse me. 6 198 through 201. 7 Α. Okay. 8 Q. Do you have it? 9 Α. Yes. 10 All right. It appears through those documents Q. 11 to indicate that you began inquiring about the need to 12 hire a criminal attorney as a result of the passage of the NRI audit resolution. The series of e-mails begin 13 14 the day after the resolution passed, to be in touch with 15 a Wayne Whalen, W H A L E N, for what appears to be a 16 consultation on what you need to know to prepare for the 17 audit. The series ends on June 4 with a response from Michael Koetting, who I believe is right back there, 18 19 K O E T T I N G, from the Department of Healthcare and 20 Family Services, in which he states: Jeannette Badrov, 21 HFS General Counsel, would be happy to talk to you. She 22 also scoffed at the idea of a criminal attorney. Why 23 would anyone need that? 24 Do you see that? 25 I do. Α.

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1	Q. Okay. What was going on in your head at that
2	time?
3	A. What was going on not just in my head, what
4	was going on, was that after the audit resolution was
5	passed, I had lunch with my friend/colleague, Paula
6	Wolff, who said to me, Are you are you getting an
7	attorney?
8	And I said: No, I don't need an attorney.
9	I'm You know, I'm going to deal with this audit. I
10	don't need an attorney.
11	And she encouraged me to You know, it's
12	wise, she said, just to to run this stuff by somebody
13	and just check, and offered for me to have a
14	consultation with her husband, Wayne Whalen. And I did.
15	Q. Okay. Just one last question. What would
16	cause such consternation? An audit happens all the
17	time. Your department had been audited before.
18	A. This was not a standard compliance audit, as
19	you know. This was a performance
20	Q. Performance audit.
21	A audit. This was a
22	Q. That's right.
23	A performance audit designed to dig very
24	deep, and this whole program had been a political
25	football from day one.

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1	Q. Why is that? Help me out. Why is it a
2	political football from day one?
3	A. Because if you I mean, it was. They I
4	mean, there had been advocates from your side of the
5	aisle for since the program started, advocating that
6	the money be cut, that the program be audited, that
7	Q. Well, day one means means July, August, in
8	August. Was anyone fighting this program in August
9	of 2010?
10	A. This is not August of 2010.
11	Q. I know. But you said
12	A. I'm sorry. I'm confused.
13	Q. Maybe I misunderstood your answer. So let me
14	make sure. I thought you just said this program has
15	been a political football from day one. "Day one" to me
16	begins in August of 2010. Was it a political football
17	then?
18	A. No, not In the early stages, let's say.
19	Q. When? Tell me Help me out. When was it a
20	political football, ma'am?
21	A. I read the State Journal Register where it
22	where budget negotiations were going on, and it was
23	clear that that the the the GOP side of the
24	aisle was asking to cut NRI. I was aware that in F
25	The previous year, the year prior to to to the

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1	legislative session that did pass the audit, I was aware
2	that there had been a $$ a motion that year, the
3	previous year, to audit the Violence Prevention
4	Authority for NRI which was not passed.
5	Q. Are you suggest
6	A. So I was aware that that that there was
7	a that this was a political football in the sense
8	that the Republicans seemed very disturbed about this
9	program, wanted it cut, and wanted it audit audited
10	very early in the process.
11	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Well, given what the audit
12	says, I would say maybe they were prescient.
13	But thank you very much for your answering of
14	questions. I appreciate it.
15	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions?
16	Senator Raoul.
17	SENATOR RAOUL: Thank you.
18	EXAMINATION
19	BY SENATOR RAOUL:
20	Q. I guess the best place to start is where you
21	just left off, the the characterization of this as a
22	political football. Are you characterizing that that
23	way because the conversations have not just happened in
24	this room, in the Audit Commission room, there have been
25	press conferences, and there have been efforts all the

Page 126 1 way to the Republican nominee for Governor who's 2 financing the respective parties to use this as an 3 election issue? Are you -- Are you --I'm referring to the whole two-, three-year 4 Α. period --5 6 Q. Absolutely. 7 Α. -- four-year period. 8 Q. And there's press con- -- such press 9 conferences, political press conferences have been 10 taking place during that -- that -- that tenure, not 11 just over the last few months. 12 First off -- Yeah. Before I -- Before I go on 13 with the questioning, I just want to thank you for your 14 long-term service, serving communities that -- not --15 the communities that are often underinvested in, 16 neglected, whether it's education, whether it's the type of programs that we're -- we're -- we're -- we're --17 18 we're talking about here, that are neglected, I -- I 19 think in part -- not as a desire to be -- be overtly 20 mean to those communities but because there's an 21 ignorance about what's going on in these communities. 22 Would you -- Would you agree with that characterization? 23 Α. Yes, that these are communities that have largely been dis- -- dis-invested in. 24 25 You know, I was looking at your resume a Q.

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1	little bit, and I wanted to go back. You know, you had
2	been you had been with the Violence Prevention
3	Authority since its inception, but your work did not
4	start there. Some of the community Your experience
5	with community-based organizations goes back to your own
6	involvement in the If you'd talk about that a little
7	bit. Because I've got some follow-up on on that,
8	based on your
9	A. Sure.
10	Q your experience.
11	A. I came to the Midwest. I came to Illinois as
12	a VISTA volunteer back when the Office of Economic
13	Opportunity was first starting the anti-poverty effort.
14	I was very invested in in that and was trained in
15	Cincinnati and assigned to East St. Louis. And so I
16	spent months in East St. Louis when I first moved to the
17	state and then for the years after was involved in many
18	different efforts that involve services for youth.
19	I helped build our State I helped found and
20	direct shelters for battered women. I I was the
21	Executive Director of the Illinois Coalition Against
22	Domestic Violence where we administered, literally
23	administered and and and made grants to the
24	shelters and service programs throughout the state for
25	years. I helped pass the Illinois Domestic Violence

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1	Act. I had a stint where I worked on the affordable
2	housing issue and helped pass our State's Affordable
3	Housing Trust Fund Act and worked with community
4	organizations that were trying to trying to rehab
5	multifamily dwellings that were on the tax rolls and
6	helped change some of the laws relating to the to
7	the to the tax dealing with properties.
8	I've I've I was a co-founder and
9	director of the nonprofit that was that preceded the
10	creation of the Authority. It was then called the
11	Illinois Council for the Prevention of Violence. And
12	our purpose then was to build a movement throughout the
13	state and build the understanding that violence is
14	preventable and that all forms of violence are connected
15	in some ways and that we could we could take a public
16	health and a prevention approach. And it was that
17	organization that organized and helped pass the Illinois
18	Violence Prevention Act.
19	Q. In your work either as part of a community
20	organization or or working with community
21	organizations you know, you spoke earlier about
22	regretting not having more staff. Can you talk about
23	the challenges that community-based organizations that
24	are on the front line trying to deal with the violence
25	that happens, quite frankly, in the communities that are

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1	close to me and people who look like me, what what
2	what what they face with regards to as a result of
3	that lack of investment with regards to their staffing
4	of their organizations and and trying to keep their
5	organizations operating.
6	A. Yes. I mean, community organizations, we're
7	facing the same thing, frankly, that State workers were
8	facing and that we were facing, which is cutbacks,
9	cutbacks, cutbacks, cutbacks, cutbacks, late payment of
10	funds, having too few staff to really do everything
11	that's needed to be done, which all State agencies were
12	experiencing as were many, many, many, many community
13	agencies. Many were going out of business because State
14	payments were late, budgets were cut, that type of
15	thing. So we were all operating in an environment of
16	scarcity in terms of of of resources.
17	That lo when And T want to say that lo when

17 That's why -- And I want to say that's why late reports do not justify canceling contracts. And we 18 understood what these communities were facing. And we 19 20 were pleased with the -- for the most part -- I mean, 21 there are always organizations that have troubles. We 22 were pleased with the work that was being done. And, 23 yes, we had to go back and forth on getting a fiscal report right, that type of thing, which is why the --24 25 you know, there were so many revisions to these reports.

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Page 130 That's because we were digging into them and working 1 2 with them line by line on them. 3 You know, community organ- -- We were also encouraged -- When we started this program, we were 4 encouraged by the Governor's Office -- and I think it 5 was a good encouragement -- to embrace all types of 6 7 communities, not just the sophisticated biggies but the 8 middle-size and the small organizations that may not 9 have had the experience of -- of -- the same level of experience of managing State funds and so forth. So, 10 11 you know, we took that on and we embraced that because 12 we recognized that violence prevention needs to be a 13 whole community process. So we -- we -- we worked with the program, recognizing that these community agencies 14 15 were dealing with crises every other day and were dealing with inadequate resources and -- and, you know, 16 17 often with -- with not enough staff themselves. Why don't you do a little bit of 18 Q. 19 characterizing and contrasting of the -- the 20 sophisticated biggies as you called them versus the 21 smaller community-based organizations that may grow in 22 and within a community in terms of their back-office 23 capacity to deal with the maze of compliance that they have to deal with, not only with public funds but with 24 25 also foundation funds. Can you -- Can you kind of

1 characterize it.

2 Α. You know, those -- those are very challenging 3 things for small organizations. And in some cases we actually recommended that the lead agency or some other 4 5 entity be a fiscal agent, for example, for a group that might not have the capacity to manage those -- the 6 7 funds. And, you know, there's -- there's no question that -- that we all, including me, think we can do it. 8 And sometimes when the demands of the -- the situation 9 10 present themselves, there were some community organizations that struggled with getting their reports 11 12 in on time and having those reports be accurate. And so 13 that's why there was so much work and revisions and so 14 forth. 15 And as the auditor points out, some of them did not maintain the proper backup documentation. 16 In my 17 mind, that does not necessarily equate with they didn't spend the money properly. It may mean that their 18

19 paperwork was -- was -- was not as it should have been.
20 I think the way the audit can be interpreted and was
21 presented was that if -- when there were any
22 questionable findings about -- or lack of backup in
23 documentation, you know, it -- it was -- You know,
24 40 percent of the money that we reviewed was not
25 explainable. I understand that. I understand why that

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1	would be said that way. But what I'm saying is that
2	when you look at those numbers, a big chunk of it was
3	for two agencies that had gone out of business. And
4	that happens. That happens in the field. You know, I
5	checked with DHS at one point, and they told me they had
6	200 recoveries going on for funds from organizations
7	that had failed to pay back or had gone out of business.
8	So there were of that 40 percent, there
9	were a big chunk of it, almost 700,000, was for two
10	agencies that had gone out of business, one of which we
11	put out of business, we audited and we canceled their
12	contract, The Woodlawn Organization. Then there's
13	another chunk of dollars, another big chunk of dollars
14	where the proper documentation wasn't there, time sheets
15	or what have you weren't there. And then there were
16	some examples of literally people spending on
17	unallowable costs, very small, very small.
18	So all I'm saying is that raggedy edges, late
19	reports, not having proper paperwork does not
20	automatically translate to the job wasn't done.
21	Q. And I would agree with you on that. And
22	And And, you know, I had the blessing, I guess, to
23	have served on the Audit Commission before. And, you
24	know, this is not the first audit that's ever been done
25	with findings, right? And I know it's been the history

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1	that we don't throw the baby out with the bathwater.
2	There are findings on even the most respectable biggies,
3	as you you call them, and because they have a
4	reputation and because they have a longer reputation,
5	nobody goes after them with the sharpened axes perhaps
6	because there's no political gain from it, perhaps
7	because they're not black and brown. I don't know why,
8	but nobody goes after them with the same sharpened axes
9	as they they do for organizations that are on the
10	ground, in the most challenging neighborhoods.
11	But I I I guess for those who are
12	unfamiliar about those neighborhoods and those
13	organizations, they may ask and so I will ask on their
14	behalf: Well, why would you engage organizations that
15	may have these rough edges and the the these
16	challenges as opposed to engaging an organization from
17	outside of the neighborhood that has all the back-office
18	capacity, the CPAs and so forth, to to make sure
19	they're dotting their I's and crossing their Ts right?
20	Why would you engage such organizations?
21	A. Because for violence to be prevented in a
22	community, the community needs to be engaged and
23	involved. It involves changing social norms within the
24	community. It involves having literal places in the
25	in the community where kids can go and receive adult

Page 134 care and supervision and support and services. The 1 2 community is the place where people live, and that is 3 where -- where the violence prevention activities need 4 to happen. 5 And so our goal was to not only just engage those folks but to create some mutual accountability at 6 7 the community level so that there's this lead agency and 8 these partners and they are working together and there's 9 accountability going back and forth between communities, not just between the community and the State. So we 10 were building a community infrastructure to build the 11 12 capacity of communities to be there for kids. 13 Q. And I suppose recognizing that -- I imagine 14 you probably anticipated that you would probably have 15 some of these challenges and that's part of the reason 16 why you had lead agencies --17 Α. Exactly. 18 Q. -- to try to monitor the other smaller 19 agencies who had less experience. Did that weigh into 20 not pulling the plug on some of the organizations that 21 weren't reporting on time or -- or facing other 22 challenges? 23 Α. Yes, it did. And we saw that kind of 24 timing -- that kind of -- of -- of delay of reports or 25 what have you or even incorrect reports that we then had

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1	to work with them to get correct. We saw that as part
2	of part of the way it is and part of what we had to
3	do. We needed to support the lead agencies, and we
4	needed to support the the community organizations in
5	building the capacity to to do what they needed to
6	do. So we did not approach it from a sort of gotcha,
7	you know, if if there was a report late or what have
8	you.
9	Q. I'm glad you said "gotcha" because gotcha has
10	a lot to do with this this whole situation here,
11	why why why we're here, both from a a a
12	journalist perspective as well as from a politician
13	perspective. This is This is really about This is
14	a gotcha meeting that we're having, a series of gotcha
15	meetings, and it's I think it's sort of unhealthy.
16	But I do appreciate the the desire to to
17	make sure we're good stewards of of State dollars.
18	And then I do appreciate the the Auditor General
19	being able to come in and show us areas where we need
20	we there are deficiencies that need to be improved
21	or, in fact, where there are recipients of grant dollars
22	who need to be cut off and and and shut down.
23	And And while it's a it was a mammoth task for you
24	to have to serve as a the monitor of all that and at
25	the same time serve as the person trying to implement

Page 136 1 that in neighborhoods, I -- I, again, want to thank you 2 for taking that on. 3 One of the issues that's been raised in this 4 kind of gotcha witch hunt is the timing of -- of -- of 5 this and the notion that there was a Chicago focus on this. And so with regards to both, you know, much has 6 7 been made that this was happening -- happening in a 8 gubernatorial election year, but what's not being very 9 much mentioned was what else was going on in that 10 gubernatorial election year. I want to just kind of 11 read to you a couple of headlines and -- and see if they 12 kind of characterize for you what was going on during the time -- the run-up to -- to when the decision was 13 14 made to implement the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative. 15 Drive-by Shooting Kills Chicago Boy, 16. Man Shot to Death in -- I'm sorry. February 21, 2010. 16 17 Man Shot to Death in Roseland Neighborhood, March 15, 2010. 18 19 Chicago Residents Hold Anti-Violence Prayer 20 Vigil, March 20th, 2010. 21 April 25th, 2010: Man Charged in Toddler's 22 Shooting Death. 23 April 26th, 2010: Chicago Lawmakers Call 24 in -- Call For the National Guard. 25 April 30th: Boy, 16, Dies In Drive-by

Page 137 1 Shooting. 2 May 19th: Chicago Police Officer Thomas 3 Wortham Shot and Killed Outside His Family's Home. 4 June 2010: Five Wounded in Separate Shootings 5 Overnight. 6 I won't read them all, but I'll -- I'll --7 I'll stop on this one. June 21, 2010: Chicago 8 Violence, At Least 52 Shot, 7 Dead Over the Weekend. 9 Does this kind of characterize the environment that -- that led to the -- the -- what's been 10 11 characterized as the rush to get resources to the 12 communities where this was happening? Absolutely. And, you know, there are others, 13 Α. the Fenger student, the beating of the -- to death of 14 15 the Fenger student. There were story after story. And then let me say that as a violence 16 17 preventionist who also understands violence in the family very well and what happens, the kinds of killings 18 that -- that you're describing and shootings was the tip 19 of the iceberg of -- of -- of interpersonal violence 20 21 that -- that -- that was happening in -- in -- in these communities. And, you know, children exposed to 22 horrific violence in the home, children exposed to 23 violence in the community, sexual assaults -- I mean, 24 25 there are -- there were so -- so many forms of violence,

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1	interpersonal violence, taking place that children were
2	exposed to that the egregious stories that you're laying
3	out and there were actually, I believe, two other law
4	enforcement officers. This This was a a year that
5	not only killed kids in unbelievable numbers; it killed
6	law enforcement officers in in a way that hadn't been
7	seen in a long time.
8	So there was absolutely a heightened sense,
9	and there was absolutely a call to the Governor's Office
10	from these communities to do something.
11	And let's remember, a program that's going to
12	be offered a summer jobs program that's going to be
13	offered in the upcoming spring, summer, you don't start
14	in in May or June planning for that. You start back
15	months before. So this program started with an eye
16	toward getting stuff on the ground so that over the next
17	year we could be making resources available to schools
18	and to communities to to to encounter and to
19	provide constructive opportunities for young people to
20	keep them on the path.
21	Q. And And just like, you know, we would
22	respond as fast as we can if there was a a massive
23	flood in the state of in downstate Illinois or a
24	terrible tornado in Central Illinois, to get resources
25	to those communities that are ailing from those

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1	circumstances, while there still may be heavy rain that
2	may flood Chicago basements or there may be the winds
3	that are at the same time blowing trees down and
4	wrecking homes and and and and cars in in
5	Chicago, there's some times there's a time when
6	government focuses on where the problem is more massive
7	and worse. Was it not the case that it was not only
8	local Chicago news not only State news, not only
9	domestic news throughout the country, but international
10	news how bad the violence was in the City of Chicago,
11	particularly in black and
12	A. Yes.
13	Q brown communities?
14	A. Absolutely. I mean, there was a prevailing
15	sense. The press was covering it and putting pictures
16	of kids, and there was a level of horror about the
17	amount of violence that was taking place. And, frankly,
18	the Governor stepped up to that and put resources into
19	those communities.
20	Q. And And I apologize if I asked my questions
21	with a little bit of passion. As you know, I speak to
22	you as somebody who had a drive-by shooting across the
23	street from my home, where a boy the same age as my son
24	was shot. I had a good friend of my son murdered blocks
25	away from my home in daylight, on a Saturday afternoon,

Page 140 1 in -- in cold blood. And these are just -- not just 2 isolated occurrences. These are recurring occurrences 3 that -- that -- that some of the members of this 4 Commission may be less familiar with because it doesn't 5 happen to the same intensity and the same extent in -in the areas that they respectively represent. 6 7 One of the other things I wanted to just kind 8 of confront head-on is just this notion of separating 9 politics from governing, you know. And it's a difficult 10 question I think that we all individually try to 11 balance. But one of the things that I've noticed -- and 12 this is not a Democrat phenomenon or a Republican 13 phenomenon. In gubernatorial election years, both the 14 folks who are campaigning for Governor on the Democrat 15 side and on the Republican side seem to come to black 16 and brown communities more often than they would in --17 in -- in -- in other years. And as a result of that, 18 they hear directly from people within the communities, 19 be it pastors, be it local elected officials, be it just 20 regular residents of the community, of -- of what 21 they're not doing well enough. 22 And do you believe that one of the things that 23 may have been happening in 20- -- In fact, I'm 24 (inaudible) a couple of members of this Commission who

25 I've -- I've seen in my neighborhood while they were

Page 141 1 campaigning. I haven't seen them when they weren't 2 campaigning there. So hopefully they became a little 3 bit more familiar with the challenges that we -- we 4 face. But is it wrong for -- in your opinion, for --5 whether it be some -- a member of this Commission or -or the Governor to want to react to those voices that 6 7 they're hearing while acting in a -- their political 8 role, learning from these people of the -- the -- the 9 grief of losing kids at -- at tender ages? Is it wrong 10 for a Governor or anybody else to want to react to that 11 and react to that immediately? 12 Not only is it not wrong; it's the right thing Α. 13 to do. And that's how I saw this investment in violence 14 prevention. 15 This was a collective call to the Governor from the communities that were talking with him about 16 17 their needs, and it was a response that showed that he understood the seriousness of the problem and was 18 willing to use funds that had been made available to him 19 to allocate for this work. 20 21 You made a comment in your opening remarks Q. 22 about, I think -- I'm trying to find it. Folks wanted 23 to just get to the bottom of this NRI, and you wanted them to get to the --24 25 Middle and the top. Α.

	Page 142
1	Q middle and the top. I want you to talk
2	about that a a little bit more. On the basis of
3	the the elements that you enumerated, school-based
4	counseling for elementary school students, mentoring,
5	parent leadership, reentry, and expansion of the safe
6	safe safety net. Can you Because one of the
7	inherent things about an audit is it's looking for
8	shortcomings. The Auditor General is not looking to
9	review a program so he can cheerlead about it. That's
10	not his role.
11	A. That's right.
12	Q. He's looking to make sure that State resources
13	are not wasted. And And so, you know, I appreciate
14	that the Auditor General did not cheerlead the good of
15	the NRI, but I think it's important for this Commission
16	and and and for the State at large to hear about
17	some of the good.
18	A. Oh, let's take the Mentoring Plus Jobs program
19	for example, that component. For two summers in a row
20	that I was there actually it's along spring, summer,
21	into early fall up to 80 youths and I know every
22	community did not was not able to hire all 80 in the
23	start-up year, but that was the goal and that was what
24	we hoped for. But 80 youth in each of these communities
25	could and and altogether over I want to say

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1	over 3,000 jobs occurred in these communities. These
2	young people in the Mentoring Plus Jobs program I
3	really want to talk about this because there's been a
4	lot of slander of that program, This was wasted money,
5	This was giving kids money to go hand out pamphlets.
6	Let me talk about this program.
7	We have been as a State providing summer jobs
8	and striving to provide more and more summer jobs for
9	kids over the years. I mean, this has been an
10	understood strategy for supporting kids who live in
11	poverty and for providing them with constructive
12	opportunities to earn money and to be to learn
13	skills. I called the Mentoring Plus Jobs component a
14	three-fer for for for three reasons.
15	One, it was a jobs program. These kids earned
16	money. They had to report to work. They had to wear
17	their uniform. They got taxes taken out. This was a
18	job. So they had a job experience.
19	Secondly, this was a mentored, team-based job
20	experience. This was not some agency over here takes
21	the kid, puts him in the back room, and lets him copy,
22	make copies all day, or do whatever sort of grunt work
23	might be useful to have a young person do. These were
24	teams of kids who were mentored, five kids to a mentor,
25	who would work together doing this whole job program so

	Page 144
1	that these kids could learn a whole range of skills.
2	And that gets me to the third part of the
3	the three-fer, which is the what was the job they
4	were doing? These pamphlets that they were tossing out,
5	these were well-thought-through messages about taking
6	care of yourself, taking care of your others in your
7	community, being safe, staying in school, and being
8	healthy. And for each one of those major messages, on
9	those pamphlets were long lists of the kinds of things
10	that we all can do, be a role model to our siblings,
11	work out our stress, talk to somebody if we need help,
12	if you're behind in school, get help, you can go back,
13	all sorts of positive messages that these young people
14	in the Mentoring Plus Jobs component first had to learn
15	themselves and had to internalize those messages
16	themselves. So part of their job, as with many jobs
17	where there's a training component to the job, these
18	young people were working out these and
19	understanding these these these messages and these
20	sub-messages. And then they were taught the
21	communication skills involved in going out and working
22	in their community with their peers and with adults in
23	their community to promote these positive messages.
24	So they had a job, they were mentored and
25	supported and worked with as a team and weren't

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1	isolated, doing grunt work, and the job they were doing
2	en enriched I'll go back to that word that
3	somebody used enriched their own skill set and their
4	own understanding of what it means to take care of
5	myself, to take care of my community and others, to be
6	healthy, to the importance of staying in school.
7	It It It enabled them to learn those things and
8	then to build the confidence and the communication
9	skills to go out and communicate those to others. It
10	was an excellent program, and the kids really benefited
11	from it.
12	You know, somebody from a colleague that I
13	work with went to a conference a few months ago on
14	juvenile justice. And one of the speakers at the
15	conference, she wrote to me, was a young man named
16	Miguel, and he talked about how the NRI, how his
17	participation in the NRI program transformed him and
18	gave him the skills necessary to take the kind of steps
19	in his life that were needed.
20	You couple that with the school-based
21	counseling program, for example. In one of the
22	Mentoring Plus Jobs programs, a young person was killed,
23	a young person was killed, not the incident that was
24	reported in the paper. The young person was killed.
25	The school-based counselors who had been trained by NRI

	Page 146
1	to deal with trauma and to deal with with the
2	counseling needs of young people went into the
3	school-based counseling component in that community,
4	worked with the M Plus J kids to help them deal with the
5	trauma of what they experienced, having one of their
6	kids lost.
7	The school I'm just going to say a couple
8	words about school-based counseling, and then I'll stop.
9	Because I could go on and on about each component. You
10	know, reentry, there was no reentry program before NRI.
11	That was a community-based program for young people who
12	were returning to communities without any supports
13	whatsoever. The reentry program created the capacity to
14	provide those supports.
15	Just for a moment, school-based counseling.
16	Under the school-based counseling component, nearly a
17	hundred clinicians, licensed clinical social workers,
18	MSWs, nearly a hundred clinicians were trained in
19	manualized, evidence-based interventions for kids
20	exposed to trauma and for kids who needed to learn how
21	to understand and regulate their emotions and their
22	behavior. And they took they were trained in that,
23	and they're now out there now. You know, it lives on,
24	the fact that they were trained to to to implement
25	these programs. And CPS had the year before worked on

	Page 147
1	these initia very same types of initiatives at the
2	high school level. And our initiatives built on that
3	and took it to the elementary school level. Yes, there
4	were problems with CPS getting the contract and so forth
5	in that first year, but what we what we did instead,
6	when they couldn't go into the schools yet, is they
7	worked in the community and they they provided
8	workshops and groups with thousands of kids in the in
9	the in the community. So here we are with a whole
10	cadre of clinicians trained in very important
11	interventions and available in their communities to
12	provide services to kids.
13	Q. And And And I know you can go on and
14	A. I can.
15	Q on and on, but
16	A. You don't want me to, I'm sure.
17	Q unfortunately, some some some of the
18	Commission members really don't want to hear that. They
19	just want to hear the bad stuff.
20	SENATOR MARTINEZ: That's right.
21	BY SENATOR RAOUL:
22	Q. Right?
23	SENATOR MARTINEZ: You're right.
24	BY SENATOR RAOUL:
25	Q. And the And reporters as well. Because

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1 that's what sells papers, the bad stuff. Nobody --2 Nobody buys a paper to -- to -- to read the -- read --3 read what you're doing well, well with kids. 4 But one of the aspects of what you just talked 5 about -- I want to get to the -- the -- the metrics and this notion of the University of Chicago crime lab 6 7 coming in within the first year to make a determination 8 of whether this has reduced crime. 9 An old colleague of mine -- and I'm glad to have friends from the other side of the aisle -- Tom 10 11 Johnson, used to talk about longitudinal studies, that 12 you can't really examine something in short-term for its 13 impact because that's wasted effort and money to try to 14 just say that -- you know, that the violence prevention 15 is comprehensive in nature. And as -- as -- as 16 Representative Ryder pointed out at the time the 17 Illinois Violence Prevention Authority was -- was being implemented, it's -- it's -- violence prevention -- he 18 19 said, For too long many of us have dealt with symptoms 20 of the disease of violence, building prisons, making 21 sentences harsher. Does that sound familiar from recent 22 discussions? 23 You know, we -- right now we have a Joint 24 Commission on Criminal Justice Reform, which I'm glad to 25 serve on with Representative Reboletti, who's -- who I

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1	really hate to to to see going because he and I
2	and I say this with all seriousness because he's
3	he's evolved in my eyes and and has looked at a new
4	way of looking at criminal justice reform.
5	One of the things we found out and I'm
6	going I'm going to ask you if you agree with this
7	is that this notion of violence prevention. When the
8	Mayor came and testified, he had to decide the
9	Superintendent of Police and Evelyn Diaz, who's the
10	Director of what is it? Family
11	A. Family and Support Services.
12	Q. And the point that was being made is that
13	it's you can't just in isolation look at the
14	preventive things that you're doing for conclusive data
15	as to what whether or not you're preventing violence.
16	You can measure it in other ways to see how many people
17	you're touching and and things of that nature, but
18	you can't look at that in short term to make make
19	that determination. Is that what you were trying to say
20	earlier in response
21	A. It is what I was trying to say. And I may not
22	have said it well. But, you know, our our goal with
23	our evaluation and data collection system was to
24	demonstrate that we were reaching people, that the
25	services were getting there. We were training these

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	Page 1
1	folks to enter this data, and we were also looking at
2	whether we were impacting the risk factors.
3	Like with these elementary school kids, for
4	example, it is clear prevention to be working with kids
5	who have been traumatized by their exposure to violence
6	because they'll fail in school, they they will have
7	all sorts of problems associated with that trauma that
8	are linked to eventual violent behavior. So if you're
9	working with elementary school kids to deal with their
10	trauma, that work is not going to impact the violence
11	rate in that community that year, but we can look at
12	whether we're reducing those risk factors, reducing
13	those systems those symptoms, whether we're having an
14	impact on that child's well-being.
15	And the same thing with these others. With
16	Mentoring Plus Jobs What we were trying to measure
17	with Mentoring Plus Jobs was: Does Do the youth have
18	a different attitude about work? Do they see the labor
19	force as something that they could be constructively
20	involved in in contrast to the kind of unpaid illegal
21	work? So, yes, we were we were intervening in ways
22	that would reduce risk and promote resilience, that
23	could in the future potentially have an impact on that
24	behavior.
25	Q. Okay. I'm kind of I'm being given the hook

150

Page 151 1 here --2 Α. I know. 3 Ο. -- but we can go on and on. 4 I just want to -- There are a couple of 5 organizations that I'm very familiar with because there in and around my district. One is the Black United Fund 6 7 of Illinois, and the other is the Chicago Area Project. 8 And -- And I had to have this as kind of my last 9 question because they've been assailed and -- and 10 they -- they've been looked at in a very limited focus. 11 It's my understanding the Chicago Area Project 12 has been serving communities in -- in the Chicago area 13 since 1930 and the Black United Fund has been doing it 14 for the last couple of decades. Do you look at the work 15 of the Chicago Area Project and Black United Fund in isolation in terms of the salacious stuff that's been 16 17 put in the media, or do you look at them 18 comprehensively? 19 No. Absolutely comprehensively. Α. 20 I mean, to -- to take just Black United Fund 21 for a moment, the story that put them out there in -- in a bad light was the story of a young person who was 22 engaged in the Mentoring Plus Jobs program who off 23 24 hours, not while he was on the job for Mentoring Plus Jobs, off hours, committed a crime, a horrible crime. 25

Page 152 1 And he actually did it in partnership with another youth 2 who was killed. Terrible. And, yes, that's not a good 3 thing.

But the program was a program for high-risk 4 5 youth. The program was a program where organizations like Black United Fund are taking risks by embracing 6 7 these kids and bringing them in and giving them positive 8 things to do. And the fact that one or two of these 9 kids in one community was the only story that could be 10 found of a failure of the program just -- it -- it --11 it -- frankly, it incensed me because, you know, you 12 turn the page and there's a police officer who's just 13 been indicted for this or that or a legislator who's just been indicted for this or that. Every -- People 14 15 from all different professions and pro- -- participating in all sorts of programs and going to all sorts of 16 17 churches and religious groups, religious centers, commit crimes. And to -- to -- to not expect that one child or 18 two in a large program that's serving thousands of youth 19 20 are not going to get in trouble and to make that become 21 the face of the program, as if somehow that was a 22 failure that that program should somehow account for, is -- is -- is -- is very sad to me because it -- it --23 24 it doesn't speak to what it is that program is trying to 25 do and recognize that you're -- we're working with kids

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1	who are one foot away from that kind of trouble and it's
2	going to happen sometimes.
3	SENATOR RAOUL: Thank you again for your service
4	and your testimony.
5	And thank you for your patience, Mr. Chairman.
6	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions?
7	Chairman Barickman.
8	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Thanks, Mr. Chairman.
9	Welcome formally, I suppose, Ms. Shaw.
10	I think as I before I get into some of the
11	questions that I have for you, I wanted to respond a bit
12	to some of my colleague's, Senator Raoul's comments
13	here.
14	And, Senator, I have great respect for for
15	you, and I hope you know that.
16	But I do think it's important for all of us to
17	remember why we're here. And I understand that some
18	And, look, I'm certain both sides can take blame for,
19	you know, your the suggestions that politics has
20	influenced the hearing that ultimately became here
21	today. Fair enough.
22	But the importance of this hearing exists, and
23	it's an importance that comes from law. That's why we
24	have the Audit Commission. It's an importance that we
25	spent a lot of money on. The auditors put more than a

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1	year into this audit, and their findings are stunning.
2	Their findings, I think, are much of the reason why
3	there is a heightened anxiety about today's hearings.
4	And those findings are troubling. They're
5	troubling They ought to be troubling to all of us.
6	Whether you're from Bloomington like myself, who
7	admittedly does not have the crime rate that exists in
8	Chicago, that doesn't mean that the crime that exists in
9	Chicago is not meaningful to people like me. But for my
10	constituents, they place value in the decisions that we
11	make in Springfield, and what they've seen here is a
12	tremendous expenditure of dollars on a program for which
13	has been heavily criticized.
14	I've also heard from people who are not my
15	constituents, people who rely on the State, Federal,
16	local governments to help fund their anti-violence
17	measures. Those groups too have expressed to me their
18	belief in the importance of these hearings to preserve
19	the integrity of the many good programs that do exist
20	out there today.
21	And so I think it's it's helpful and useful
22	that you, Ms. Shaw and Senator Raoul, have talked about
23	some of these positives that do exist in our State.
24	That is absolutely important.
25	But what we have is an audit to deal with

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1	today, and it's again, it's an audit that I think is
2	stunning. And I want to get you know, with all due
3	respect to all of our conversations about the importance
4	about anti-violence initiatives and without criticizing
5	those efforts in any way, I want to talk to what we
6	what we read as we review the audit.
7	EXAMINATION
8	(Continued)
9	BY SENATOR BARICKMAN:
10	Q. Ms. Shaw, you know, a lot of discussions about
11	politics. And I I suppose in Springfield there's a
12	saying that good policy is good politics. And I think
13	the the question that we've got is whether or not
14	this was good policy.
15	And, Ms. Shaw, earlier in response to some of
16	the questions that Representative Sandack raised, you
17	said, Well, this wasn't politics because the Governor's
18	Office never told me what to do. I might be
19	paraphrasing. But I'm troubled when I read the audit.
20	And, look, we've all seen the stories that have been
21	frequent in the media over the summer about the
22	decisions the Quinn administration made at every
23	juncture in this program.
24	So walk me through You know, there there
25	was some discussion about the Anti-Violence Commission

	Page 156
1	that was that was launched in the summer of 2010.
2	And I'm not clear as to what role that Commission played
3	in what became the creation or what became this
4	program, the NRI program. Did NRI come as a result of
5	that Commission, or was NRI created independent of
6	whatever thoughts were coming out of that Commission?
7	A. My understanding and experience is that NRI
8	was a separate program. The Commission had its own
9	purpose. And the program was funded to implement actual
10	programming in communities and that you know,
11	certainly the Commission, I recall, urged the Governor
12	to to do something about violence prevention and not
13	necessarily to wait until the end of their hearings,
14	that that they supported his move to invest in
15	violence prevention but they were separate, separate
16	bodies and separate functions.
17	Q. Okay. And so there was a CCN report on in
18	2012 that shined shined light on this program and
19	significantly on that on this program. But in that
20	report, Governor Quinn said that this program was a
21	result of the Commission. And so was he wrong there?
22	A. You know, I think he was I can't speculate
23	as to to what what was going on in his mind, but
0.4	

24 they -- the Commission was created around the time of 25 all this summer activity and they were calling for --

	rage 1
1	for a focus a focus on violence prevention. The
2	communities were asking for violence prevention. And
3	that was the impetus behind behind his investment.
4	How he conceptualized the Commission and its
5	relationship is something you have to talk to him about.
6	Q. Okay. And so whether you're a taxpayer or
7	you're a community member in one of the communities that
8	may or may not have received funding, you might have an
9	interest in this, right? Okay. There's going to be
10	this new program. Ultimately, we're going to spend tens
11	of millions of dollars on it.
12	And as as lawmakers, I think we're trying
13	to as we you review the audit, you know, there's
14	no clear understanding, it appears, from the auditors as
15	to, you know, who were at those meetings. It looks like
16	sometimes some aldermen, sometimes some clergy members,
17	for whom no one to date has been able to explain to me,
18	you know, what religious officials were there. Were
19	there members from all the religious denominations or
20	just certain ones? There were these series of initial
21	meetings. It looks like law some lawmakers may have
22	been involved in them. But given that this was a
23	statewide program that seems to have come out of these
24	community meetings, we have an interest in knowing who
25	was there, that drove the decisions that ultimately

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1 became where the money was spent, and which agencies 2 received the State tax dollars. So can you shine any 3 light into -- You know, how did those meetings come 4 about? Was that -- Were those meetings coming about at 5 your request? Were you at the meetings? Were they coming about at the Governor's Office's request? I 6 7 mean, where did they come from? 8 Α. Well, there were different types of meetings 9 that were going on at that time. I was engaged in two types of meetings. I was engaged in meetings with the 10 11 Governor's Office staff, whom I've already mentioned, 12 Toni, Malcolm, Billy, and occasionally Jack Lavin in the 13 early stages; meetings with aldermen at -- we called a meeting. There was a -- for aldermen to come and learn 14 15 about NRI and so that they could recommend their lead 16 agency. 17 And then there were other meetings where the Governor's Office was doing outreach to the faith-based 18 community to -- to encourage them to become involved in 19 20 violence prevention. And I attended two of those 21 meetings where in some cases 70, 80 members of the 22 clergy from various denominations were present. 23 Q. Okay. And so -- And as this was -- maybe at the meetings or beyond -- But there's this period of 24 25 time between August and October of 2010 where the

	Page 159
1	program ballooned and that 20 million you know, it
2	was initially 20 million for 12 communities. Then it
3	was 30 million. I don't think today we really
4	understand, you know, how much money went out there.
5	Let's say I mean, we audited 55 million of it.
6	A. There was a budget in the first year of
7	\$33.5 million for the program. That was what IVPA was
8	given to administer the NRI program.
9	The first contact made with me was the
10	Governor wants to invest in violence prevention, and the
11	figure of 20 million was was verbally mentioned to
12	me. So I took that figure, and I developed the model
13	based on we could do these components at at at
14	this cost per component in 12 communities. It was a
15	week, maybe 10 days later, I was told, you know, we're
16	going to And maybe it's because they liked the model.
17	I don't know. But I was told: You know what? It's
18	We're going to make it 30 million. So that translated
19	into a different number of communities. And then
20	shortly after that, we were asked to add the south
21	suburbs and \$3 million was allocated for that. And I
22	asked for \$500,000 for evaluation. \$33.5 million is
23	what was made available for Year 1 for the Neighborhood
24	Recovery Initiative.
25	Q. Sure. And I guess my point in bringing this

Page 160 1 up is to -- to understand where those decisions were 2 being made, and it sounds like they weren't being made 3 from you. 4 Α. No, they were not. 5 All right. So -- So the Governor's Office Q. 6 comes up with this program that goes from 20 to 30 to 7 The press release said \$50 million --50. 8 Α. Let me clarify --9 ο. Sure, sure. 10 Α. -- about 50 because that is important, because it's been mistaken --11 12 ο. Mm-hmm. 13 Α. -- a lot. At the time of the announcement of the program, the announcement -- the Governor announced 14 15 a \$50 million Neighborhood Recovery Initiative. 33.5 of that was for IVPA, for our violence prevention. 16 The 17 balance was for economic development activities associated with DCEO, which I had no knowledge of and no 18 19 connection to. 20 Right. And so I think we've --Q. 21 Α. So that's the 50. 22 Q. Right. So we've been aware, right, there's 23 this other component that was at DCEO. I think the 24 press release or somewhere along the way, it also 25 suggested that IHDA was somehow involved. Are you --

	Page 161
1	A. I don't know. I can't really speak to that at
2	all.
3	Q. But from an organizational standpoint, your
4	role was was limited to the dollars that were made
5	available through IVPA?
6	A. Yes, correct.
7	Q. Okay. And the Help me Help me
8	understand your comment earlier that the the
9	Governor Governor never told me I don't know what
10	you said. You said
11	A. The Governor did not did not dictate, did
12	not tell IVPA which communities to put that money in and
13	which agencies should receive what levels of funding.
14	Q. So let's break that out. The communities,
15	though It It seems like the testimony we've heard
16	today suggests that they did tell you which communities
17	to invest in.
18	A. They They They They They wanted
19	the program to be in the Chicago area. When I say
20	"communities," I mean the specific Austin, you know,
21	South Shore
22	Q. The neighborhoods?
23	A. The neighborhoods.
24	Q. Sure, sure.
25	A. We came up with IVPA said, We've got these

	Page 162
1	20 communities in the Chicago area that were identified
2	previously as having high rates of violence, poverty,
3	and youth disaffection
4	Q. Because they were
5	A from school.
6	Q on the Safety Net Works
7	A. That's right.
8	Q identified.
9	A. So we'll use these communities.
10	Q. So
11	A. So the the Governor's Office did not tell
12	us to use those communities. We recommended that we use
13	those communities.
14	Q. So when when the south suburbs or I know
15	you weren't there when Hermosa was added. But, I mean,
16	clearly Hermosa was added
17	A. After me.
18	Q. But does the
19	A. Two years later.
20	Q. Maybe I'll look to my staff. I don't have the
21	Safety Net Works list in front of me. But is every
22	Chicago neighborhood that is identified on the within
23	the Safety Net Works program then the recipient of NRI
24	dollars?
25	A. Every Chicago area community that was on that

	Page 163
1	list was a recipient of NRI dollars.
2	Q. Okay. And so what about the agencies? The
3	The
4	A. The agencies? Again, the process for
5	for for figuring out who would be the lead agencies
6	was aldermen recommending, recommending, IVPA putting
7	out a proposal to those who were recommended, the agency
8	submitting that proposal, IVPA reviewing those proposals
9	and then recommending and and and making
10	recommendations to the board for for approval.
11	We rejected Just to make it clear, we
12	rejected 3 of the 20 that were recommended as lead
13	agencies on the basis of a poor proposal. So So we
14	did not just automatically take those names and say,
15	Sure, here's the money. We put them through the process
16	that our rules called for, which was that an RFP was
17	issued, they responded to that RFP, they were reviewed,
18	and three did not hold up.
19	Q. So what do I what do I make or what do
20	we make out of the documentation that shows that in
21	instances the Governor's Office appears to have vetoed
22	the decisions that were made, overruled, that certain
23	agencies were substituted out subject to the approval of
24	the Governor's Office?
25	A. You'd have to give me examples of what you're

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talking about because the only examples I'm familiar
with are situations where for example, we'll take the
Proviso Leyden situation where a community
organization I think it was the Proviso Leyden
Community Council, it's called. That organization
appealed, sent a letter to everybody in the Governor's
Office and everybody connected with IVPA, and said: We
were excluded. We were not selected in Maywood to be
part of the delivery system in Maywood, and we don't
think that's fair because we are a strong provider of
services.
The Governor's Office, they were they
that complaint went to them, so they were certainly
involved in discussions about what to do about this.
But we, IVPA, went back to the Maywood lead organization
and pointed out that there was a concern here and they
had not yet had their recommendations approved by
their what is it? Township? What is Maywood? the
City of Maywood, their governing body. They had to take
those recommendations to the governing body. The

governing body reconsidered themselves on the basis of the complaint. They reconsidered, and they came back with recommendations that included Proviso Leyden. And the comments that Toni or anybody else from the Governor's Office made about that was the notion that we

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were encouraging Maywood to rethink based on this
 complaint, and it was their recommendation and their
 decision to include Proviso Leyden in the resultant mix
 of programs.

5

Q. All right.

At no time did the Governor's Office say to 6 Α. 7 the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority, You will 8 fund this agency, You will fund this community, You will 9 not fund this agency, You will not fund this community. Our process and the process that the lead agencies led 10 11 in their community -- As imperfect as it was in some 12 cases and as imperfect as our process was in some 13 cases -- I mean, I know that the scoring, for example, of our lead agencies -- there was a problem with the 14 15 fact that there were actually two different score sheets that were used in -- so that they were -- they were not 16 17 the same. I understand that there were breakdowns and problems, but the bottom line is that we did the job and 18 we -- we -- we rejected three of the applicants and we 19 20 moved forward. But at no time were we directed by the 21 Governor's Office, we, when I was there. Now, it does 22 appear that that may have been different later, but in 23 my experience, when this program got off the ground and 24 in those two years, we were never directed where to put 25 money.

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1	Q. So You know, so what do we make You
2	know, again, we've got January 7th of 2011 the Community
3	Assistance Programs is informed by you that any
4	substitutions of NRI provider organizations would have
5	to be approved by the Governor's Office. I mean
6	A. That's a good I'm glad you raised that
7	because there's another e-mail in there where I'm
8	saying: Okay. At our meeting next week we're going to
9	bring the the list of leads and subs for your
10	approval or not. This was a very generalized approval.
11	This was me as an agency director taking the results of
12	our process and putting it before them and saying, Is
13	this okay? This was not a program by pro The
14	Governor's Office did not review program by program and
15	decide and participate in the formal approval
16	process. This was a a a again, an
17	administrative discussion about: Are we good to go?
18	This is what it looks like. Here we are. Are there
19	Yes, they may have been looking at it in terms of are
20	there any are there any problems that they were aware
21	of that maybe we should be aware of, but it was not a
22	situation of literally approving each and every
23	organization.
24	Q. So, you know And, again, to to the
25	audit, you know, the audit tells us, page 13: After

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1	target communities for NRI were determined, the south
2	suburbs requested to the Governor's Office that its area
3	be included in the initiative. The Governor's Office
4	agreed, and three townships were added.
5	I mean, what do I make of that?
6	A. Again, as I said before, just as the Governor
7	said, We want this program in the Chicago area, he then
8	said, We also want this program in the south suburbs.
9	He did not say or his staff did not say, You will fund
10	this organization, that specific community in the south
11	suburbs.
12	Q. Right. No. I mean, the point the point
13	that I'm making is that the decision of where the money
14	was spent clearly came from the Governor's Office, not
15	from the list that no one can seem to produce for us,
16	unfortunately. But it came from the Governor's Office.
17	That's the point. Or, I mean Or the audit is wrong.
18	Maybe
19	A. I'm not
20	Q. I mean, the audit doesn't say
21	A sure I'm understanding exactly what you're
22	saying.
23	Q. Well, the audit does not say that the south
24	suburbs were added because they were on the list. The
25	audit says the south suburbs were added because they

Page 168 1 approached the Governor's Office, the Governor's Office 2 approached IVPA, and they got added. 3 Α. Yes, as a region, as a community. Again, not: You will give X amount of dollars to --4 5 Q. Understood. 6 -- X community group within the south suburbs Α. 7 or X community within --8 Q. Right. 9 Α. -- Chicago. 10 Right. Okay. But the decision to add them --Q. 11 to be clear here, the audit says that the decision came 12 from the Governor's Office --13 Α. Yes. 14 **Q**. -- and no --The decision came from the Governor's Office 15 Α. that 20 or 30 million should be spent in Chicago, and 16 17 the decision came from the Governor's Office that 3 million should be spent in the south suburbs. 18 19 Q. Okay. 20 All true. Α. 21 Okay. Well, I think that's a little different Q. than what we led with. 22 23 No, no. Α. 24 Q. Okay. 25 I -- I made a very clear distinction between Α.

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1	"We want this program to serve a region" versus "We want
2	the money to go there and there and there and we want
3	you to give this agency and that agency and that agency
4	money." That's what was implied by some of the comments
5	that were being made about this being, you know,
6	"walking around" money or a slush fund to to get out
7	the vote. That money was directed at agencies that
8	applied through a process and were selected through a
9	process, not controlled by the Governor's Office.
10	Q. Right. And, look, I mean, we don't have to
11	The purpose here is not to draw a conclusion on the
12	the political motives or not that may have existed. I
13	think My point is we're trying to understand We
14	have a State agency that We'll get to how the money
15	landed at IVPA. But we've got a State agency that has a
16	bunch of taxpayer dollars making decisions about
17	spending money in certain communities, and what I'm
18	hearing is those decisions come out of the Governor's
19	Office. They didn't
20	A. What decisions came out? I'm really
21	You're You're You're jumping to a phrase that I'm
22	not sure I can agree with. I thought maybe
23	Q. The decision such as we add the south suburbs
24	because the Governor's Office was petitioned I don't
25	know it was requested of the Governor's Office by the

	Page 170
1	south suburbs to be added, they came to IVPA and said,
2	Add us to the mix, and so they were added.
3	And, again, just to understand the context of
4	the concern, what we what we're trying to understand
5	is whether or not there were some criteria used. And I
6	think the auditors have pointed out that there were
7	deficiencies, significant ones, primarily a result
8	you know, surrounding how those initial decisions were
9	made. I'm not blaming you. I'm just saying you were
10	the recipient of the decision that came out of the
11	Governor's Office that said, Here's how we're going to
12	spend money on this program. And that's fair. So when
13	we moved from 20 to 30 to 50 million, those were the
14	Governor's decisions, and when we moved from 12
15	communities to 20, those were the decisions of the
16	Governor's Office?
17	A. Correct.
18	Q. And I think as lawmakers You know, I think
19	that's important for us to, you know, contemplate,
20	whether or not that was appropriate, the manner in which
21	that went. But that's why we're having the audit, so
22	that we can consider those things.
23	You know, talking about the money and this
24	was brought up today early on, the appropriation process
25	and the mechanism in which IVPA had these dollars made

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1	available to them. I I want to understand your
2	understanding of the situation of the the the
3	dollars that IVPA received. But to do so, I think
4	the you know, I can simply point to what the Auditor
5	General said back in our May hearing. This is one of
6	the most significant findings I think, that the auditors
7	made, which was this method in which money was moved
8	from an appropriated fund to a non-appropriated fund.
9	You know, again, you you touched on that earlier,
10	Ms. Shaw, or you at least touched on the appropriation.
11	But as I as I understand this, there was an
12	appropriation You talked about the lump-sum budget
13	that was passed. There was an appropriation made to $$
14	that ultimately was given to IVPA. But my understanding
15	of what the Auditor General has pointed out is once
16	those those dollars were received, those dollars were
17	moved from your appropriated fund to a non-appropriated
18	fund in an effort to circumvent the budgeting process
19	that we go through and allow for the spending of dollars
20	outside of a fiscal year and the appropriation authority
21	that the legislature may or may not have given.
22	The Auditor General, by the way, his
23	conclusion here is that this practice, quote, violates
24	the State Finance Act and, more importantly and this
25	is the this is the you know, the piece, I think,

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1	as legislators we're going to have to consider and,
2	more importantly, effectively negates the General
3	Assembly's constitutional power to control
4	appropriations.
5	Going on, he says: Consider this, if you
6	will. If implemented across all of State government,
7	agencies would no longer lapse unused funds at the end
8	of the year; rather, they would simply transfer these
9	unused funds to a non-appropriated account for the next
10	year, two years down the road, maybe ten years from now,
11	thereby nullifying the appropriation controls set by the
12	General Assembly. We do not believe the mere movement
13	of appropriated funds to a non-appropriated fund
14	constitutes an expenditure and thereby voids fiscal year
15	limitations.
16	I might add to that that we see this
17	continuing today, and it was addressed last week in the
18	movement of dollars that were appropriated to DHS for a
19	program called CCBYS which tar which is for the
20	benefit of at-risk youths. That money was moved out of
21	an appropriated fund to actually the same fund that was
22	used here, this Fund 318, which is non-appropriated,
23	thereby raising this same, I believe, concern.
24	My question is When we had Mr. Cutrone here
25	in May, he addressed this topic. And he said that the

1 lawyers told him -- or there were lawyers who said that 2 was legal, but he wasn't there at the time, so he 3 doesn't know what conversations existed around this 4 issue. Were you a part of any of these discussions? 5 Were there any concerns about the constitutionality of 6 moving this money in this way? 7 Let me say two things. First, all funds in Α. 8 our non-appropriated fund, which we created years before 9 NRI -- all funds in that non-appropriated fund rolled over, and they had been rolling over for years. They 10 11 routinely rolled over to the next fiscal year. This is 12 what we were told by the Comptroller's Office. So that 13 was a routine process of those funds in non-appropriated funds rolling over to the next year. This had been the 14 15 case since the fund was established four to five years earlier, and we had never had a previously adverse audit 16 17 finding about that or any concerns expressed about dollars that rolled over from one fiscal year to the 18 next from our Special Projects Violence Prevention Fund. 19 20 So let me say that, that that had been a routine process 21 that occurred prior to NRI. 22 Secondly, you suggested that these funds were moved into the Violence Prevention Fund in order -- in 23 defiance of and in order to circumvent the law. 24

funds were transferred from the general revenue line by 25

Those

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Page 174 a process with the Comptroller's Office, lots of forms, 1 2 lots of -- I mean, the standard --3 Q. The intergovernmental agreements? Those -- Those -- Those funds were transferred 4 Α. 5 into the Violence Prevention Fund in order to have those dollars available for these communities who were 6 7 implementing the violence program. It -- There was no discussion early on of the issue of lapse or the issue 8 of -- of -- in defiance of -- of the appropriation 9 process. This was money made able to our agency by the 10 Governor. The funds was transferred into the Violence 11 12 Prevention Fund so that we could then utilize those dollars to get those dollars out into the community. If 13 you recall, we were at the point where programs, 14 15 attempting to implement their -- their work under contract, were getting their payments, eight, nine, 16 17 ten months after they were due. So this was -- this 18 was --I'm not --19 Q. -- an effort to make those funds available for 20 Α. 21 these violence prevention agencies to address their -their --22 I'm not -- I'm not here trying to question 23 Q. 24 your motive here. I'm trying to --25 Α. No. I'm --

	Page
1	Q understand the issue
2	A. I'm speaking to that
3	Q which may be a constitutional one, but I
4	think I'd like to hear from the attorney the
5	Auditor the Auditor General. I'm sorry.
6	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: From the appropriation,
7	that billion dollar appropriation that was made, there
8	was an intergovernmental agreement to transfer that
9	money to the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority.
10	Okay? So as a part of that intergovernmental agreement,
11	the the the terms apply that that money has to be
12	spent by the end of fiscal year '11, by the end of
13	FY '11, so all of that money that was transferred or
14	that was that was part of that appropriation.
15	Then the administration came up with this idea
16	that because we're running towards the end of the fiscal
17	year and we have yet to spend all that money, we are
18	going to call this transfer to the 318 Fund as an
19	expenditure. It's not an expenditure. There was not
20	one violence prevention program that received any money
21	for that. There was not one life that was saved. There
22	was not one mentoring program.
23	They took the money, the balance, 10, 11 days
24	before the end of the fiscal year and put it into the
25	318 Fund. That's the problem. Because that money, as I

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1	said and you accurately quoted, Senator, could be
2	could be made available then for one year, two years,
3	ten years down the road.
4	That That is flies in the face of what
5	the appropriations process is and what this side of this
6	table is all about. And so they turned they
7	turned they used the word "transfer," called it
8	spending, put it in a fund that was going to be
9	available ad infinitum. Not one program, not one
10	program, received any of that money. It just went into
11	the 318 Fund.
12	THE WITNESS: May I clarify one point, please.
13	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Sure. But I just want to focus
14	not on the motives here.
15	THE WITNESS: Well, I
16	SENATOR BARICKMAN: No one is questioning
17	THE WITNESS: I want
18	SENATOR BARICKMAN: the motives.
19	THE WITNESS: I want to comment
20	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Barbara
21	THE WITNESS: on the facts
22	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: if you would if
23	you'd hold
24	THE WITNESS: in the process.
25	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: If you'd hold on that.

Page 177 THE WITNESS: Okay, sure. 1 2 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Because to -- to the 3 point -- I just wanted to -- Also -- And I believe Jason and I agree. This is to the point of GOMB, Office of 4 5 Management and Budget, and probably a question for maybe Weems on the transferring of money. I know that you're 6 7 very emotional about the response; however, I think for 8 the question, that's where we're getting. 9 SENATOR BARICKMAN: Right. And -- And --10 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: So we'll proceed. 11 SENATOR BARICKMAN: You know, again, as we -- as 12 we -- as we contemplate why we're here, this is likely 13 one of the most significant findings that was made in this audit that to me appears to be unresolved. 14 Is that a fair -- I think to -- to General 15 Holland. 16 17 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Yes, unresolved. And, frankly, if I'm sitting on this side of the table, 18 that's a big issue I want resolved. 19 20 SENATOR BARICKMAN: And it's a bigger issue than 21 NRI. It goes to --AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Correct. 22 23 SENATOR BARICKMAN: -- part of the budgeting and 24 appropriation process. AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Correct. 25

Page 178 1 THE WITNESS: And I hear that. I understand why 2 you would be focusing on that. I just want to clarify a 3 fact. That's all I want to say. When the money was first allocated in Year 1, 4 5 the transfer took place then, at the very beginning of the program. The whole -- The whole -- From the very 6 7 beginning, from the very beginning, the intent was that the Violence Prevention Fund would be the mechanism for 8 9 paying grantees because the money would be available 10 once it was in that fund. So the -- the 33.5 million was made available early in -- within the -- within the 11 12 first months of the program and transferred. 13 The -- The -- The particular transfer that the Auditor General is referring to was for year '12. It 14 15 was at the -- it was at the end of FY '11, and the legislature appropriated 10 million for the -- for the 16 17 program going forward. The Governor then allocated additional funds, 11-point-something, additional funds, 18 for -- to supplement the 10 million. And that came to 19 20 us -- you're right. I mean, it came to us in June, at 21 the end of fiscal year '11. That's totally correct. 22 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: 11 days before the end of 23 the fiscal year. 2.4 THE WITNESS: Yes. I understand that. It came to 25 us then.

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1	And the interagency agreement said the money
2	has to be spent in the fiscal year. I contacted the
3	Governor's Office of Management and Budget and said:
4	This is a concern. We can't spend that money by the end
5	of the fiscal year. And that's when we received and
6	operated on good faith. We received an e-mail from
7	legal staff in GOMB that said for purposes of the
8	interagency agreement for this lump-sum money that the
9	Governor was giving us, we consider it spent, spent when
10	it transfers into this other fund. So we proceeded
11	on on the basis of that that legal thing. I just
12	wanted to clarify that that that very early in the
13	program this money was deposited in the fund, not just
14	at the end of FY '11.
15	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Yes. But spending is not
16	transferring. You would not dispute my my
17	characterization that there was not one program that got
18	any of that money that had been transferred and now
19	called spending money?
20	THE WITNESS: That money was used for I'm not
21	That money was used to pay grantees.
22	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: At a later date.
23	THE WITNESS: Right.
24	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Yeah.
25	THE WITNESS: But GOMB

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1	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: But the inter the
2	interagency agreement said all of that money would be
3	spent pursuant to the end of that fiscal year.
4	THE WITNESS: I hear that.
5	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: And
6	THE WITNESS: And GOMB told us
7	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: And the bigger issue
8	beyond the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative and the
9	Violence Prevention Authority is on a go-forward basis.
10	You know, you're going to have agencies sitting out
11	there, saying, Jeez, I can't spend all of this money,
12	I'm going to put it in a non-appropriated account, and
13	it's going to be good there for me forever. Believe me,
14	there there are agencies that are thinking about
15	that.
16	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Again, you know, the fact that
17	this issue is not resolved, I think, likely is going to
18	be one of the most significant items that we learn
19	through this process. And it clearly is an issue that
20	has potentially a tremendous impact on the method in
21	which we budget, appropriate make appropriations.
22	I don't know I think we do need to hear
23	from Mr. Weems on this issue.
24	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Absolutely.
25	SENATOR BARICKMAN: But I don't know that I

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1	don't know that he'll have the ultimate answer. I mean,
2	I think this is an issue that needs to be resolved
3	presumably by the legislature. You know, the suggestion
4	that there's a violation of the the State Finance Act
5	is significant in itself, but the more significant
6	constitutional issue is the the balance of powers
7	between the role of the legislature and the role of the
8	Governor. I think if we continue unchecked on this
9	issue, you know, quite honestly, it completely
10	undermines the appropriations process that the
11	legislature goes through.
12	BY SENATOR BARICKMAN:
13	Q. So, again, one kind of final thing here that I
14	want to get to. And in the as we move forward I
15	want to go back to something that I touched on in my
16	opening remarks, that being the role of the Violence
17	Prevention Authority as this statewide comprehensive
18	solution solution is not the right word, but it is
19	a it is a proposed solution. It started 20 years ago
20	in an effort to come up with a statewide method of
21	addressing violence, whether here in Chicago or
22	elsewhere. In the FY '13 budget, the Governor's
23	Office his proposal would have kept NRI as a program
24	within the Violence Prevention Authority, and it had it
25	funded initially in the Governor's proposal as

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1	\$30 million. We know that as this played out, NRI
2	eventually was claimed to be shut down by the
3	Governor. The Governor claims he shut down the Violence
4	Prevention Authority itself, and you left your
5	employment with the State government.
6	A. I left before
7	Q. Before then. Okay. Here's Here's
8	A. Before the agency was disbanded.
9	Q. Right, understood. My My question to you
10	is I'm You know, again, we're trying to make sense
11	out of everything that we read, seen, and heard. And
12	you hear the Governor saying: There's no problem here
13	because I shut down the agency as soon as I figured out
14	the problems. But it seems like we have lots of
15	circumstances that seem to exist before the agency was
16	shut down.
17	And, first of all I guess the first
18	question is: Were there any conversations with
19	between you, the Governor, his senior staff about the
20	direction the Violence Prevention Authority may go, or
21	from your perspective, at the time you left State
22	government, did you just think there were no problems
23	there, there were no issues being raised by the
24	Governor's Office? You know, I mean, what was your
25	reaction once the Authority was shut down?

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1	A. The end of the legislative session, that last
2	week, was when I became aware that there was going
3	likely to be out of the committee a recommendation that
4	the funds for NRI would be transferred to the Illinois
5	Criminal Justice Information Authority and that there
6	would be this audit.
7	Q. Because the House took up a resolution to $$
8	to do
9	A. Yes.
10	Q the audit, right?
11	A. To do the audit and that those that those
12	were going to pass. And they did.
13	Q. They did.
14	A. So I had I then realized that I had
15	wanted to retire earlier, but I thought I'm going to
16	stay at least three or four months and help with the
17	first stages of the audit. So July through September, I
18	was in transition mode and we were responding to the
19	audit, we were getting ready to do closeout for Year 2
20	of preparing for that. Because the program went from
21	October to October, by the way; it wasn't a July 1
22	through June 30. It was October through October. So we
23	were there was still all the demands of the NRI
24	program on us, preparing for the audit, which I did, and
25	responding to FOIA requests and the like. So there was

Page 184 1 a lot going on. 2 But were there -- In -- In that time -- In 0. 3 that time period, I mean, included in the "there was of 4 a lot going on, " were there any conversations about 5 shutting down this --6 Α. No. 7 Q. -- what I'll call State agen- --8 Α. No. 9 Okay. Did the Governor's Office express any Q. 10 misgivings about the agency? 11 Α. Not to me. 12 So -- So what -- So what do the people of this Q. 13 State lose by no longer having the Violence Prevention 14 Authority? We've moved -- You know, and we'll have 15 budget arguments, I'm sure, in the future about all of 16 these things. CJIA may or may not house whatever 17 violence prevention activities we undertake as a State in the future. But what do we lose by shutting down the 18 Violence Prevention Authority? You've been there for 19 20 years -- or had been there for years. So what if one of 21 the things that comes out of, whether it's the audit or 22 not, this State -- An entire State agency or Authority 23 has been shut down. I'm troubled by the -- the -- You 24 know, as I -- as I look to understand why it was created 25 and the function it was designed to play all around the

Page 185 1 State, it's troubling to think that our answer to this 2 audit is to shut down the very agency that is tasked 3 with violence prevention initiatives in the State. 4 Α. You would need to take up that -- why that 5 decision was made with --6 Q. But not why. But --7 Α. -- those who made it. 8 Q. Right. But you're someone -- your -- your resume is impressive. You've spent a lifetime on these 9 10 violence prevention initiatives. We had an entire arm 11 of State government dedicated to doing the things for 12 which you spent a lifetime on that no longer exists. 13 This agency no longer exists. And so what do we lose 14 from that as a State? Not why. I mean, you can't 15 answer why the decisions were made there. But what do 16 we -- So what happens? 17 Α. You know, we lose the -- the expertise and the capacity at the State level of a -- an agency that had 18 deep knowledge about violence prevention and the ability 19 20 to promote and implement evidence-informed violence 21 prevention practices. 22 We also lose the respect for the work of 23 violence prevention. One of the saddest things for me in this whole situation is how it makes the work of 24 25 violence prevention look and how it denigrates the

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1	excellent work that these community organizations did
2	and denigrates the type of work that NRI undertook.
3	That's a very sad outcome of this to me. So that's the
4	type of loss that I mean.
5	Q. Is it replaced by housing these initiatives in
6	CJIA?
7	A. How
8	Q. I mean, in your perspective. You're a
9	taxpayer.
10	A. I can't answer that. I mean, I You know, I
11	can't answer that. IVPA had a unique history and a
12	unique, you know, record, a longtime record of doing
13	violence prevention work, and that that capacity and
14	that knowledge is no longer concentrated in in an
15	agency.
16	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Okay. Well, again, I I want
17	to thank you for coming here. It was a long road to get
18	here, but I appreciate your time, I appreciate your
19	testimony, your service to the State, and your
20	willingness to make the comments you have today. So
21	thank you.
22	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions?
23	Representative Crespo.
24	REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Thank you, Chairman.
25	Ms. Shaw, thank you for joining us. I believe

Page 187 this is the first time I've actually met or --1 2 THE WITNESS: Yes. 3 REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: -- or seen you. Great --4 Great meeting you. 5 EXAMINATION BY REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: 6 7 And you know what? I'm not going to try to Q. 8 get into your mind. I'm not a psychologist. You know, 9 I'm -- I'm going to stick to the -- the audit and facts 10 and try to get some clarification. 11 You had talked about your professional 12 background. Can you talk a bit about your academic 13 background. I have a nontraditional academic background. 14 Α. I do not have a college degree. I -- I was 15 scholarshipped and ready to go off to college. And 16 17 during the summer in between -- I had been working in the inner cities of Baltimore for years -- I met the 18 first VISTA volunteers, the people who were out, going 19 20 into communities, doing the work, and I signed up. 21 That's what I want to do. I want to join VISTA. And I 22 joined VISTA, and I came to the state of Illinois. And I took courses here and there, at various places, but I 23 24 never matric- -- matriculated for my degree. 25 Okay. Ms. Shaw, earlier you had mentioned you Q.

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1	had some regrets, that when you received this amount of
2	money from the Governor's Office for the violence
3	prevention program that you felt you didn't have the
4	resources or you were not staffed adequately; is that
5	correct?
6	A. Well, my regret was not at that moment.
7	Q. Okay.
8	A. My regret was not at that moment. My regret
9	was later. We just dove in, and it was very, very hard
10	work. And we hadn't yet hired You know, that's
11	that's Also, we have to remember it takes a while to
12	hire people. Five people just don't appear on your door
13	ready to go. So we were getting this off the ground.
14	We hired the program director in January. She then was
15	in the process of interviewing for for grant
16	monitors, who were hired a few months later.
17	It was at the point Here's where I regret
18	my my lack of assertion that we needed more people.
19	It was at the point where the Governor's Office told us
20	that they wanted us to perform a function that we never
21	performed in the past, and that, from my experience with
22	other State agencies, isn't a routine practice of
23	agencies. And that is to re request and receive
24	into our office boxes of documentation from the leads
25	and the subs as to how they spend their money, again,

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1	the rent receipts, the payroll records, re backup
2	documentation, not their fiscal reports where they send
3	in and they certify this is what we spent our money on,
4	in these line items, which is the standard process. You
5	have a budget. They submit a report. This is what we
6	spent. That's the That's the normal sort of
7	accounting process. The Governor's Office asked us to
8	do documentation review and said, You can have two more
9	people, which made our total five for NRI.
10	So we went out, and those two people were
11	absorbed into the work of doing the normal process that
12	agencies do, which is reviewing the quarterly reports.
13	And it was at that point when I realized, a few months
14	after, Here Here, you can have two more people, after
15	we had hired those two people and we were still, you
16	know, working very, very, very hard to to keep the
17	program going and to do the administrative tasks we were
18	expected to do it was at that point that I that I
19	should have realized that, you know, we've got if
20	we're going to do the kind of documentation that was
21	asked, we need more people. And, instead, I I
22	just you know, okay. We've got to get to this.
23	We've got to get to this. And we did.
24	By By the spring of 2012, we had we
25	asked the programs a group of the programs to send in

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1	their stuff. We got four big boxes of documents. And
2	we had then at that point were preparing to hire some
3	temps, some accounting temps to come in and literally
4	review those because the capacity did not exist on our
5	five-person staff. And I regret that I did not say, We
6	can't do what you've asked, We need more people if you
7	want us to do that kind of reporting. I just kept
8	trying to do it.
9	Q. So
10	A. We'll get there. We'll get there. We'll do
11	it.
12	Q. Yeah. So you were lacking the resources
13	initially.
14	Now, according to your budget request back
15	then, how how many staff personnel were you supposed
16	to have? Eleven, I believe?
17	A. I think so. Nine in Chicago, I think, and two
18	in Springfield. That sounds right.
19	Q. Okay. But your your actual head count was,
20	what, five?
21	A. Oh, no.
22	Q. Well, what was your actual head count? You
23	actually had 11 people working for you at the time?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. Okay.

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1	A. It was either nine or eleven. I can't
2	Q. Okay.
3	A remember. But it was I think
4	Q. So you
5	A it was nine.
6	Q. You got this influx of money from the
7	Governor's Office to run the program at least. You were
8	still You You only had your 9, your 11 employees,
9	and and you waited for a while until you figured out,
10	Wait a second, I don't have the resources to manage this
11	with the amount of people that I have?
12	A. No. We built into the budget that we would
13	hire at least two people. So it wasn't as if there was
14	no plan to bring We know We knew we needed NRI
15	staff. And so we we we
16	Q. So you had the resources you needed to run the
17	program and the skill sets, correct?
18	A. We had the plan to hire NRI staff and to
19	utilize our existing staff to get things off the ground
20	and to hire NRI staff to take over those
21	responsibilities. And then when we were asked to do
22	more documentation than we would normally do and
23	which ICJIA, by the way, in their response to the
24	audit, said they weren't capable of doing that kind
25	of you know, having grantees submit doc

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1	documentation and review it in the office. Even ICJIA,
2	which were much bigger than we were
3	Q. Okay.
4	A said, No, we can't do that. But it was at
5	the point when the Governor's Office asked us to do more
6	and we realized I realized down the road that we
7	weren't able to do that more, that the expense
8	documenting and review
9	Q. Okay.
10	A I should have said, We need more people.
11	Q. Can we talk a bit about the RFP process. And
12	I believe you stated that there were 20 RFPs that came
13	through, 3 were denied, correct? Who drafted the RFP?
14	A. Myself and Reshma Desai, who was my Director
15	of Grant Programs.
16	Q. And And both of you had experience with the
17	RFPs in the past?
18	A. Oh, we had been using them for 13 years.
19	Q. And I also understand that these were not
20	competitive grants, so these were not posted anywhere.
21	They were The RFP went exactly to wherever the
22	aldermen suggested they go to?
23	A. Exactly, as as we had been doing with our
24	collaborative grants program for years.
25	Q. So this is no different? So you said the same

Page 193 1 thing you'd done in the past? 2 Yes. We have -- We have had noncompetitive Α. 3 grants in the past. And how were the aldermen notified? Were all 4 Q. 5 the al- -- all the alderman in Chicago notified of this 6 program? 7 Α. Yes. 8 Q. How were they notified? 9 Α. We sent -- We made -- I'm trying to remember. 10 We made phone calls. We -- First, we sat down and 11 looked at the community areas and tried to map, you 12 know, which -- which aldermen relate to those community 13 areas. 14 Q. So not all the aldermen were contacted, only the ones that you figured --15 Only the aldermen --16 Α. 17 Q. -- fit all of the profiles or ... We contacted the aldermen who were connected 18 Α. to the community areas that we were going to fund. We 19 20 didn't notify the aldermen from a community that we 21 weren't funding. We -- We -- We had identified the 20 22 community areas. So we had identified the 20 community 23 areas. We then mapped, put an overlay, who were the 24 aldermen, to the best of our ability. Because those 25 lines don't exactly, you know -- We identified aldermen

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1	who served those communities, and we invited them to
2	that meeting to a meeting to discuss the NRI program.
3	We said that it was an opportunity for their community.
4	Q. So you had some way to figure out which
5	aldermen would fit that profile or their wards would
6	fit the profile for what you're looking for?
7	REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Do we have a list of all of
8	those aldermen who were notified? I'm looking at the
9	Auditor General. I'm not sure if we do or do not.
10	THE WITNESS: You know, I think I don't know.
11	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Yes.
12	REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: We do?
13	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Yes.
14	REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Okay.
15	BY REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO:
16	Q. So a decision was made these were the
17	aldermen. And the decision was made by you and who
18	else?
19	A. A decision was made I mean
20	Q. In terms of which aldermen to to to
21	bring in, to the table.
22	A. Reshma and I worked together to develop to the
23	best of our ability a mapping of which aldermen covered
24	the community areas we were serving.
25	Q. Okay. And the the three RFPs that were

Page 195 1 denied, I think you mentioned they were denied because 2 they were poor proposals, they were written very poorly? 3 Α. Or there were -- there were other problems. For example --4 5 Oh, I didn't know that. I thought they were Q. just written poorly. What other problems were there? 6 7 Well, one of them was a very small Α. 8 organization, a very small organization, that had an 9 operating budget, like, under \$50,000. It was a chamber of commerce, and it -- it did not have the ability in 10 11 the history and the financial capacity and -- and -- and 12 experience to take on the role of a lead agency. 13 **Q**. So -- And this is for the lead agencies, 14 correct? 15 This is for the --Α. 16 Q. Again, we're talking --17 Α. -- lead agencies. -- RFPs from the lead agencies? 18 Q. 19 That's right. Α. 20 And the -- And let me regress a little bit and Q. 21 talk about the Department of Human Services' Safety Net 22 Work program. I -- I -- I don't want to belabor -- go 23 over much on this, but -- And if I understand you 24 correctly, that was part -- that was included in the 25 RFP, right, or that was the basis for the RFP? These

Page 196 1 are the agencies --2 Α. These are the communities. 3 Ο. -- based on the --These are the communities. Yes. 4 Α. 5 How did that make it to the RFP? I mean, who Q. saw that list from the Safety Net Work program? 6 I'm 7 looking at the analysis performed by the Department of 8 Human -- Human Services. Who saw that list? Who -- Who 9 actually saw this report? 10 Do you mean two years ago, two years prior to Α. 11 NRI, when Safety Net Works was created? Is that what 12 you are --13 Q. I'm just talking about the reference that was 14 made to the analysis performed by DHS for the Safety Net 15 Work program, which was a huge driver behind who got 16 selected. Who -- Who interfaced with that report? 17 Α. There was a multi-agency committee that DHS led under Secretary Carol Adams. Carol Adams presided 18 over the meetings --19 20 Q. Okay. 21 Α. -- and had her staff, you know, working with her. And IVPA was at the table. The Illinois Criminal 22 23 Justice Information Authority was at the table. DHS was at the table, of course. Public Health, I believe, was 24 25 at the table. DCFS was at the table. So it was an

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1	interagency group that was developing the Safety Net
2	Works program, and DHS produced for that group a list of
3	communities that they said high rates of violence,
4	high rates of poverty, and high rates of school
5	disaffection. We were given that list, and that list
6	was what went into the Safety Net Works RFP. Here are
7	the We will receive applications from these
8	communities only.
9	Q. Well, that list was the by-product of this
10	of the analysis performed by DHS
11	A. Correct.
12	Q which we can't find?
13	A. I Not my fault.
14	Q. So we just took it at face value that someone
15	said, Here's a list that was originated from this
16	report, We don't know where the report is, and and
17	you folks just took that at face value?
18	A. Well, first of all, I don't know about the
19	word "report." Analysis.
20	Q. Well, did you ever see that analysis yourself?
21	A. No, no, I did not.
22	And, you know, Department of Human Services
23	was a huge agency compared to the Violence Prevention
24	Authority. And I take I do take it on face value
25	when the Secretary of an agency like that produces in a

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1	multiagency group a list of organizations and says that
2	it has conducted an analysis. I did take that on
3	on on I trusted that as accurate. And I still
4	believe it is. The fact that the material that was used
5	for the audit for that analysis isn't available doesn't
6	mean that analysis didn't take place.
7	Q. You had mentioned when you answered the
8	question before you mentioned Carol Adams now, who's
9	the Secretary of Human Services. You mentioned Michelle
10	Saddler. Was she in any way or form Was she working
11	with you on this program?
12	A. Well, yes, after you know, after Carol
13	Adams left. Secretary Saddler was the Secretary of
14	of DHS. And DHS and the Violence Prevention Authority
15	and and a number of other agencies worked together
16	Q. Okay.
17	A to implement the program.
18	Q. The agencies that were selected as lead
19	agencies, were they all fiscal agents? Was that a
20	requirement, that they be the fiscal agent for the
21	A. Oh, yes. Their function was to receive the
22	money
23	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Excuse me. General
24	Holland would like to make a point of clarification.
25	REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Okay.

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1	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I would like to ask
2	Mr. Maziarz to come up, who was our auditor in charge
3	on in this particular engagement, to clarify some of
4	these questions which are we're dancing around, about
5	the selection process, how it was done, and the RFP. I
6	understand that Ms. Shaw has been away for a while.
7	We We've been very close to this.
8	Mike.
9	MR. MAZIARZ: Yes. When we were conducting the
10	audit, we asked
11	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Could you Would you go
12	ahead and state your name for the record and spell it
13	out for our court reporter, please.
14	MR. MAZIARZ: It's Mike Maziarz, M A Z I A R Z, and
15	I'm an audit manager for the Auditor General.
16	During the audit, naturally one of the first
17	things we wanted to know was, you know, how these
18	communities were selected. We asked Barbara, and
19	Barbara said that as she's testified today, that it
20	was from a list from DHS and an analysis from them. We
21	asked for a copy of that. Barbara couldn't provide it.
22	We asked the people, as we state in the audit report, at
23	DHS for a copy of it. DHS staff told us they couldn't
24	locate it.
25	So we went up and looked through maybe

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1	30 boxes of Safety Net Works documents. We looked
2	through the e-mail accounts for four former State
3	employees, Carol Adams, Teyonda Wertz, Gloster Mahon,
4	and somebody named Xavier Williams. Those four were all
5	brought to our attention by Michelle Saddler. We got
6	access, went through the whole thing.
7	The bottom line, we never found anything. We
8	still to this day don't know how they picked those
9	because we've we've never seen the analysis.
10	In the RFP that Barbara's organization put out
11	for NRI, it does list a lot of Safety Net Works
12	commun or it lists all the communities that they
13	went to. There's also asterisks that talk about
14	existing Safety Net Works communities. And so some
15	places like Albany Park and Grand Boulevard, Greater
16	Grand Crossing, Logan Square, while they may have been
17	high rates of poverty, violent crime, domestic distress,
18	they weren't apparently eligible enough to get Safety
19	Net Works money prior to Barbara's group being involved
20	with it. So we never we we we were troubled by
21	the idea that we never got a copy of the analysis to
22	know whether or not the list was correct.
23	So our analysis in the audit revolved around
24	the idea of looking at Chicago Police Department data,
25	as as we talked about during the May meeting, and

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1	finding a number of communities that were that
2	appeared to be more violent than some of the others that
3	did receive funding, so.
4	THE WITNESS: May I clarify one thing. I
5	Everything you said is clear, except the original list
6	of of communities in the Chicago area that we used
7	for NRI was the list the same list that was used in
8	the Safety Net Works RFP as eligible communities for
9	Safety Net Works. We did not fund all those communities
10	for Safety Net Works, so that's that's clear. We
11	We We didn't have enough money to fund every
12	community. So not all of those communities were funded,
13	but they were all on that original list produced by DHS
14	and utilized as the basis for receiving applications for
15	Safety Net Works. Just that little qualification. We
16	didn't fund them all, but they were all on the list.
17	MR. MAZIARZ: That's fine. And our qualification
18	in the audit is that we didn't see any of that list and
19	we didn't see any of the analysis done to determine that
20	that list, the list that you're talking about, truly was
21	the area of highest rates of poverty, violent crime,
22	domestic distress, and so forth. So
23	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: That That source
24	document, we could never find.
25	MR. MAZIARZ: No.

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1	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: That source document,
2	which was the basis for all of this, that we did an
3	extraordinary amount of searching for, we never found.
4	THE WITNESS: I understand that.
5	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Okay.
6	THE WITNESS: However, in the Safety Net Works RFP
7	was the list. These are the which I did provide.
8	These are the communities eligible to that have been
9	determined to have high rates of violence. These are
10	the communities. So that was the first All I'm
11	saying is that was the first documentation of the actual
12	list, was in the Safety Net Works RFP.
13	BY REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO:
14	Q. But, Mrs. Shaw, you understand that the
15	question that we have is We're trying to figure out
16	where this list originated from. And
17	A. I understand.
18	Q that's real troubling
19	A. I really do.
20	Q for many of us.
21	A. And I And I I I I can't tell
22	you what
23	Q. Okay.
24	A what DHS did, though it was, again,
25	received by the whole group as the whole

Page 203 1 Q. In fact --2 Α. -- interagency group --3 Q. Yeah. -- as an acceptable list, that they had done 4 Α. 5 their analysis. 6 REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: And to the Auditor General: 7 Do we have a copy of that RFP that was sent out? MR. MAZIARZ: Which one? 8 9 THE WITNESS: The Safety --10 REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: The Safety Net --THE WITNESS: The Safety Net Works. 11 12 REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: The --13 MR. MAZIARZ: Yeah, we've got one. It's in files. 14 REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Okay, okay. BY REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: 15 16 Q. And I'll just make it real quick because we're 17 running out of time here. You talked about the Safe from the Start program. It seems like it's a great 18 19 program. I'm not sure if you're aware that it was cut 20 50 percent --21 A. I know. Q. -- because there's a little bit of uneasiness 22 23 to put some money there. And part of what we're doing 24 here now did impact Safe from the Start. So I know --That what makes me sad. 25 Α.

Page 204 1 Q. Yeah. It is pretty sad. 2 Α. That violence prevention is impacted by --3 So great influence showed on advocacy centers Q. in the State because they're hurting because of that. 4 5 Are you familiar with the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act that we passed this past session 6 7 that deals with -- was a by-product of the single Audit 8 Commission? Α. 9 No. 10 Q. Okay. I am aware that the -- Is this -- Is this the 11 Α. 12 legislation the Governor put forth? Well, it's my bill. I worked closely with 13 Q. 14 him. 15 I'm not aware of anything about it. Α. 16 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And now a word from our 17 sponsor. BY THE WITNESS: 18 19 A. You know, I only know that -- that there was legislation put forth. I don't know the details. I 20 21 don't know the sponsorship. REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Okay. Well, and I think as 22 23 I read the audit report and -- and I see some of the 24 issues, I think if we take the 19 recommendations of the Auditor General and if we take what we have in this 25

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1	Grant Accountability and Transparency Act, which, by the
2	way, I think most of the members here voted for that
3	again, I want to thank Representatives Rita, Mautino,
4	and Sandack and Senators Brady, Senator Mulroe and Manar
5	and Reboletti, for supporting that bill. I think it
6	would address a lot of the needs.
7	You know, a question was asked earlier And
8	I'm just going to restate what I said before. You know,
9	why are we here? And I've been asking the same question
10	over and over again. What's the endgame here? What can
11	this Commission do that the Feds or the State's Attorney
12	can't do? And I know it's my understanding that
13	they're looking into this case. They actually have more
14	tools and more resources than we do to install any
15	punitive measures, if we have to.
16	And I do think, as I mentioned earlier, that
17	the Grant Accountability Act and the 19 recommendations
18	from the Auditor General address a lot of the things
19	that we're talking about here. I've said this before
20	and I've been quoted in the paper. It bothers me and
21	I have a lot of respect for this Audit Commission. As a
22	matter of fact, I serve on the Appropriations Committee
23	in the House, and the Auditor General comes before my
24	committee. And I've always made sure that we fund them

25 adequately because I think we need someone to police

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1	what we do. And the same thing with the Inspector
2	General. And I think they did a fantastic job.
3	But one of the audits that came before us had
4	to do with DCFS. And the number of children that died
5	was something that that we we've looked into. And
6	it bothers me to this day that that does not raise to
7	the level of importance that this does. It's absurd.
8	I've been I've been saying this since day one.
9	However, now it seems it is important. I've been
10	reading in the papers that, unfortunately, for political
11	reasons they're making a big issue out of this. I just
12	hope that this Commission or this body at some point
13	looks at that issue, either through this Commission
14	or or on the House floor or Senate floor and try to
15	deal with this because it is a big problem.
16	Again, I want to thank the Auditor General for
17	the good work they've done. I'm concerned that because
18	of what we're doing here today I hope it doesn't
19	it doesn't hamper your ability to do what you're
20	supposed to do in the future. And if it if it does,
21	please let us know because I think it's one of the
22	concerns that we have.
23	And, again, I have more questions, but I know
24	we're running out of time.
25	Chairman, thank you for your time.

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1	Ms. Shaw, thank you for for spending time
2	with us.
3	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And, Ms. Shaw, you've been
4	with us a long time. In fact, we have one final
5	questioner. And And I appreciate the
6	straightforwardness in your answers.
7	And we're going to go to Representative
8	Reboletti.
9	REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman
10	and members of the Commission.
11	Thank you, Ms. Shaw, for being here today. I
12	know that you've withstood a number of hours of
13	questioning, so I'm going to try to be as brief and to
14	the point as possible.
15	EXAMINATION
16	BY REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI:
17	Q. And I share your your zeal and your passion
18	for violence prevention, having spent a good portion of
19	my adult life working within the criminal justice system
20	or advocating on its behalf.
21	And my concern is when we take large amounts
22	of money that we target for communities or populations
23	that we deliver it in an effective and meaningful way.
24	So I think you and I share those goals. I think this
25	Commission and the General Assembly shares that as well.

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1	And I've heard testimony that sometimes
2	reminds me of an appropriation hearing. I've heard
3	testimony about some headlines that have been you
4	could read in the Sun-Times or Tribune, about murders,
5	senseless lives senseless murders of young victims,
6	recently a 4-year old shot in a in a neighborhood not
7	that far from here. But, unfortunately, over the years
8	and in my eight years in the General Assembly, you could
9	rip those headlines out of any year from 2007 to today,
10	and it's almost as if somehow, whatever we've invested,
11	the the murder rates aren't coming down as fast as we
12	would like them to.
13	So when we invest this large amount of money
14	in a lump-sum fashion I wanted to ask you some
15	questions regarding that administration. So you were
16	concerned about, I would assume, a ballooning
17	appropriation, right? You had 11 employees, give or
18	take, at the time of the inception of the ideas of the
19	NRI; is that fair to say? Back in August of 2010, you
20	would have had 11 employees, 9 employees?
21	A. 9 to 11.
22	Q. And your yearly budget at that time was
23	\$11 million?
24	A. Well, no. It was really We were
25	administering about \$10 million in funds. Not all of it

Page 209 1 was appropriated. 2 Okay. And you were administering \$10 million. Q. 3 And what was your line item to administer that \$10 million? 4 5 Α. What was my line item? You had -- I know some of that -- that money 6 Q. 7 has passed through -- money either from the Federal 8 government or from the State --9 Α. So, yeah, no Federal money --10 No Federal --Q. -- at that time. 11 Α. 12 Q. -- money whatsoever? It was all -- It was all -- It was either an 13 Α. appropriation from the Violence Prevention Fund, our 14 15 license plate fund to us, or general revenue, or we were administering dollars pursuant to interagency agreements 16 17 with other State agencies. So when the opportunity presented itself, that 18 Q. 19 additional large sum of money would be processed through 20 your agency, did the amount -- because you were 21 processing \$10 million a year, did processing an 22 additional 20 million of those dollars give you pause 23 and concern that there might be room for waste, fraud, 24 abuse within that administration if you had to 25 administer it in a quick amount of time?

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1	A. No. The notion of waste, fraud, and abuse did
2	not come to mind because I knew at that point that we
3	would be implementing our basic procedures.
4	Q. And
5	A. And that we would be working with
6	approximately 20 to 23 additional grantees.
7	Q. Right. But the amount of your employees
8	didn't go up proportionately to match
9	A. No, it didn't.
10	Q those It did not.
11	And so obviously there would be additional
12	workloads on the employees that you did have to
13	A. And then we were planning to hire.
14	Q. And you were planning to hire.
15	So as that number continued to rise from
16	\$20 million to \$30 million I know that you said a
17	portion of it was not yours, but it went up to \$50
18	million. At what level Was Was there any
19	discomfort that you may have felt that you may not be
20	able to perform at the highest and best levels of the
21	professionalism of yourself and your office to make sure
22	that those dollars were spent efficiently and
23	effectively?
24	A. Not initially.
25	Q. Was there Was there any dollar amount that

	Page 211
1	you were so concerned about that, as the Governor talked
2	about a \$10 million program, a \$20 million program, a
3	\$30 million program, you were prepared at any level to
4	be able to administer that with the appropriate
5	A. Yes.
6	Q oversight?
7	A. Because at that point First of all, the
8	difference between 20 to 30 was over a week to 10 days.
9	It wasn't as if we geared up and planned for this
10	this number and then, oops, we've got to adjust to
11	another number, so. And all what it did was increase
12	the number of grantees. And, you know, so at that point
13	we were thinking, all right, we're going to have 23 new
14	grants to these lead agencies and, yes, we're going to
15	be dealing with these partners. We had no idea how many
16	partners there would be, how many sub-providers there
17	would be, and and
18	Q. If I could
19	A. (Inaudible.)
20	Q. If I could stop you
21	A. (Inaudible.)
22	Q right there.
23	A were going to be.
24	Q. In all of your professional experience and
25	it's been decades of great service to the people of this

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1	State. If you were able to administer the program
2	and and you were the one who you got to choose how
3	many lead agencies, where those lead lead agencies
4	who those people would be, and the metrics that would be
5	used to follow it, what would you have done differently
6	than what had occurred? You personally and
7	professionally, what would you have done differently?
8	Because
9	A. Do you mean looking back?
10	Q. Yes, looking back.
11	A. After my experience
12	Q. Yes.
13	A of doing it?
14	Q. Because one of my concerns is that that
15	there was that this was a push to to get this
16	money out faster. So in August there was a push to get
17	the money out in September and October. So in your
18	professional opinion, what would have been the
19	appropriate length of time to take that amount of money,
20	to sit down with your agency, to begin to do the RFPs,
21	to begin to vet the agencies, and to perform best
22	practices to make sure that that money would adequately
23	get to the right communities, to the right agencies, and
24	with the right results? How long would it have taken
25	you with no time constraints, no political constraints,

1 just using best practices and professionalism that you 2 have accumulated over the years? 3 Well, I -- I don't think I could answer that Α. 4 because there was the pressure of time, there was the 5 pressure of the urgency of the violence problem, and us wanting and needing to get programming up and developed. 6 7 You know, it wasn't until the stage where we then had 8 190 sub- -- sub-providers and the demands of working 9 with the lead agencies and those sub-providers and the requests by the Governor's Office to do a level of 10 11 monitoring that we had never done before -- it wasn't 12 until that point that we realized that we -- you know, that I realized and felt underresourced. So we still 13 would have -- we still would have been able to take on 14 this program, to do the RFPs, to -- to --15 16 Q. No doubt. So let me ask you this. What 17 was -- Why was the level of urgency in the violence prevention so much higher in August of 2010 than it was 18 19 in April of 2010, when my colleagues, at that time John 20 Fritchey, a Representative from Chicago, and 21 Representative La Shawn Ford of Chicago, from Englewood, 22 who was not picked to be a portion of this, said we need 23 to bring in the National Guard? I mean, talk about a sense of urgency and violence prevention, that there was 24 25 this cry, the human cry, from the community that we need

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1	help now, that so much so that some members thought
2	we needed to bring the National Guard in. So what
3	transpired from April to August? I mean, there was
4	already a sense
5	A. It was a
6	Q of urgency back then.
7	A terrible summer, and very, very bad things
8	happened that summer, which increased
9	Q. There's no doubt about it.
10	A everybody's I mean, it was all over the
11	press. There were kids killed. There were law
12	enforcement officers killed. There was a child beaten
13	to death in a schoolyard. It was a very heightened
14	awareness of the lethality and the the pervasiveness
15	of the violence problem.
16	Q. And there's no doubt about that. And I'm just
17	wondering Look, that money should have been
18	appropriated maybe sooner. Obviously, it probably could
19	have been appropriated in the beginning of that year
20	because 2009 wasn't that great of a year when we look at
21	the violence statistics and so I have some issues
22	maybe with the timing and then why it had to be pushed
23	out as quickly. Because obviously you stated that it
24	was important that we look at this that the the
25	measurements and its the benefits of the program over

	Page 215
1	time, right? So you knew that when we put \$10 million
2	into these communities, \$20 million into these programs,
3	\$30 million, that the return wasn't going to be
4	immediate, right? It would take How long would it
5	take, would you say, to be able to judge from whatever
6	study would be out there that we could see that the
7	money invested in these programs was returning benefit
8	to the taxpayers of the State of Illinois?
9	A. We could see benefit to the taxpayers of
10	Illinois each year, the thousands of jobs in these in
11	these economically distressed communities, the youth
12	served, the summer jobs. So there was clear benefit.
13	The kind of analysis that I think you're
14	getting at it, which is are we reducing violence in
15	those communities it would take, first of all, at
16	least several years to have a program up and running and
17	working and with with fidelity across 23 sites and
18	the components all developed. It would
19	Q. Right.
20	A take at least several years to be able to
21	be at the point where you could even start doing some
22	kind of study like that. And even then I think it would
23	have been a challenge to do to do that.
24	I mean, even today, for example I just want
25	to throw this out to you. Community policing,

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1	increasing our law enforcement force, all of those are
2	measures that communities took and invested money in to
3	address the violence problem. When violence spiked, we
4	didn't blame community policing, that they weren't able
5	to do what they were doing. When the violence went
6	down, you nobody could say it was because commun
7	of community policing that the violence went down.
8	Those are It's very, very difficult to take a
9	prevention effort and translate the work that you're
10	doing with young people into a
11	Q. And I appreciate that
12	A crime reduction
13	Q we can't quantify
14	A measure.
15	Q how each recipient of a grant or a job or
16	mentoring, how that fleshes itself out in two years,
17	five years. But you and I would agree that there's
18	probably some measurements in the social studies
19	community that would be able to measure that between
20	the investment in the programs and the people that work
21	in the programs that at some point we would we
22	would we would receive we would see some type of
23	reduction in violence, right? Because if it was a jobs
24	program, we could simply put people to work painting
25	fences or picking up garbage or tearing down homes in

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1 those communities that are -- that needed to be torn 2 down because they've been long abandoned and used for 3 drugs and for other illicit activities. So help me with 4 that.

A. You know, it's so interesting because you're really raising good questions. And the questions you're raising are the questions that the prevention world has to deal with all the time, whether it's prevention of violence or prevention of drug use or prevention of whatever. It's very, very difficult to measure what doesn't happen.

12 It's very, very difficult to invest in what law enforcement officers call -- call Fight Crime: 13 Invest in Kids. You know, let's do early childhood. 14 Let's do the kinds of things that -- that through the 15 Perry school study show that if you invest -- you do 16 17 early education, you're going to have some impact 20 years later on -- or 15 years later on the -- the --18 the -- the -- if you follow those kids, on the levels of 19 20 violence or -- or risky behavior that they perpetrate. 21 So what -- what you're asking is a challenge 22 to the prevention world. Because people expect that 23 simple: If you do this, this is what's going to happen. 24 And prevention doesn't have that sort of -- particularly 25 prevention of behavior, human behaviors. If you're

	Page 218
1	talking about prevention of a disease, that's a
2	different story. If you can inoculate people, then you
3	can literally show but it's very different with these
4	kinds of behaviors. And it would have taken
5	longitudinal studies and a great deal of time and money
6	to link up every child that we served and follow them
7	and determine whether they, in fact, engaged in violent
8	behavior, which may or may not have anything to do with
9	the violence level in the community at the time. It's
10	a It's a very challenging arena for prevention work.
11	Q. It absolutely is. And one of the the
12	concerns again, though, is that this rush to to
13	infuse the cash into the network, so to speak, in August
14	and September we're talking because you were
15	talking about it's going to take time and we want to set
16	up the programs correctly, we want to get it to the
17	right people. That's going to take time, right? So
18	just because we can write a check for a large amount
19	doesn't mean that we're going to receive large results
20	immediately.
21	But the problem is, is that you had suggested
22	that there were some breakdowns, small breakdowns and
23	failures within the program, but that there were a lot
24	of good things and I think we had a chance to hear
25	some of those. But as I as I look at the analysis of

	Page 219
1	the the audit that had been posted on the website,
2	the performance audit, and and looking at some of the
3	commentary, the fact that 7 of the top 20 communities
4	didn't receive NRI funds, I don't think of that as a
5	breakdown. I think of that as a And not to you,
6	to but whoever was in charge of that. There was
7	obviously It was a massive failure that seven
8	communities were left out, like Englewood.
9	A. Well, again, the level of violence was not the
10	only factor that was that DHS stated that it utilized
11	in identifying those communities.
12	Q. But we don't have that
13	A. There were three
14	Q document to to
15	A. I understand that.
16	Q. So So I'm trying
17	A. And I And I wish we did.
18	Q. So do you see where I'm at, in the dark right
19	now, where I can't compare the metrics that DHS used to
20	find why Englewood would have been left off? I think
21	it's common knowledge to to folks that Englewood has
22	had a very difficult time over the years. And I don't
23	think I would need some type of study from DHS to tell
24	me that they would be a top candidate.
25	A. Englewood was part of the program. You're

Page 220 talking about West Englewood. 1 2 West Englewood. I -- And I --Q. Englewood was part of the program. 3 Α. 4 Q. So that's -- to me that's not a breakdown 5 or -- or a failure. 6 Do you believe it's best practices to let 7 Chicago aldermen make the determinations and pick out 8 the leads, the lead agencies, to oversee the 9 administration of these resources? Is that -- Would 10 that be best practices? 11 Α. I believe it was reasonable practice to ask 12 elected officials closest to the ground in those 13 communities, who knew those communities, to recommend lead agencies that we would later vet and decide whether 14 they met the standard. 15 16 Q. But your -- your agency would have known a lot 17 of those providers, right? We did not. We did not know those communities 18 Α. like the aldermen knew those communities. We -- We --19 We had -- We would have had no business whatsoever --20 21 What about the State Representatives --Q. 22 Α. -- as an agency --23 Q. -- and Senators? 24 Α. -- going in and saying you, you, you, you. 25 What about the State Representatives and Q.

	Page 221
1	Senators? They We could argue that they would know
2	the communities, right? They weren't picked
3	A. Again, we went to the elected officials
4	closest to the ground. These were the Chicago area
5	elected officials whose who were responsible for and
6	were elected by to serve that community.
7	Q. There's no doubt. But that wouldn't make them
8	experts in violence prevention, right, to know those
9	providers that might be best capable of providing
10	services?
11	A. It would make them We saw them as
12	knowledgeable about their communities and best able to
13	recommend agencies that could do the job.
14	Q. And I They have tough jobs. I get that,
15	and they're they understand their communities. I
16	understand that. We're all elected by our communities.
17	Is one of the reasons they were selected so
18	the money could get out into the communities faster?
19	Because you said they're closest, they're more
20	they're more knowledgeable, and there was a desire to
21	get this program operating very quickly. Is that why
22	they were chosen, so the money could get out to the
23	community faster, to the providers faster?
24	A. We elected to do a noncompetitive process, to
25	use the collaborative grants program that we had been

	Page 222
1	implementing for years, and to turn to aldermen who knew
2	these communities to recommend potential lead agencies.
3	Q. But, again, why wouldn't we have some type of
4	advisory committees even within those aldermanic wards
5	with the aldermen, with community leaders, with
6	potential providers, with Representatives and Senators
7	from those impacted communities for some additional
8	oversight and and additional conversation that may
9	have led to better outcomes? Is that because, again,
10	there was a rush to get the money out to to the
11	communities? Is that why that may have been bypassed?
12	A. We were attempting to respond to the urgency
13	of the problem and to get the program going. And we
14	turned to those closest to the ground to advise us as to
15	who might be the lead agencies.
16	Q. If I may then, you talked about, again, the
17	idea of breakdowns and failures. Is it a breakdown and
18	a failure small, medium, large that lead agencies
19	expended \$46.2 million for NRI and \$37 million of that
20	was from day-to-day activities?
21	A. Okay. I'm glad you asked that question.
22	Because the audit what the audit does say is, you
23	know, X percentage and it was a large percentage
24	of the dollars that were spent in NRI were spent on
25	staffing and not on programming. Staffing was

	Page 223
1	programming. Staffing is programming. Mentors, summer
2	jobs for kids, project coordinators, clinicians,
3	those they were the guts of the program.
4	So And that's that's true in human
5	services in general. If you went probably I would
6	suspect if you went to any of the grant programs that
7	are implemented today for purposes of providing
8	services, the large majority of costs are the staff who
9	are delivering those human services.
10	Q. How are we measuring that then? What are the
11	metrics provided that they're doing that there is
12	some type of result from all that staffing? Besides the
13	individuals who receive the job, how do we know that
14	people were counseled when we have incomplete documents?
15	How do we know that people were counseled when we have
16	two agencies that shut down with over \$635,000 of money
17	that can't be found, that cannot be determined as to
18	what happened to it, who was served, if they were
19	served, if the money was inappropriately used? Help me
20	with this.
21	A. There are several pieces to that. One is out
22	of out of nearly 200 organizations, when you look at
23	leads and subs, the fact that there were a few, a
24	handful that went out of business or that we canceled
25	remember, we went in and audited The Woodlawn

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1	Organization and cancelled them, and they owed money
2	back. That happens. That happens in the world of
3	community organizations. It happens with DCFS grantees.
4	It happens with DHS grantees. That happens. You
5	can't You can't You can't make it not happen. You
6	can't predict it. So that that happens. And it
7	happened to a very small degree when you look at the
8	whole picture here. So that's one issue, agencies going
9	out of business.
10	I don't remember what the other part of
11	what
12	Q. Well, here, let me just let me move on.
13	A. Oh, you also asked: How do we know whether we
14	succeeded? We set up a data system, and we had we do
15	know how many youth participated in every program. We
16	know what services they received. So we know that. We
17	do know that because we set up a data system to measure
18	it.
19	Q. I'll get back to the success a little bit
20	later.
21	I would say it's not some small It says
22	here in the audit that only 30 percent of the sample
23	providers not a small percentage maintained time
24	sheets for staff paid with State NRI funds. Do you see
25	a large problem with that?

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1	A. Well, here's my question that I wasn't sure of
2	with that 30 percent. Were those Were those
3	30 percent the Mentoring Plus Jobs and Parent Leadership
4	recipients? Because there was no for for for
5	all of the other components and for the lead agencies,
6	we had no requirements in our grant agreement that
7	agencies who hired project coordinators and clinicians
8	had to have time sheets. Each agency had their own way
9	of determining payroll and deter You know, if you
10	had a 40-hour week, people might have who knows?
11	Each agency had different methods. We didn't require
12	time sheets for any other program but Mentoring Plus
13	Jobs and Parent Leadership. And the fact that I
14	don't know whether the 30 percent is I don't know who
15	that includes. I don't know whether that includes
16	agencies that weren't required to keep time sheets or
17	whether that includes only agencies that were expected
18	to keep time sheets. So I I I can't respond very
19	clearly to that question without knowing that.
20	Q. Okay. I'll assume that at face value.
21	It says here that there were services rendered
22	to a population for reentry outside the contractual
23	limit. Was that just only a small percentage of
24	the of the cases? It says here that there were in
25	violation of the contractual agreements for NRI, that

	Page 226
1	based on documentation provided the auditors, the age of
2	participants that received services ranged from 7 $$
3	age 7, 7, to 49. 12 percent, 65 of 548, of those that
4	received reentry services fell outside the contractually
5	required age range, 17 to 24.
6	A. Okay. So first of all, who knows whether that
7	age seven was a mistake in data entry. Remember, we
8	were training 190 staff of 190 organizations, so
9	assuming at least 3 to 5 people for each of those
10	hundreds of people we had training sessions for in using
11	this new data entry system. And you always have
12	problems with new systems. I mean, you just do with
13	training people, people doing it right, entering it
14	right.
15	So I don't know that a seven-year-old was
16	treated as a reentry person. Maybe Maybe it was a
17	mistake. Maybe it should have been 17. Maybe the
18	seven-year-old was the the son of somebody they were
19	dealing with and they provided some support services to
20	that person. I don't know. I can't speak to that. The
21	seven-year old is odd. Okay? And And who knows what
22	caused that?
23	On the other end, you know, frankly, if our
24	target, our target, was 17 through whatever what did
25	we say? 24? 25? That was our target. If somebody who

	Page 227
1	is 27 years old was served by a given reentry program,
2	that to me is not an egregious problem. It just
3	indicates that somebody who was slightly older than
4	the target population. It wasn't as if you can't see
5	somebody who's not This is the target population, 17
6	through 20 25. This is who we want you to serve.
7	You know, I can't get too excited about the fact that
8	somebody who was slightly older than the age group
9	received services.
10	Q. Well And I don't disagree with you on that.
11	Again, it's just it's the drip, drip, drip. It's
12	just continuation of one other thing that falls outside
13	the parameters of of contractual obligations.
14	And then another issue is 38 percent of
15	required background checks in our sample are not
16	completed. This That's That's problematic.
17	Wouldn't you agree with me?
18	A. The responsibility to conduct background
19	checks was the responsibility of the providers. And
20	Q. And who oversees the providers?
21	A. It It was not our job and nor could we
22	ever have had the staff do go out and monitor time
23	sheets and background checks. That is not the typical
24	expectation of a State agency making grants, that
25	they that they require their providers to prove up

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1	that they did everything that they said they were going
2	to do in terms of background checks, time sheets, and
3	that type of thing.
4	REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: General Holland?
5	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I've been patient all
6	along here. I'm sorry that you don't feel that some of
7	this was important because this was what you put in your
8	contracts that was going to be important. And we audit
9	against what you what you say you're going to do.
10	And if you don't do it and now you say it's not
11	important, I I don't even know how to
12	THE WITNESS: No, no.
13	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: respond to that.
14	THE WITNESS: I Excuse me. I did not say it was
15	not important. It is important that background checks
16	be conducted. I'm just saying that there are all kinds
17	of expectations when State agencies make grants; that
18	under today's staffing and budgeting, State agencies do
19	not have the resources to go out to every one of those
20	agencies and have them prove up that they did everything
21	they were required to do.
22	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Well, if you have a
23	contractual
24	THE WITNESS: It's an enforcement issue.
25	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: a contractual

Page 229 arrangement that says they are going to keep time sheets 1 2 and they don't --3 THE WITNESS: I understand that. And I understand 4 that that's not good --5 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Then that's a failing of the --6 7 THE WITNESS: -- that they didn't. AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: -- administration. 8 9 THE WITNESS: I'm just saying --10 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: That's a failing of 11 management to --12 THE WITNESS: No. I -- I -- I don't agree with that. I'm sorry. I --13 14 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Then what is it? THE WITNESS: It's a failure of that organization 15 to do what they were expected to do. 16 17 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: And the steward --THE WITNESS: If you were to ask --18 19 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: The steward for those funds was the Illinois Violence Prevention --20 21 THE WITNESS: Yes. AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: -- Authority. 22 THE WITNESS: The steward for those funds. But you 23 24 cannot expect -- If you were to bring in the directors 25 of multiple State agencies and ask them to go out and

Page 230 monitor every element like that, background checks, time 1 2 sheets, that every reported expense is backed up by 3 documentation, to monitor that or to send that stuff in, we couldn't function, the agencies couldn't function. 4 You need huge numbers of staff to do that. 5 6 That doesn't mean the expectation isn't there, 7 and that doesn't mean that if there's a problem, we 8 don't -- and which -- when there were problems, we did 9 say to agencies, Give us your documentation for that expense. So it's not as -- Again, ICJIA, in responding 10 11 to your recommendation that they should receive all this 12 backup documentation that supports expenses over and 13 beyond fiscal reports where the agency certifies we spent this money here, here, here, and here -- that's 14 15 what agencies work with. They work with the fiscal 16 reports. The expectation --17 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: But when you --18 THE WITNESS: -- that we review backup documentation -- Even ICJIA said, We don't have the 19 20 capacity to do that, much less time sheets and 21 background checks. It's -- It's not a matter of they're 22 not important. It's a matter of the capacity --23 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: They must not have been important because you have agencies -- all 15 agencies 24 25 that were lead agencies or providing agencies that were

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Page 231 not even required to maintain expense support. 1 2 THE WITNESS: Oh, that's --3 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Not even --THE WITNESS: -- not true. 4 5 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: -- required. THE WITNESS: That -- I'm sorry. All agencies --6 7 In their contracts, all agencies were required for 8 three years, for three years --9 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Well, they didn't. THE WITNESS: -- to give --10 11 MR. THEIS: I would ask that if a question is asked 12 by any -- excuse me -- by -- either by the Auditor or by 13 any member that -- that if a question is asked, that Ms. Shaw be allowed to finish her answer and not 14 15 interrupt her with speeches. She's answering the --16 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I'm the last --17 MR. THEIS: -- questions --18 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: -- guy to give speeches. 19 MR. THEIS: You're the last one --20 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Believe me on that. 21 MR. THEIS: -- that did. I'm asking her --AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Believe me on that one. 22 MR. THEIS: -- to get -- to get a chance to respond 23 24 to your question. 25 THE WITNESS: All I'm trying to say, Auditor

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General, is that the expectation was there that -- and 1 2 it was part of our training and all -- the expectation 3 was built into the grant agreement and built into the grant agreements of all State agencies that you must 4 keep records related to your -- your work and that those 5 6 records are to be made available if the State agency or 7 the State needs to see those records. So, absolutely, 8 it was expected and required.

9 I am talking about the difference between expecting that it be done and -- and asking them to 10 11 produce that if there's a problem versus routinely 12 looking at every agency's proof that they had done their 13 background checks, that they had done their -- we didn't have and very few agencies in State government have the 14 15 capacity to do that kind of proofing and documentation 16 review.

17 And, again, I point to ICJIA, in response to that recommendation in your audit, saying -- a much 18 bigger agency than IVPA, saying, No, we can't do that. 19 20 And they were saying even the lead agencies shouldn't be 21 expected to receive into their offices boxes of numbers 22 and accounting documents to prove up, that you -- that you go and you test. That's what -- That's what ICJIA 23 24 said. We'll have the lead agencies go out and test an 25 expenditure with -- with these. So it's a matter of

Page 233 what the expectation is of the level of monitoring. 1 2 BY REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: 3 Just a -- Just -- If I may, just a couple more Q. 4 then. It says here that in our review of 23 randomly 5 selected providers, they found \$1.8 million in 6 questioned expenses. Again, I'm looking at the review 7 of the comments from the auditor and the auditor's 8 staff. Are you saying that it wasn't the IV- -- the 9 Illinois -- the Violence Prevention Authority's job 10 to -- to have oversight over those expen- -- the 11 question of expenditures, that because of the amount of 12 money that was being processed that there was no way 13 that your agency could appropriate -- appropriately 14 oversee this because you didn't have enough staff? 15 No. The way an agency oversees the expenses Α. 16 of a grantee is that the grantee reports those expenses 17 and signs their fiscal report and says, We certify that we spent this amount on personnel this quarter, this 18 amount on travel, this amount on -- on -- so forth and 19 20 That is -- That is the agency's reporting of so on. 21 their fiscal expenditures. When we have questions about 22 that and something doesn't seem right or -- or it's not -- it doesn't seem like -- you know, they -- they 23 spent more on a line item than they should or whatever, 24 25 that's when we raise questions.

Page 234 1 Q. Sure. So you raise questions at the quarterly 2 expense reports, right? You would review those; is 3 that -- is that correct? Α. Yes, we would. 4 5 But it would be hard to make recommendations Q. on those expense reports when you have an Albany Park 6 7 provider revising the Year 1 report 475 days after it's 8 due? 9 Α. Okay. That's a good -- I'm glad you brought that up too because that was a major finding in the 10 audit. And I understand that. I mean --11 12 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: There were a lot of major 13 findings. 14 BY THE WITNESS: 15 There's nothing I'm differing with you --Α. 16 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Oh, I apologize --17 BY THE WITNESS: 18 A. -- in terms of --19 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: -- for interrupting. 20 BY THE WITNESS: 21 A. -- what you found. But these quarterly reports would come in. Some of them late. Some of them 22 on time. Some of them didn't add up all the time. We 23 24 had questions --25 When they were late, did your --Q.

	Page 235
1	A. Let me Let me Let me just finish.
2	And So So each quarter They would put
3	Quarter 1. Second quarter, they'd have their Quarter 1
4	and their Quarter 2. Third Quarter, they'd have 1, 2,
5	and 3. We would get a report a closeout report, you
6	know, 300 400 days after. Because the report was
7	due, you know, 30, 60 days or something after the
8	closeout. We'd get a quarterly We'd get a closeout
9	report that would have maybe a different a different
10	set of expenses for Quarter 2. So we would have to go
11	back and say, Whoa, you've got different numbers here
12	for Quarter 2, and then that report would have to be
13	revised. So it was it was we certainly should
14	have and did expect a revision when when a revision
15	was needed, when there was something incorrect. So, you
16	know, we were we were diligently reviewing quarterly
17	reports at various stages and identifying problems and
18	mistakes and getting them corrected. And whether they
19	were corrected 400 days later or 2 days after the
20	the the report came in is a function of what the
21	grantee submitted to us.
22	Q. What active or proactive steps did your agency
23	take once those expense reports weren't timely filed?
24	What Were there phone calls generated? Were there
25	letters? Were there e-mails? Hey, provider, we're one

Page 236 1 year later, and we still don't have any documentation? 2 Α. One year later? 3 If they were late a day, a week, a month? Q. When did somebody from your agency call them, e-mail 4 5 them, write them? The staff of the agency's job -- those 6 Α. 7 monitors were responsible, if they didn't get those 8 reports, to contact and say, We didn't get your report, 9 Get your report in. We also -- Our general practice was that we didn't make your next payment until your report 10 11 came in. That was the practice. I'm not -- I -- I --12 You know, I -- I -- I haven't audited myself to see if 13 that happened every single time, but that was the practice. They knew that that report had to get in or 14 15 they wouldn't get their -- their -- their next payment. But that was the function of the staff, to promptly 16 17 get -- have them get those reports in. And, yes, there were reports that were late. But, again, these were 18 small, medium, and large organizations, varying degrees 19 of -- of -- of -- of competency, if you will, in some of 20 21 these aspects, business aspects, who were doing good work in their communities, and we were -- we were 22 23 working with them to get the right documentation in and 24 to get it -- have it be accurate and complete. 25 REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: I don't know if the

	Page 23
1	General had a any commentary
2	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I would I would like
3	to ask Mike to give a little bit more insight as to the
4	substance of the findings with regard to the
5	documentation, which depending upon your point of view,
6	may be or may not be important.
7	MR. MAZIARZ: Yeah, sure.
8	We realize the fiscal reports come in
9	quarterly, and they are self-reported numbers. And
10	there is a certification. But as Barbara described,
11	when somebody turns in another report that's changed
12	numbers well, those previous numbers have been
13	certified as being expenses that actually occurred
14	during that quarter, and then 400 days down the road,
15	they say they're different. Okay? From our auditing
16	perspective, though, we're looking at the idea of did
17	anybody go out even on a test or a sample basis to find
18	out whether or not what they self-reported was something
19	that actually was supported.
20	The Exhibit 48 where we talk about the
21	\$1.77 million that we couldn't that we had to
22	question, that's because we went out in the field and
23	did that did that analysis. The people in Criminal
24	Justice came by and, like many people, looked at our
25	work papers and asked for all of that information so

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1	that they could go look at try and get money back for
2	those 23 agencies. But the self-reporting part of it,
3	you know, from an auditing perspective, it'sit's
4	difficult for us. Because while they may certify it
5	And in some cases, as we note in the report, fiscal
6	reports were turned in and yet they weren't signed by
7	anybody. So I You know, I don't know who's
8	certifying it.
9	But going back to one of the contractual
10	requirements that Mr. Holland was talking about, we do,
11	we audit against criteria. Sometimes it's State law.
12	Sometimes it's administrative rules, many times, as was
13	asked in this resolution, the contract requirements.
14	And when the contract requirement for reentry says that
15	you're going to serve the population between 17 and
16	24 years old, that's what we would expect.
17	When we saw documentation based upon the
18	the database that Barbara had been talking about, that
19	the University of Illinois had gathered this stuff from,
20	yeah, we put the table in that shows the 7-year-old up
21	to 49. We also put in, you know, quotes from the
22	agencies who notified in those quarterly reports that
23	we're going to serve a population outside of our
24	contractual agreement. Now, as auditors, we look at
25	that and say, Hey, you know what, that's a red flag for

the agency when they get there. We didn't see anything in the file to show that the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority thought that that was problematic at all, somebody operating outside a requirement in the contract. AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: And let me point out one other item here and and emphasize the fact that the Criminal Justice Information Authority came to see our records after this audit was released. Okay? They've asked to see our expenditure records, and and we provided them. As As Mike pointed out, we provided these records to a lot of people. But the other point I want to make is that we're talking about 23 lead and providing agencies. There are another 219 out there, another 219 agencies, lead and providers that received some funds. We only looked at 23. It was THE WITNESS: Didn't you look at Didn't you look
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18 THE WITNESS: Didn't you look at Didn't you look
19 at subs too?
20 MR. MAZIARZ: We selected 23 randomly selected
21 providers of services. We made sure that we stratified
22 that sample so that we got some lead agencies and subs
23 across the different component units.
24 THE WITNESS: Yes. And I would say to that point
25 that and I mentioned this earlier you identified a

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1	percentage of of the money that those I think it
2	was something like the total was \$4 million expended
3	by those 23 agencies and that 1.7 million of it was
4	questionable. And what I want to communicate is
5	something I stated earlier, is that out of that 1.7,
6	600-and-some thousand, nearly 700,000 of it was from two
7	agencies who went out of business and you couldn't see
8	their records. But that is a problem. But that that
9	happens in this work, that agencies sometimes go out of
10	business.
11	So, you know, the fact that that happened and
12	that those that that you couldn't track those
13	funds is questionable. It doesn't mean that they spent
14	the money inappropriately, but it does mean that you
15	couldn't you couldn't see it.
16	Then there's another whole chunk of that money
17	that was because that that that you said was
18	not backed up because people didn't have the appropriate
19	time sheets or the backup documentation, which, again, I
20	would say doesn't necessarily mean that they didn't
21	spend the money properly. It means they didn't do the
22	paperwork.
23	And then there was a very narrow number and
24	they were listed in the audit, if I recall who
25	actually you found to have unallowable expenses. And I

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1	remember me adding that up at the time. And it was
2	something like 36-, \$37,000 of unallowable expenses that
3	you determined were unallowable.
4	So there's this whole block of, okay,
5	documentation wasn't great, but, again, I don't assume
6	that that means that every one of those dollars was
7	inappropriately spent. And there's that large block
8	that was associated with with agencies that went out
9	of business.
10	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: We can add a little bit
11	more clarification here.
12	Mike.
13	MR. MAZIARZ: When we audit, we don't assume that
14	somebody spent the money without a document to show us
15	that they didn't spend the State money in the right way.
16	If somebody didn't have a receipt for a travel
17	expenditure, as auditors, we question that. We don't
18	assume that they maybe didn't spend it the right way but
19	they just didn't keep good paperwork.
20	I, myself, don't see much difference between
21	somebody spending a thousand dollars on a golf outing
22	and somebody not being able to document a thousand
23	dollars' worth of personal services. It's still
24	inadequately documented State funds, and that's the way
25	we summarize

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1 THE WITNESS: I get that.

2 MR. MAZIARZ: -- our audits.

3 THE WITNESS: And I don't disagree with that. I'm just trying to sort of -- I know that ICJIA actually 4 5 asked you if you would point that out. Because there -you know, one -- if you don't have the time sheets but 6 7 you do have the payroll records to show that you paid 8 John Doe -- if you don't have the time sheets, it 9 doesn't necessarily mean that John Doe didn't earn that money. That's all -- That's the only point I was trying 10 11 to make and that the actual unallowable expenses were 12 small.

13 Let me just close with one other statement here. If the State of Illinois expects -- is going to 14 expect State agencies to do the level of monitoring that 15 was laid out in the audit, that you thought we should 16 17 have done, in terms of going out and looking at all these sub-providers and looking for their documentation 18 or having them send it in or double-checking to make 19 20 sure they had time sheets or double-checking to make 21 sure that they had done their -- their backup, if -- if 22 that level of monitoring is to be expected of your State 23 agencies, you will need to put enormous amounts of money 24 into personnel to enable those agencies to do that kind of backup documentation review. 25

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1	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: So the people who went
2	out from my office to take a look at the at these
3	expenditures were three people. So the people who did
4	that level of testing that you're talking about were
5	three people from my office.
6	Now, I understand also that that you
7	view you take the approach that you begin with all
8	the spending was was appropriate.
9	I take the approach I I trust
10	everybody I I take the Ronald Reagan approach. We
11	trust everybody, but we verify. And that's
12	THE WITNESS: All I'm saying
13	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: what occurred here.
14	THE WITNESS: You are paid auditors. That is what
15	your full-time job is. And you went out, and you looked
16	at 23 agencies.
17	We had in one grants program In one grant
18	program, we had 200 leads and subs. The ability to have
19	staff whose only job was to go out and look at that kind
20	of backup documentation we did not have that
21	capacity. ICJIA told you they didn't have that
22	capacity. And I say to you on behalf of my sister
23	agencies or former sister agencies out there, the
24	capacity to do that kind of monitoring of backup
25	documentation does not exist and would take adding back

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1	into agencies auditing units and staff whose only job
2	was to go out and do that.
3	We had the whole the whole responsibility
4	on our plate. And that backup document review is a very
5	demanding, time-consuming function. We had four boxes,
6	big boxes, in our office of accounting data for
7	one quarter from a for a percentage of our grantees.
8	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Representative Reboletti,
9	do you have any further questions?
10	REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: I just have one other
11	question, and then I'll close out here.
12	BY REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI:
13	Q. Again, looking at the audit, it says that
14	there's an inadequate grant recovery process and that
15	IVPA utilized a process that failed to timely recover
16	unspent NRI funds and that in Year 2 closeout documents,
17	it showed that \$2 million in unspent funds had not been
18	recovered by IVPA.
19	A. IVPA did not exist at the Well, we Let
20	me say this. Year I was not there, number one.
21	Year 2 ended in the end of October. Their closeout
22	reports were due either the end of November or
23	December 15. Okay? I can't remember what the exact
24	Then it takes months to review these closeout reports
25	and so forth and so on. What ICJIA and IVPA did about

unexpended funds for Year 2 is something I can't speak 1 2 to and was not our responsibility. 3 I will tell you that after Year 1 we did a diligent process of identifying unspent funds and 4 5 ensuring that those unspent funds were factored into how much money was given to the grantee the next year. 6 So 7 we recovered those funds by reducing their next year 8 award by that amount. And we had at the time I left --9 and it's one of my documents in my -- my stuff that you posted -- we had maybe eight organizations that had 10 failed to -- to -- and maybe even fewer than that but 11 12 six to eight organizations that had failed to return 13 unspent funds. And of those eight, three of them were affiliated with TWO that we cancelled, the lead agency 14 15 and two of their subs. We cancelled them out. We went in and audited and canceled those out. There was -- And 16 17 I added it up somewhere, and I'm not sure I'm going to find it. The balance -- There was one agency that owed 18 15,000, another that owed 9,000, a handful of agencies 19 20 for which we started the recovery process. We went to the Governor's Office and said: We don't have lawyers 21 on staff who can do the kind of hearings that are 22 required. We need help with this. We -- Lawyers were 23 24 assigned to us from the Department of Public Health. We 25 initiated recovery on those handful of organizations

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Page 246 that -- that hadn't paid back the money they were 1 2 responsible for paying. REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And for follow-up comment, 3 General --4 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: On -- On that specific 5 point. 6 7 MR. MAZIARZ: The Woodlawn Organization, our 8 understanding when we reviewed the files at IVPA --9 Because we -- we looked at the files for both years. 10 And at the end of the second year, we would have 11 expected -- And we -- it took them almost a year to 12 close out Year 2. And we would have expected to see a 13 check from The Woodlawn Organization, but they had gone out of business. Our understanding from Criminal 14 Justice was that the Attorney General ended up declaring 15 that money uncollectible. So I don't know -- I never 16 17 saw a check back from them. Last I saw about those quys was that CNN was walking through their building. 18 THE WITNESS: That's bad, but it happens. 19 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Chairman Barickman. 20 21 Excuse me. 22 THE WITNESS: It happens. SENATOR BARICKMAN: Well, the other -- the other 23 24 question that I wonder of the auditors is what you saw in the files about what we knew about Woodlawn before we 25

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1 chose them.

2	MR. MAZIARZ: The Woodlawn Organization, they've
3	been around they've been around for a long time. We
4	had run into them before in grant programs that in
5	other during other audit work. When we looked at the
6	files, they're you know, they they participated in
7	the first year as the lead and as a component provider.
8	Barbara is correct. They did go over and do an audit.
9	I thought it I thought the audit was based upon DHS $$
10	going in there with some problems that they had. But
11	IVPA did go in and do an audit at at the Woodlawn
12	agency. I don't think they got great cooperation based
13	on the documentation we saw, and I think I know some
14	of the staff members that looked through our work papers
15	saw that same thing. And then they were gone.
16	I did receive a call from The Woodlawn
17	Organization being concerned about and this was after
18	they were out of the program. We were doing the audit,
19	and we had contacted each of the lead agencies. And so
20	I got a call from The Woodlawn Organization, and they
21	they were also the CNN people contacted them amongst
22	others. And she said that, We went out of business
23	because the State didn't pay their bills on time. And I
24	said, I can I can sympathize with you. And I
25	reminded her that this wasn't one of those programs

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1	where they they didn't pay you on time and and
2	I you know, in NRI, you got the money up front. We
3	didn't have a long conversation, but that's what we knew
4	about The Woodlawn Organization and the the audit
5	that Barbara's group did with them.
6	SENATOR BARICKMAN: I guess I'm referencing You
7	know, it's one thing to identify the problem after the
8	fact and hopefully address it. My point is I thought in
9	the audit files there was the application form that
10	Woodlawn had filled out, submitted to IVPA. That
11	application said in response to whether they were
12	adequately and whether they are fiscally sound, with
13	the capacity and experience of managing and reporting on
14	grant funds, the response that was submitted to IVPA was
15	that they were poor. Whoever the reviewer was on their
16	application this is on the front end. You know,
17	whoever filled out the application or the that
18	reviewed it made notes that say they need fiscal
19	needs fiscal experience, addressed after multiple
20	revisions.
21	And, again, I'm just going through the
22	We've heard the testimony before that there was this
23	vetting, but I think what the audit showed is that there
24	were red flags for a number of these agencies that
25	should have alerted IVPA on the front end, before the

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1	the contracts were signed. The audit discovered that,
2	but unfortunately the agency did not.
3	REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: I would just make a
4	closing remark, Mr. Chairman.
5	And I think that what the General Holland
6	said, we should all take with great heed, is that he had
7	three individuals that were able to uncover this.
8	Imagine if the IVPA had three accountants or three staff
9	members that could devote their time to take random
10	samples out of the 200-plus providers to make sure that
11	the people of the State of Illinois were getting good
12	value for their tax dollars and that the people that we
13	all intended to help were actually getting the full
14	value of those services? Look at how much more we could
15	have done if these hundreds of thousands and millions of
16	dollars actually made it to those people.
17	And I do not accept the fact that stuff
18	happens along the way as a good accounting matrix of how
19	to explain to 108,000 people that I represent that it's
20	going to happen; if you administer a \$51 million
21	program, stuff happens along the way and that we should
22	all accept that there's going to be percentages of
23	failure.
24	So I I can appreciate your desire to see
25	good things happen, but a lot of bad things happened

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1	that I think could have been avoided along the way with
2	a small addition and infusion of employees in your
3	your agency or elsewhere to provide oversight.
4	Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
5	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Senator Brady for a final
6	comment, question.
7	SENATOR BRADY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
8	Ms. Shaw, thank you very much for your time.
9	Of course, it's been a long day, and I appreciate it.
10	And I'll try to keep my questions brief, and I know
11	you'll try to do the same with your answers.
12	EXAMINATION
13	BY SENATOR BRADY:
14	Q. But I am confused about some things. One is
15	the direction of authority. Who did you take your
16	authority from?
17	A. Who did I take my authority from? There was
18	an enabling statute that authorized IVPA to do what it
19	does. There were our appropriations that authorized us
20	to spend, and
21	Q. So IVPA
22	A there was
23	Q was your authority. You operated under
24	their authority, and everything you did was within their
25	approval?

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1	A. Everything I did was with their approval?
2	What do you mean?
3	Q. You just said that you operated
4	A. I mean, I was the Director
5	Q. You operated under
6	A Executive Director.
7	Q their authority, and and
8	A. Right.
9	Q and, therefore, you took your direction
10	from them and made no no decisions you were qualified
11	to make without them approving those decisions; is that
12	right?
13	A. The Authority board was not responsible or
14	engaged in micromanaging in everyday decisions that we
15	had.
16	Q. Macromanaging?
17	A. What I'm saying is that
18	Q. Forget micro. Did they micromanage it?
19	A. What I'm saying is the board of directors, the
20	Authority members You asked me if every decision I
21	made
22	Q. I'm sorry.
23	A was approved by the Authority. I'm saying
24	that every decision any director makes, every decision,
25	is not approved by the Authority. You are given the

Page 252 authority and responsibility to make decisions and to 1 2 execute. 3 Q. Did -- Did they approve for you to go to the aldermen and ask them for their -- their recommendation? 4 5 A. That was not brought before the board. So we've got -- So as to that board, that was 6 Q. 7 a decision you solely made? I made with the agreement of the Governor's 8 Α. Office. 9 10 Q. But the Governor's Office isn't your boss; you 11 just said the board is your boss? 12 Α. The Governor is also the head of -- of the State of Illinois, and I also had responsibilities --13 14 Q. So you felt the Governor --15 -- to respond --Α. 16 Q. -- was your boss, not the board? 17 THE WITNESS: I don't know how to respond. He's putting words in my mouth. 18 BY SENATOR BRADY: 19 20 Q. No, no. MR. THEIS: I think she said --21 22 BY SENATOR BRADY: 23 Q. I'm reiterating your words. MR. THEIS: I think she said --24 BY SENATOR BRADY: 25

Page 253 1 **Q**. I'm reiterating your words. 2 MR. THEIS: -- the board was -- she was answerable 3 to her board. So when you say that she was not --SENATOR BRADY: I'm trying to figure it out. Is 4 5 she answerable --6 THE WITNESS: But I'm also answer- --7 SENATOR BRADY: -- to the Governor or her board? THE WITNESS: I'm also -- Both. I'm also 8 9 answerable to the Governor's Office. I mean, we would 10 get --BY SENATOR BRADY: 11 12 Q. So the Governor's Office told you to go to the 13 aldermen? A. Every year we would get, from the Governor's 14 Office of Management --15 16 Q. I'm just trying to keep things --17 Α. -- and Budget --18 Q. -- yes or no because we're ---- our directions on --19 Α. 20 -- because we're -- we're short on time. Just Q. 21 try to keep it yes or no. 22 Did the Governor's Office tell you to go to the aldermen? 23 24 They did not tell me to go to the aldermen. Α. 25 Did they recommend you go to the aldermen? Q.

	Page 254
1	A. They did not recommend. They agreed. They
2	did not disagree.
3	Q. Let me ask you a question. I understand that
4	they're closest to the ground. Do you think that if the
5	Department of Transportation was going to spend money in
6	a ward, that the Department of Transportation should go
7	to the aldermen and say, Which contractor do you want us
8	to pick to send the RFP to?
9	A. I've already explained five times.
10	Q. Yes or no? Do you think that would be
11	A. I've already
12	Q. Do you think that would be appropriate?
13	A. I'm not going to speculate about the
14	Department of Transportation. I've already explained
15	five times that when we were ready to implement NRI and
16	we knew which communities we were going to go in, we
17	asked the aldermen to help us identify applicants.
18	Q. And in some And in some cases, you only
19	gave an RFP to one applicant?
20	A. In some cases, we only gave we only gave
21	the RFP to the recommended applicant.
22	Q. And then
23	A. And then in those cases where there were
24	three
25	Q. So why would it have taken any more time to

	Page 255
1	just hand an RFP to anybody who wanted to apply?
2	A. It would have taken months and months.
3	Q. Why?
4	A. Because we would have had in 23 communities
5	Q. You would have posted
6	A probably 230 to 300 proposals and we would
7	have had to review all of those proposals and
8	Q. Well, that's that's
9	A and made recommendations.
10	Q part of the I guess what infuriates me
11	about some of your comments I appreciate all you're
12	doing is you thought it was more important to push
13	this money out than protect the tax than to protect
14	the use of the taxpayers' money for the benefit of the
15	people it's supposed to take care of.
16	You know, we just did a marijuana program,
17	right? It's going to take the Department of Agriculture
18	a lot of time and resources to make sure that we do this
19	right. And then you go into the fact that you put
20	money and this is what really bothers me. Because
21	you are a steward of taxpayer dollars and you'd rather
22	start a program than make sure the checks and balances
23	are in place to protect those dollars for the people
24	they're supposed to benefit. And that's not your job.
25	A. Again, we had been operating and implementing

Page 256 a collaborative, noncompetitive grants program for 1 2 years. 3 Q. But you have --Α. We did --4 5 -- 19 findings --Q. Α. -- do due diligence. 6 7 I hate to say this, but the arrogance of what Q. 8 you're saying -- Earlier you said, I wish we had this 9 report. There isn't anything in these findings that isn't -- isn't either policy, law, or rules and 10 11 regulations. And we can't afford in the State of 12 Illinois to have people like you just determining you're going to do this on your own, without following those 13 14 things. That's what bothers me the most. 15 That characterization is not something I Α. accept as an accurate characterization of what we 16 17 proceeded to do. 18 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Okay. We need a quick break for the court reporter, so we'll stand at ease 19 for -- for a few minutes. 20 21 MR. THEIS: Will there be additional questions? REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Yes, there will. 22 23 MR. THEIS: Oh. 2.4 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Senator Martinez has additional questions. 25

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1	SENATOR MARTINEZ: No. I pass. I pass.
2	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: She passes.
3	(Discussion off the record.)
4	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Okay. Take a 10-minute
5	break.
6	(A short break was had.)
7	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: The Commission will come
8	back to order.
9	We have a final just a comment. Everyone
10	is Everyone is now rested and relieved. Good.
11	So Senator Senator Brady was in the middle
12	of one question, and then we will go to Senator Martinez
13	for opposing comment.
14	BY SENATOR BRADY:
15	Q. Ms. Shaw, you had indicated earlier we
16	talked about the direction that you were given, whether
17	it be from the board or the Governor's Office. But
18	there was one other thing you said today that keeps
19	ringing in my mind, the reason you contacted the Chief
20	of Staff of the Attorney General about bonuses or pay
21	raises. It gets back to this chain of command. If the
22	Attorney General's Chief of Staff would have told you to
23	give pay raises as you've requested, would would you
24	have just given the pay raises out because the Attorney
25	General's Chief of Staff told you to do so?

Page 258 Again, the Attorney General's Office -- Is 1 Α. 2 this on? 3 MR. THEIS: No, it's not. 4 5 BY THE WITNESS: 6 The Attorney General's Office handled our HR. Α. 7 As the Director of the agency, within the parameters of 8 my personnel budget, I would recommend -- over the years 9 I would recommend salary increments. And in this particular case, months before -- months before that 10 11 e-mail was sent, I had -- I had sent up the paperwork 12 for raises for staff or bonuses because our staff had 13 worked so hard on this Neighborhood Recovery Initiative and -- and on the Safety Net Works program prior to 14 15 that. And I was recommending for my managers, not for myself but for my managers, an increase. I can't 16 17 remember -- It was 3 to 5 percent, somewhere in that area. And if she had approved it, they would have been 18 given. 19 20 So -- And I guess it boggles my mind a little Q. 21 bit just to think about this different chain of command. 22 You've got the board here. You've got the Governor 23 here. But yet -- then you've got the Attorney General's 24 Office who's dictating what you pay your people. 25 Signing off on -- on our --Α.

Page 259 1 Q. The Governor had to agree to go to the 2 aldermen; the Attorney General had to agree to give you 3 the pay raise? Α. They administered our HR. I have never --4 5 I -- It was not a situation -- I was the Executive Director of an independent agency. They handled and 6 7 signed off on the HR procedures. I would -- I would --8 Q. I mean, I'm -- I'm in business too. I know 9 about HR. The boss decides if there's going to be a pay 10 raise. But in this case you asked the Attorney General's Chief of Staff if you could give a pay raise? 11 12 Α. I asked --13 Q. I know --14 -- if she was --Α. 15 I know about HR policies. Q. -- if she was going to act on the -- the 16 Α. 17 paperwork that I had submitted to her office. 18 So you were asking them for approval to give Q. the pay raises? 19 20 Α. Yes. 21 And that's -- in that case that's only --Q. Because the -- Because being within their HR 22 Α. system meant that their staff had to sign off on our 23 24 personnel actions. 25 **Q**. So --

Page 260 1 Α. Transactions. 2 -- if the Attorney General said no, no pay 0. 3 raises; if the Attorney General says yes, pay raises? In that in- -- Yes. 4 Α. 5 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions or comments? 6 Senator Martinez. 7 SENATOR MARTINEZ: Thank you very much. 8 9 Ms. Shaw, let me just, first and foremost, thank you for all of the work and commitment that you 10 11 have had in this community, you know, in -- in the State 12 when it comes to violence prevention and trying to really just capture it and trying to, I think, make 13 people understand and how difficult it is, especially in 14 15 our communities, the black and brown communities, where, 16 you know, we have many organizations that are out there 17 on the streets, you know, on the ground, you know, trying to help, you know, address these issues. 18 19 I know that people were talking about -- You 20 know, a lot of the comments I hear from my colleagues 21 here is about how do we measure it, how -- you know, 22 what's the outcome, you know, was this a bad program. I 23 think, yes, maybe the implementation was rather quick, but we were dealing with a crisis in the community, not 24 25 in the suburbs or in downstate or anywhere else. We're

	Page 261
1	dealing with a crisis in Chicago, right in the heart of
2	the black and Hispanic community.
3	You know, you talked about the four programs
4	that you had that were for the the mentoring, the
5	parent leadership, the school-based counseling, and the
6	reentry program. Now I've got numbers. I've got
7	numbers about some, you know, performance and outcomes.
8	I mean, I got that in Year 1, in the mentoring jobs,
9	over 2,000 youth jobs these these are the numbers
10	that I got from from the NRI 1600 youth engaged.
11	Year 2, we had over 2,000 youth, again, and we had 2100
12	engaged. So, you know, when we talk about the outcome
13	and and was the program working, it was working. In
14	communities there was, you know, some positive things
15	that happened. When you talk about that in the
16	mentoring jobs we had engaged over 3700 youth, that to
17	me is you know, something is working and we are
18	engaging the kids in the community.
19	When you talk about a program in the parent
20	leadership, over 2,000 parents were engaged. And it's
21	not easy to engage You know, I know my community
22	is it's hard to get them engaged because in my
23	community many of the parents are working two jobs in
24	order to just to keep food on the table.
25	And under the school-based counseling, 24,000

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1	youth were served. So this program somewhere somehow
2	was working. And at least in our communities it was
3	it showed that the outcome you know, whether it was
4	quickly or too slow, you know, there was performance,
5	that was working, and it was showing in these numbers.
6	We also In the reentry program, I saw that
7	we have I saw the numbers are over 1800 youth that
8	somewhere had been in the system, you know, were
9	actually now engaged in something positive.
10	So, you know, when we talk about, you know,
11	why this program was I know that that Senator
12	Kwame was reading off about the timeline back in 2009,
13	when the violence just started escalating. And 2010,
14	you know, when you talk about the shootings the
15	shootings I know that Senator Raoul stopped where one
16	of the officers was killed on July 7th. But on
17	July 18th, another officer was shot and killed. Then
18	the Governor for the next almost the month of July,
19	he went out there, signed legislation on gun reducing
20	gun violence, and and and and to help prevent
21	firearms from ending up in the wrong hands.
22	Anti-violence Commission, we talk about them setting up
23	after-school programs. So there were things that he was
24	putting in place already to deal with the violence that
25	was going on.

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1	Whether the program Whether the program
2	was The allocation and how it was done and who was
3	picked You know, our aldermen that we have in our
4	city, the city of Chicago, they deal with
5	the everyday the everyday things that are going on,
6	whether it be killings, shootings. You know, whatever
7	it may be, they get it day to day. So the aldermen were
8	asked, especially in some of these communities where the
9	cry to the Governor's people was, you know, We have a
10	problem with violence, Our kids are getting shot every
11	single day. I don't think there's anyone in this room
12	that cannot say that they have not picked up the
13	newspaper and seen that the violence every
14	especially every weekend. This past weekend, 23 people
15	shot.
16	So let me just bring this you know, in
17	closing and saying maybe there was many things wrong,
18	but that's why we have an Auditor General. I I go to
19	the Audit Commission meetings as much as I can. And
20	what do I hear every time we go? Every time we have an
21	agency where the audit Auditor General finds has
22	findings and the fact that have they addressed the
23	findings. There's tons and tons of repeated, repeated
24	findings that never get fixed, and the same issue
25	people will come back with the same findings year after

	Page 264
1	year. But that's what their job is, to point it out.
2	We have a program that was shut down because
3	of many problems with the program itself, on the way it
4	was monitored, the way that maybe some of the grants
5	were given out, the fact that there was there was
6	some flaws. There is no doubt. Like any program
7	Like any agency out there, we have there there are
8	flaws. And the Auditor General's job is to let us know
9	what they are and for us to correct them.
10	And I think that when we keep on reading every
11	single day about what's going on, when I I We
12	should all be concerned about what are we going to do
13	next to fix this problem, how do we address the violence
14	problem that we're having, instead of sitting here,
15	picking on an audit that we know, we we are well
16	aware that there was a lot of things that were done
17	wrong.
18	But a lot of good things came out of there
19	too, especially when we see these numbers of kids that
20	were engaged, parents that were engaged, communities
21	that were engaged, you know. Do we need more of it?
22	Yes.
23	The problem that I have And maybe the
24	numbers are a little bit shocking. But since January
25	of 2010 till today, we've had already over almost

	Page 265
1	close to 10,000 shootings in a matter of 4 years. So I
2	think that we need to continue to take what happened
3	with this program, the NRI Because I think that we
4	have a lot more to do. We still have violence going on.
5	We still have children getting killed, even in their own
6	home by stray bullets that come through the window. We
7	have to address that. That's where we should be
8	actually concentrating our efforts, you know, and making
9	sure Because there is an investigation going there
10	out there on a Federal level.
11	I I agree with what Senator Crespo said.
12	Yes, some of these findings are troubling, and it makes
13	us do a better job and making sure that we create
14	legislation. It's a great bill that that
15	Representative Crespo passed on the on the
16	accountability. That's a step. We've cleaned it up.
17	We've We're cleaning up every single day, but I
18	cannot continue to not address the issue on how do we
19	deal with the violence that's not only hitting Chicago.
20	It is going into the suburbs. And until you have in
21	your neighborhoods shootings the way we're having them
22	on a daily basis and especially on bloody weekends,
23	where we have 23 and 25 and 30 people shot We have to
24	start legislating a lot more that's going to address
25	that issue than dealing with the fact that we have

	Page 266
1	we have these findings, we have to correct them, the
2	program has shut down because the Governor saw that
3	there definitely was a program and we had we had a
4	problem and we shut it down. But do you think that we
5	need to make this go away? No. We have to continue to
6	address the violence issue that is going on in our
7	communities because our children are dying on the street
8	every single day.
9	Thank you very much, Barbara, for everything
10	that you've done, and I'm sorry to see you go. You
11	should stay Well, then don't. That's okay. Thank
12	you.
13	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Barb, thank thank you
14	for coming in and talking to us today. I think most of
15	the questions have been asked and answered.
16	At this time we would although the subpoena
17	does go for the 8th and 9th so it will be valid
18	through tomorrow we're going to go ahead and dismiss
19	you. There may a follow-up question tomorrow afternoon.
20	I know that your attorney is busy from 10:00
21	MR. THEIS: 12:00 to 2:00.
22	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: 12:00 to 2:00.
23	Otherwise, there's flexibility. I do not expect that
24	we'll be calling you back, but there is that
25	possibility. And I think it only fair to tell you that.

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1	With that, thank you for spending your day
2	with us as Witness 1, and we'll continue on with the
3	next four witnesses. Everybody get your sleeping bags.
4	Three.
5	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
6	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Mr. Ocasio, Ocasio.
7	Please have a seat wherever you like.
8	Welcome, Mr. Ocasio.
9	MR. OCASIO: Thank you.
10	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Would you introduce your
11	attorney, the gentleman, and would you please spell your
12	name for our court reporter.
13	MR. GILLESPIE: Good afternoon, ladies and
14	gentlemen. My name is Terry Gillespie,
15	G I L L E S P I E, and I'm representing Billy.
16	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Mr. Ocasio, would you
17	spell your name for the recorder, please.
18	MR. OCASIO: Sure. Billy, B I L L Y. Last name is
19	O C A S I O.
20	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you.
21	Please raise your right hand.
22	(Witness sworn.)
23	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you. We will
24	proceed.
25	Do you wish to make any opening comments or

Page 268 statements, sir? 1 2 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and 3 Committee. I'm ready. 4 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you, sir. And I 5 appreciate your opening comment. 6 And we will go to questions. 7 Members of the committee. 8 Representative -- Excuse me. Senator Brady. 9 SENATOR BRADY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Ocasio. 10 WHEREUPON: 11 12 BILLY OCASIO, 13 called as a witness herein, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows: 14 15 EXAMINATION BY SENATOR BRADY: 16 17 Q. I might start with just some origins of this NRI and the -- the structure of it is what I'm -- I was 18 19 trying to get at a little bit earlier. 20 I'll reference an e-mail then. On 21 September 2nd, you e-mailed Barbara Shaw, asking, Did we 22 address all your concerns this morning? Did you or 23 others in the Governor's Office have a meeting -- Did you or others in the Governor's Office have a meeting 24 with Ms. Shaw that day, who attended it, and what 25

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Page 269
 1
     concerns were expressed?
 2
         MR. GILLESPIE: I'm sorry, Senator. Will we get a
 3
     copy of the e-mails referenced?
    BY SENATOR BRADY:
 4
 5
              While we're getting that -- It may be hard for
          Q.
    you to read.
 6
 7
               In your opinion, who was the oversight
 8
     authority of NRI?
 9
         MR. GILLESPIE: Thank you, sir.
10
               Do you want him to look at this later and
11
    answer your question?
12
          SENATOR BRADY: Yes.
    BY SENATOR BRADY:
13
14
          Q.
              Who was the oversight authority of NRI?
15
              The oversight authority.
          Α.
16
          Q.
              Who was Mrs. Shaw to report to?
17
          A. While I was there -- I wasn't there very long.
    But while I was there, it started off as kind of an
18
     ad hoc committee of people from the administration, and
19
    we talked about the program. There were a number of
20
21
    people who were kind of overseeing the program at the
    time.
22
23
          Q. So this 50 -- eventually $50 million
24
    program --
               It didn't start off like that.
25
         Α.
```

Page 270 1 **Q**. I understand that. 2 (Continuing.) -- it was led by her, and --3 and she was not really directly responsible to anybody? 4 Α. Oh, yes. I mean, she was, but you're asking 5 me from the beginning. So in the beginning that's not the way it happened. 6 7 How did it happen in the beginning? Q. 8 Α. It started off as other people have said. You 9 know, there was a lot of violence going on in the City of Chicago, a lot of violence going on. We were 10 11 attending marches. We started looking at communities. 12 And people just started talking to us and saying, Look, 13 you guys, we need to do something about this. And so I attended marches, anti-violence marches. 14 15 Okay. And I guess at the beginning it Q. 16 really -- it really started with this group of 17 ministers, right? The Governor met with a group of ministers? 18 I think that it started out about the 19 Α. violence. And different communities started calling, 20 21 and different survivors, people who had lost loved ones to violence, started making the calls. Ministers came 22 in afterwards. 23 24 **Q**. And there was a meeting of ministers on --25 When was your recollection of the first meeting of the

Page 271 ministers with the Governor? 1 2 A. I don't recall fully. I know it was pretty 3 early in the program. It was going on in the Roseland community. 4 5 Q. There's an e-mail dated September 21st. According to this e-mail, the Governor's Office and the 6 7 IVPA held a meeting that day regarding NRI with 8 religious leaders. Do you recall that e-mail? I don't recall the e-mail, but there were a 9 Α. few meetings with different --10 11 Did you attend the meeting? Q. 12 Α. I don't recall that, that date or the -- or 13 the meeting. 14 Q. So you don't recall if you attended the 15 meeting? 16 Α. I don't. 17 Q. So you don't know anybody else who might have 18 attended the meeting? 19 MR. GILLESPIE: May we look at the e-mail that you're talking about --20 21 SENATOR BRADY: Absolutely. MR. GILLESPIE: -- please. 22 BY THE WITNESS: 23 24 You're right. This is hard to see. Α. 25 I don't recall whether I was part of this

Page 272 1 meeting. 2 Q. Do you recall the meeting? 3 Α. I was part of less than 10 percent of all the meetings, at least from what I saw. 4 5 Do you recall this particular meeting? Q. Α. I don't recall this meeting. 6 7 Okay. There was another meeting on Q. 8 October 4th. Do you recall that meeting? 9 Α. No, I don't. 10 There was an e-mail sent to you that's dated Q. 11 October 4th. You led the meeting according to the 12 e-mail, with Latino clergy --13 Α. Okay. Q. -- to discuss NRI? 14 15 MR. GILLESPIE: Once again, Senator Brady, can we see that e-mail? Unless you're going to move on. 16 17 (Document tendered.) 18 BY THE WITNESS: 19 Α. Okay. 20 Do you recall the meeting? Q. 21 Α. I recall this meeting. 22 Q. Do you recall any -- who -- Can you tell us 23 who the other attendees were from the meeting? 24 Actually I don't think I was part of this Α. meeting. I remember setting it up or being asked to be 25

Page 273 part of this. I believe some -- some other people 1 2 attended, but I don't think I did. 3 Q. The way I interpret the e-mail is you led the 4 meeting. 5 Well, it says, Billy, can you join me? Α. So you didn't lead this meeting? 6 Q. 7 Α. No, I didn't. 8 Q. Did you attend the meeting --9 Α. It says, Billy, can you join me for this -for this -- for this also? 10 11 Did you attend the meeting? Q. 12 Α. No, I did not. 13 Q. Therefore, you can't recall who would have 14 attended the meeting? 15 Α. No. 16 Q. The -- On September 2nd, you e-mailed Barbara 17 Shaw, asking -- and we'll get you a copy -- Did we address all of your concerns this morning? Do you 18 19 remember that meeting? 20 (Witness viewing document.) 21 BY THE WITNESS: This is me. I don't recall. I'm reading what 22 Α. the whole conversation was. Just a minute. 23 24 Q. Did you have a meeting with the Governor's Office? 25

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1	A. I couldn't I don't recall where the meeting
2	took place.
3	Q. Do you recall the meeting?
4	A. I recall there being a meeting.
5	Q. Do you recall who attended the meeting?
6	A. No, I don't.
7	Q. In your e-mail, you ask Mrs. Shaw if you
8	addressed if all of her concerns were addressed. Do
9	you Do you recall what her concerns were?
10	A. I don't recall fully, but I know that she had
11	some concerns about how this how we were going to
12	reach out to the communities.
13	Q. Say that again, please.
14	A. How we were going to reach out to communities,
15	how were we going to get the word out.
16	Q. But you don't recall how that issue was
17	addressed?
18	A. Not specifically. I could tell you how I
19	would have, what I may have said.
20	Q. There's another e-mail dated between
21	September 5th and the 7th. Barbara Shaw asked you if
22	she should bring information on NRI to the Anti-Violence
23	Commission meeting on September 7th, saying, We might
24	want to inform the Commission about the initiative?
25	A. Okay.

	Page 275
1	Q. Indicating that the members may not have known
2	about the initiative at that time. How could the
3	Anti-Violence Commission have been able to create NRI
4	when they hadn't been told about it?
5	A. The Anti-Violence Commission made
6	recommendations. They basically came up withwith
7	recommendations of what should be done with in State
8	government.
9	Q. And they made those recommendations to Barbara
10	Shaw?
11	A. Actually they released the report sometime
12	after I left, with their recommendations. They released
13	it the Governor and to the legislature.
14	Q. Did they have authority over the NRI program?
15	A. No, they didn't.
16	Q. Who did?
17	A. The administration.
18	Q. The Governor's Office?
19	A. I would say the Governor and the the
20	Governor's Office and whatever other departments were
21	part of it.
22	Q. The Attorney General's Office?
23	A. I don't think the Attorney General's Office is
24	part of this.
25	Q. Do you have any idea why Mrs. Shaw would go to

Page 276 1 the Attorney General's Chief of Staff and ask for 2 permission to give pay raises? 3 Α. I have no --Or bonuses? 4 Q. 5 Α. I have no idea. You do recall that the Attorney General's 6 Q. 7 Office had input into the Neighborhood Recovery 8 Initiative? 9 Α. No, I don't. 10 One of the reasons -- and I guess this answers Q. 11 the question. So the Governor is saying that the 12 Anti-Violence Commission issued a report that indicated 13 that these things needed to be dealt with and the NRI 14 program under Barbara Shaw was the way to deal with it. 15 Is -- Is that ... I couldn't speak to that. 16 Α. 17 Q. What was your direct involvement in it? I was an advisor. I was there basically to 18 Α. advise. And if -- I was like your -- You know, does 19 20 anybody need anything? How can I help? 21 So I quess --Q. I was involved in there because I was the --22 Α. one of the staff people for the Anti-Violence 23 2.4 Commission. 25 I guess my concern here -- and maybe you can Q.

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1	help me, and maybe you can't. We almost seem seem to
2	have this somewhat organization under the thumb of the
3	Governor and somewhat under the thumb of the Attorney
4	General initiating this \$50 million in initiatives, but
5	I just I can't get my hands on where they get their
6	authority to do what they do other than obviously the
7	lump-sum appropriation, which was a fiasco, that gave
8	the Governor the ability to move the money there. But
9	it just seems to me to be a And Mrs. Shaw indicated
10	her her great desire to push this money out into the
11	streets as soon as possible regardless of having it
12	done. But I just I'm really perplexed about the
13	oversight of it all.
14	A. I'm sorry, Senator. I I didn't deal with
15	the money. I Again, I was part of probably less than
16	10 percent of all NRI meetings.
17	Q. Let me move onto another issue that was just
18	brought up in Crain's. And it deals with the New Life
19	Covenant. And, again, how when you were there, did
20	you have direct input into the awarding of contracts?
21	A. I had no direct input. I had no authority
22	to to say who was going to get a contract or not.
23	Q. And you gave no input?
24	A. And I gave no No.
25	Q. Excuse me.

Page 278 1 So this issue of -- of your wife being 2 an employee of New -- New Life Covenant and receiving a 3 contract, there's no -- nothing direct --Α. There's nothing there -- I think it's a very 4 5 irresponsible article. I think if you take a look at it. --6 7 You understand why we're asking questions --Q. 8 Α. But if you --9 ο. -- about it? 10 You asked me a question. Can I answer? Α. 11 I think it's a very irresponsible article. Ι 12 think that if you take a look at the end of this article, it even says I was even gone way -- way after 13 this was implemented. Again, my wife at the time was 14 15 not an employee of New Life Covenant. Who -- Who would have made the decision for 16 Q. 17 New Life Covenant to get the contract? 18 Α. I don't know. I wasn't part of that. I did not talk to anybody in Government about this. 19 20 Do you have any concerns about the Q. 21 implementation of this \$50 million, how it went from 22 20 million to 30 to 50 and the loose-knit implementation 23 that has left us to these 19 findings? 24 You know, I think it was a program that needed Α. 25 to happen. There was a lot of shootings going on out

	Page 279
1	there. In fact, I left part of the reason I left
2	State government is because two people got shot in front
3	of my house and I had two young kids at the time. There
4	was a lot of work that needed to be done, and time was
5	of the essence.
6	Q. And I think we all agree that there is crime
7	and violence
8	A. I just didn't oversee money.
9	Q and all this gives us all great concern.
10	And we need programs that use volubility, the taxpayer
11	resources. But if if you think about some of the
12	things here And And I've got another picture here
13	of a photo of a facility for Project Hope. It was an
14	NRI agency in the south suburbs that was contracted to
15	provide prisoner reentry. Are you familiar with that
16	project?
17	A. No, I'm not.
18	Q. Well, a simple drive-by of the facility would
19	reveal that it's a day care center. Do you have any
20	idea how it's possible that this location was selected
21	to provide services for ex-felons?
22	A. I didn't make decisions. I'm sorry.
23	Q. You just don't have much to give.
24	A. I was there as an advisor. I was there to
25	make sure that, you know, communities were

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Page 280 1 ο. What did you advise on? 2 Α. Basically what -- that communities needed to 3 be involved, that people needed to be involved, that churches needed to be involved, that schools needed to 4 5 be involved. 6 Q. And your advice never got more defined than 7 that? 8 Α. Not really. I mean, I was basically there to make sure that the Anti-Violence Commission -- to staff 9 the Anti-Violence Commission. And then if they needed 10 help with things, then I helped them out. I had very 11 12 little to do with NRI. 13 **Q**. Do you think it's a travesty that resources 14 would go into hiring day care to provide services to 15 ex-felons? You know, in our communities you have to be 16 Α. 17 very creative on how to deal with people. 18 Q. Day care? Whether -- The day care may have been -- I --19 Α. I don't know which project you're talking about. A day 20 21 care -- In a lot of communities, day cares operate as a day care during the day and at night they operate as 22 something else. You have various programs running out 23 of different places. 24 25 **Q**. I understand that. And I think that's

	Page 281
1	oftentimes a good use of facilities and organization and
2	all that. But I think the contract with a day care
3	facility where young children are coming out and the
4	interaction with ex-felons, whether it be in a district
5	I represent or
6	A. I'm sorry. I can't speak to the reasoning.
7	Q. You don't think that's a bit of a problem?
8	A. I just can't speak to the reasoning. I don't
9	know what what reasons to give.
10	Q. As a consultant working for the government,
11	would you have advised them to do this?
12	A. I would have taken a look into it.
13	Q. It's not a nonstarter for you?
14	A. It depends You know, you have some
15	communities that don't have anything in there. You have
16	some communities that don't have any agencies. And so
17	sometimes you have to deal with what you have.
18	SENATOR BRADY: Thank you very much.
19	THE WITNESS: You're welcome.
20	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions?
21	Representative Sandack.
22	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Thank you, Chairman.
23	EXAMINATION
24	BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK:
25	Q. Mr. Ocasio, I want to go back to roughly

Page 282 1 August of 2010. 2 Α. Okay. 3 Ο. You were with the Governor's staff at that time, correct? 4 5 Α. Yes. 6 Q. And did you have a title at that time? 7 Α. Senior advisor. 8 Q. Okay. We just heard from Ms. Shaw about the 9 NRI project and the Illinois Violence Prevention 10 Authority's role in rolling out NRI. What was your role 11 in August of 2010? 12 Α. August of 2010? I was senior advisor, and I 13 dealt with a lot of human relations issues, human rights issues, social justice issues. When it comes to this 14 15 program, I was asked to sit in on a couple meetings to make sure that we were involving the right people. 16 17 Ο. Whose idea was the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative? 18 19 Α. Oh, I don't know. 20 When did you hear it first? How did you come Q. 21 about hearing what the NRI program was supposed to do or 22 be? There was -- Again, there was a lot of 23 Α. 24 violence going on, a lot of violence going on. A bunch of people were called in to meetings and said, Hey, what 25

	Page 283
1	can we do here, what can we do? And I don't think it
2	even started off as NRI. I think it just started off
3	where we had a small pot of money and something needed
4	to be done. I think it started off with one community.
5	I think it went from one community to four communities;
6	from four communities, it grew, as monies became
7	available.
8	Q. Well, when is the first time you can recall
9	hearing about this project, the project?
10	A. Probably Probably late August, September, I
11	would say.
12	Q. And do you remember how where the name
13	Neighborhood Recovery Initiative came from?
14	A. Oh, I don't know.
15	Q. Okay. And who did you interact with with
16	putting this project together or whatever your
17	involvement was?
18	A. Again, I attended less than 10 percent of
19	those meetings. But people who I dealt with Do you
20	want names?
21	Q. Sure.
22	A. Yeah. So there was Toni Irving. There was
23	Barbara Shaw. There was Jack Lavin, Malcolm Weems.
24	There was Michelle Saddler from DHS. There was There
25	was kind of quite a few people.

	Page 284
1	Q. Did you ever speak with the Governor about
2	this project?
3	A. About this project specifically?
4	Q. About the Neigh Neighborhood Recovery
5	Initiative, NRI.
6	A. No.
7	Q. So you only So you spoke with, in August
8	of 2010, Toni Irving, Barbara Shaw, Jack Lavin, Malcolm
9	Weems, Michelle Saddler?
10	A. I mean, there may have been more State
11	employees. I I mean, I'm just saying these are the
12	ones that I remember.
13	Q. Okay. You You just testified a little bit
14	earlier that you think you were involved in 10 percent
15	of the meetings. How do you know that?
16	A. I looked through every one of those e-mails
17	that you guys put on the sites, and that's how I
18	determined that. I was I mean, I read through all of
19	them.
20	Q. Okay. As a senior advisor, how much time did
21	you spend in August, September, October, and November
22	of 2010 working on NRI?
23	A. Oh, again, less than 10 percent. I mean, I
24	I was already looking to move on in late December.
25	Q. And when did you move on?

	Page 285
1	A. I ended up moving on in By January, I was
2	already trying to finish up other projects that I was
3	working on. And I started at IHDA May 4th. So in
4	April April I moved on from the Governor's Office,
5	after taking vacations and days off and those sorts of
6	things.
7	Q. Mr. Ocasio, in an earlier answer, you said of
8	this project you think it started out as one community
9	or a small project. The The The information we
10	have is it started out as a \$10 million project. Do you
11	remember when that was the scope of the project?
12	A. I never dealt with the numbers, with the
13	budget. I didn't I didn't deal with those.
14	Q. Okay. What did you deal with?
15	A. I dealt with involving communities.
16	Q. Okay. So what does that mean? Tell me what
17	that means.
18	A. Well, for instance, they they had people
19	within the black community who were being involved.
20	They didn't have people in a lot of other communities
21	that were being involved, especially in the Hispanic
22	community. So they reached out to me and said, Do you
23	know anybody in these communities? And I said yes.
24	Q. And so who what would you do to reach out
25	to people in these Hispanic communities?

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1	A. I think we did all sorts of things. I think
2	people were invited to meetings. I think that people
3	were e-mailed. I think people we asked others to
4	give us other names of people we needed we needed to
5	involve. I think I also said, you know, churches you
6	need to involve churches and schools.
7	Q. Have you ever read the audit from the
8	Auditor
9	A. Never.
10	Q General?
11	A. Never.
12	Q. Have you read any of the press with respect to
13	the audit?
14	A. I've read some of the press.
15	Q. Okay. One of the things that we obviously
16	have learned in this process is that there were 23 lead
17	agencies, 99 coordinating partners, 120 providing
18	partners, serving 23 communities. Do you know the 23
19	communities NRI served?
20	A. No.
21	Q. Did you have any involvement with respect to
22	picking and selecting the communities?
23	A. No.
24	Q. Any communities?
25	A. No. I think there was an application put out

	Page 287
1	there or an RFP, something like that. There was
2	something put out there.
3	Q. Did you have anything to do with the RFP or
4	the application?
5	A. Did I what?
6	Q. Have anything to do with the RFP or the
7	application?
8	A. I think the only thing I recall was basically
9	saying, You need to make sure they reach out to the
10	Latino communities. I just didn't
11	Q. (Inaudible.)
12	A feel there was enough
13	Q. I'm sorry.
14	A. I just didn't feel there was enough going on
15	to reach out to those communities.
16	Q. How is that I mean, what If you were
17	attending 10 percent of the meetings, you didn't do
18	anything with the budget, how did you know what did or
19	did not go out to different communities, the Latino
20	community included, sir?
21	A. Only because every time there was something
22	that dealt with the Hispanic community, I was sent an
23	e-mail or something about it or I was included.
24	Q. The communities that were included for NRI,
25	the 23 communities, were any of those Hispanic

Page 288 1 communities? 2 Α. I believe so. 3 Q. And which communities were they? Which 4 neighborhoods? 5 Α. I don't know if they were all selected by the time I left. 6 7 In August, September of 2010, Ms. Shaw Q. 8 testified that it was her understanding that this 9 project had gotten -- had grown to over 30 million at 10 that time. It was a big project. Were you under --11 under any time constraints with respect to getting 12 these -- this Neighborhood Recovery Initiative? 13 Α. Not I. Maybe others but not I. 14 Did you have any conversations with Ms. Shaw Q. 15 about trying to get the project underway quick? 16 Α. No. 17 Q. Have you ever heard that from anybody? 18 No. Α. 19 Do you know where the funds came from for NRI Q. 20 in -- in the first year, in fiscal year 2011? 21 Α. No. 22 Q. Did you have any communications with anybody 23 other than Hispanic communities about NRI? I don't know. That's kind of a very broad 2.4 Α. 25 question. I don't know.

	Page 289
1	Q. It is a broad question.
2	A. Yeah.
3	Q. I'm trying to figure out what it is you did on
4	this project for NRI.
5	A. Mm-hmm. Again, I had a lot of projects going
6	on at the time. NRI was a small part of whatever I did.
7	Q. Like what? What else did you have going on at
8	that time?
9	A. Well, I dealt with the Latino Family
10	Commission. I dealt with all the human rights issue. I
11	dealt with social justice issues and housing issues,
12	those sorts of things, communities, any anything in
13	communities that where communities were left out.
14	Q. Senator Brady asked you some questions about
15	the New Life Covenant, and I know you didn't like that
16	article at all. I just want to make sure I'm clear. Is
17	it your testimony, sir, that you had absolutely
18	nothing did not touch in any way, shape, or form the
19	fact that State money from NRI ended up at a church your
20	wife worked at?
21	A. I had nothing to do with that. I didn't talk
22	to anybody in government about that. I didn't talk to
23	anybody in the Governor's Office about that. And my
24	wife started working there in January of 2012 I'm
25	sorry 20 2013.

Page 290 1 **Q**. Were you involved in any decisions to get 2 money to any recipients --3 Α. No. 4 Q. I was not done yet. 5 After you left State government, did you have any involvement, role, whatsoever in how any NR- -- NRI 6 7 monies were disbursed? I had no involvement. I had no involvement. 8 Α. 9 You said you worked at IHDA after you left the Q. Governor's Office? 10 Α. 11 Yes. 12 Q. How long were you at IHDA? I was there till -- I think my last day there 13 Α. was March -- the first week of March 2013. 14 15 And then after -- And how long were you at Q. 16 IHDA? 17 Α. About a year and a half. Okay. And then after IHDA, where -- where did 18 Q. 19 you go? 20 I went to the Institute of Puerto Rican Arts Α. 21 and Culture. Q. 22 Are you still employed at the Institute of --23 Α. Yes. -- Puerto Rican Arts and Culture? 24 Q. 25 Forgive this question. They didn't receive

Page 291 1 any NRI money, did they? 2 Α. No. 3 Q. Okay. Mr. Ocasio, obviously we -- we're -we're concerned about what the audit shows as far as 4 5 controls. And you didn't leave the Governor's Office until April of 2011, correct? 6 7 Α. Correct. 8 Q. From the time money went out on the NRI 9 project, which the record will reflect was relatively 10 soon after the inception of this project, through April, 11 did you have any involvement whatsoever with the 12 implementation of NRI? I had no oversight. I didn't choose the 13 Α. organizations. I didn't have authority to make 14 decisions. 15 16 Q. Well, I didn't ask that. I asked if you had 17 any role in -- in the -- in the implementation of NRI. Did you do anything with respect to that initiative? 18 19 A. Other than attend some meetings, get -- you know, talk to -- or organize some Latino ministers and 20 21 clergy and some leaders, not in the actual implementation of it. 22 23 ο. Sir, there's been -- It's in the record. 24 Okay. Α. 25 Aldermen were picked and selected in certain Q.

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1	neighborhoods, and they made recommendations for lead
2	agencies that would help implement NRI. You were a
3	former alderman. Did you have anything to do with
4	aldermen being selected rather than the traditional RFP
5	process?
6	A. I had nothing to do with that. In fact,
7	you'll find in there an e-mail from me where I send
8	and say: Hey, I understand there was a meeting with
9	aldermen yesterday. How come I wasn't informed?
10	Q. So you didn't know that they were meeting with
11	aldermen. But I'm asking you about the structure of the
12	process. Do you You had been involved in State
13	government for a while, right?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. Typically requests for proposals is the way to
16	open bid and shop and competitively market anything so
17	that we know we're getting value. In this instance,
18	that didn't happen, did it?
19	A. My understanding was that the aldermen were
20	involved to inform them of this program. I did not know
21	that aldermen were picked and asked to select agencies
22	or anything like that.
23	Q. Have you had any conversations with Governor
24	Quinn about this project at all since you left State
25	government?

Page 293 1 Α. About this? No. 2 Have you talked to Governor Quinn in any way, Q. shape, or form about NRI? 3 Α. 4 No. 5 Q. Other than your lawyers, have you spoken with anyone about today's testimony you're giving, sir? 6 7 Α. No. 8 Q. The audit report talks about, amongst other 9 things, financial control deficiencies, meaning some of 10 the grantors that received State money, grant money, 11 didn't really adhere to best practices, let alone 12 minimum instances of good financial controls. Do you know who the Pilsen-Little Village -- the agency, is or 13 14 was? 15 Α. I can't recall. 16 Q. Albany Park? 17 Α. Albany Park? Are you saying that's who it was? No. 18 19 I'm asking if you know that. Q. Oh, no. 20 Α. 21 How about the agency Hermosa? Q. I do not know who (inaudible). 22 Α. 23 Did you have any involvement in getting Q. 24 Hermosa NR- -- NRI money? 25 Α. No, I didn't.

Page 294 1 Did you have any involvement in getting anyone 0. 2 NRI money? 3 Α. Getting NR- -- No. There were certain neighborhoods that were not 4 Q. 5 in the NRI universe, including West Englewood. Did you have anything to do with communities being selected or 6 7 not selected for NRI money? 8 Α. No, but I did hear some conversation that they 9 were working off of other programs that had already implemented programs that dealt with violence in those 10 11 areas. 12 Q. Explain that to me a little bit. What 13 conversations --14 Α. No. There --15 Q. -- are you talking about? -- were other departments, like DHS, who had 16 Α. 17 programs, who already knew some of these communities and 18 who had numbers on violence and all those sorts of things, but that's just what I recall about it. 19 20 Going back to the inception of the program, Q. 21 you said you looked at e-mail that was in this -- that 22 we adduced over -- as part of the audit. Did you -- Do 23 you recall interacting with Ms. -- Ms. Shaw about making 24 sure Latino groups were -- were within the mix of 25 potential NRI money?

	Page 295
1	A. I would have said, Make sure that there is
2	Latino communities involved. Yes. There was a big
3	problem in the Latino community. I would have said yes
4	to anyone, that you need to involve the Latino
5	communities.
6	Q. Other than obviously interacting with Ms. Shaw
7	to make sure the Latino community was represented, what
8	else were you doing with respect to NRI?
9	A. I didn't do much with NRI. I was
10	Q. How many
11	A concentrating most of my time on getting
12	the report out for the Latino Family the
13	Anti-Violence Commission.
14	Q. Did you ever have any understanding of why the
15	Illinois Violence Prevention Authority was the
16	organization or the agency that was selected to
17	undertake implementation and administration of the NRI
18	program?
19	A. Not really. But, I mean, for me, it's
20	you're talking about anti-violence and the Violence
21	Prevention Authority, so, I mean, it makes sense to me.
22	Q. And had you understood what the Illinois
23	Violence Prevention Authority had the size and scope
24	of that agency prior to NRI being basically given to
25	them?

	Page 296
1	A. It was a small agency, but they were the ones
2	who dealt with violence.
3	Q. Do you recall any concern about the size and
4	scope of the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority and
5	its ability to handle a large appropriation, larger than
6	its ever had before, and administer that you know, a
7	program like NRI?
8	A. As I said earlier, there were other
9	departments that were working in conjunction with IVPA.
10	Q. Did you ever attend any meetings with the
11	Governor with respect to the rollout of NRI?
12	A. Other than community meetings, that was
13	probably it. I know that there was Even the day they
14	announced it, which was October 6th it was announced
15	out at one of the colleges I didn't attend that one.
16	My father had died the day before, so I didn't.
17	Q. Sir, there's been at least some evidence or
18	suggestion Let me strike that.
19	There's been some suggestion here that this
20	was a hastily implemented program. In fact, I think the
21	audit itself says that and that there were pervasive
22	deficiencies in this program, may maybe in part
23	because of the hasty nature in which this program was
24	put together. Was there ever a concern on your part
25	that NRI was being accelerated and put together very

	Page 297
1	quickly and perhaps erroneously?
2	A. No, no. I think that you have a lot of people
3	in the room that knew what they were doing, people that
4	had knowledge and expertise in this area. You had IVPA.
5	You had DHS. You had all these departments in the room
6	who had implemented these sorts of things before.
7	Q. So you were confident they were capable of
8	doing that?
9	A. Yes.
10	Q. Was it ever Did you have an opinion as to
11	why this project or this initiative was being rolled out
12	quickly, hastily, according to the audit?
13	A. If you ask me, I don't think it came fast
14	enough. I think that there was a lot of communities,
15	there was a lot of violence going on. And even when I
16	left, they still had not picked everybody.
17	Q. Do you Do you Do you think the NRI
18	program worked, sir?
19	A. I'm sorry?
20	Q. Was it effective?
21	A. I wasn't there to see what the results were.
22	Q. Did you think taxpayers got accountability as
23	to where tax dollars went?
24	A. I Again, I didn't look at the I don't
25	know what the numbers were.

	Page 298
1	Q. Well, I ask you that only because you think it
2	didn't go fast enough.
3	A. Well, the communities needed help. There was
4	a lot of people being killed out there. I Again, I
5	had people shot in front of my house.
6	Q. And
7	A. I had two young kids. I I think they
8	needed to move faster.
9	Q. That's That's awful. I mean, it's
10	ridiculously awful. It's unconscionable. It's
11	unfortunately occurring to this very day still, is it
12	not?
13	A. People were looking for hope. You had a lot
14	of parents out there, a lot of people who were
15	concerned. People were looking for some type of hope.
16	People were looking to get police involved, get
17	legislators involved, and something needed to be done.
18	Q. I don't discount that or disagree with that at
19	all. My concern simply is whether this program, good
20	intentions and aspirational goals notwithstanding, if it
21	was hastily put together because there was an election
22	coming. Did that ever enter your mind?
23	A. No. It never came And nobody ever
24	mentioned elections.
25	Q. No one ever mentioned elections?

Page 299 Not about putting this together. 1 Α. 2 Did you ever have any conversations with Q. 3 Mr. Lavin about this program and how it was put 4 together? 5 A. About how it was put together? I was in 6 some --7 I'm using meetings --Q. 8 Α. -- meetings with him. I was in some meetings with him. 9 10 And give me just the general gist of the Q. 11 meetings you had with Mr. Lavin, him or other people. 12 Α. How's it going? How are things moving along? He was getting input from all the various departments 13 about what was happening. 14 15 And what would he say? Q. And, I mean, basically if something was not 16 Α. 17 going right, he would say, Okay, We need to -- to work a little bit more on this, We need to work a little bit 18 more on that, but ... 19 20 We got a bunch of e-mails last night. I don't Q. 21 know if you've seen them or not. REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Make sure we can get it to 22 this witness and Mr. Gillespie. Do they have it? Okay. 23 Bear with us one second. 24 25 MR. GILLESPIE: Okay. Sure. Thank you. I

Page 300 1 appreciate it. 2 And we thank you because I doubt we've seen 3 these. SENATOR BRADY: I just saw them last night, so I 4 5 doubt you have too. 6 MR. GILLESPIE: Okay, good. 7 BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: 8 Q. If you'll look at page 6, starting at page 6, 9 at the bottom. 10 Which page are you talking about? Α. 11 6, at the very bottom. Q. 12 MR. GILLESPIE: I don't think ours is numbered. REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: They're not paginated. I 13 apologize. You have to go --14 15 MR. GILLESPIE: Is this Ben Nuckels? Is this --16 REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Correct. 17 BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: 18 And the -- the last line starts off with, On Q. September 5, 2010. Do you see that? 19 20 Α. On September 5, yeah. 21 Okay. Then turn the page. Then it's an Q. 22 e-mail thread we got in the form that you see it. 23 That's how we got it. 24 If we are trying to get the base out and 25 that's the key to our victory, we better prior- --

	Page 301
1	prioritize correctly. We spent a lot of money in the AA
2	community in the primary. We did a lot of robocalls
3	utilizing Congressmen Davis, Rush, and Jackson. We also
4	did radio with the same people. Obama can be positive
5	and get people more excited about PQ. The Congressmen
6	and an ad like ad like Andy suggests, from a typical
7	AA family, particularly women, can say why Brady would
8	be a disaster. The AA community lends tends to break
9	late, so we have some time. The Governor's Neighbor
10	Neighborhood Recovery Initiative will also help on the
11	jobs and anti-violence messages.
12	Do you see that, Mr. Ocasio?
13	A. Mm-hmm, yes.
14	Q. Did you ever have a conversation with
15	Mr. Lavin about how the NRI program will help on the
16	jobs and anti-violence messages in connection with the
17	Governor's reelection efforts in 2010?
18	A. I never did. I never did.
19	Q. You never had a conversation like that?
20	A. No.
21	Q. Did you ever have a conversation with anyone
22	like this
23	A. No.
24	Q with respect to this
25	A. No.

	Page 302
1	Q program?
2	A. No.
3	Q. There was Were you involved with the
4	Illinois Violence Prevention Authority's meetings? Did
5	you generally attend their board meetings?
6	A. No. I never did.
7	Q. There was a board meeting the end of
8	September, the record will reflect, September 30th. Do
9	you ever Did you attend that meeting?
10	A. I didn't go to any of their board meetings. I
11	didn't attend any board meetings?
12	Q. Okay. Earlier in your testimony with
13	Senator Brady, you basically said if anybody needed
14	anything, I was there to help and that you only went to
15	10 percent of the meetings. What did you do with NRI
16	specifically, sir?
17	A. Again, I didn't do much. My My role was
18	basically when they invited me to do things sometimes
19	they needed Spanish press, and I would deal with the
20	Spanish press. Sometimes they needed to reach out to
21	the Spanish clergy, Hispanic community, and I would do
22	that, but it was as you know, if they gave me an
23	order, then I kind of took it on.
24	Q. Who is "they"? Remind me
25	A. Anybody in the administration that was dealing

	Page 303
1	with NRI.
2	Q. Generally who would that be? In the
3	10 percent of the times that you were asked to be
4	A. I mean, if they needed help So someone like
5	Toni Irving would turn around and say, Hey, Billy, can
6	you help us out with this? So And Jack would say,
7	Can you help us out with this? Barbara Shaw may say,
8	Can you help us out with this? And if I could do it, I
9	would help.
10	Q. So it would be Jack Lavin, Barbara Shaw, or
11	Toni Irving?
12	A. There may have been others, but
13	Q. Malcolm Weems?
14	A. Malcolm.
15	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Okay, thank you.
16	THE WITNESS: You're welcome.
17	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Chairman Barickman.
18	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Thanks, Mr. Chairman.
19	Welcome, Mr. Ocasio, Ocasio.
20	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
21	EXAMINATION
22	BY SENATOR BARICKMAN:
23	Q. I want to get to a couple of the findings in
24	the audit. But before I do, there's been a lot of
25	reference to the communications with the Governor. Can

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you just clear something up for us. I mean, did the Governor communicate with the staff members by e-mail? That's something that's noted throughout here, that there's all these communications but there's none with Governor Quinn. Did he communicate with the staff by e-mail?

A. I don't think so.

7

8 Q. Okay. Okay. I just want to talk to some of 9 the findings in the audit. And there's -- there's been 10 raised in the audit some considerable questions about 11 the method in which decisions were made, especially in 12 the planning and implementation of this program, you 13 know. And -- And understandably we want to make sure 14 that the process in which we go through to make 15 decisions is a process that is -- that provides 16 safeguards, whether it be to taxpayers, whether it be to 17 communities who want to make sure they're represented well in their government or beyond. Your role, as I 18 19 think I've heard through the questions raised by Senator 20 Brady and Representative Sandack, was to -- I'm 21 paraphrasing, but make sure there was Latino 22 representation within the decision-making structure of 23 the Quinn administration? 2.4 A. Not with --25 Q. So the --

Page 305 1 Α. Do you want me to answer? 2 Q. Go ahead. 3 Α. Okay. Not -- There was -- I had no decision-making authority at all. And I was there to 4 make sure that there was Latino representation in the 5 Governor's Office. 6 7 And can you speak closer to the mike. Q. 8 Α. Do you want me to repeat it? 9 Okay. So within that context, again, to the Q. 10 audit, the audit raises the question that there was no 11 documentation that the auditors could find that spoke to 12 how the various communities that received NRI funds were selected. 13 14 Α. Mm-hmm. 15 Q. Talk to me about your involvement in making 16 suggestions or otherwise to the administration about 17 communities that you thought needed to be represented in NRI. 18 I mean, there was -- people were looking at 19 Α. 20 communities. There was -- When I was at meetings and 21 communities came up, I just noticed that there needed to 22 be more involvement on the Latino community side. And so I would say: Don't forget you have, you know, a 23 Puerto Rican community, you have a Mexican community 24 that you cannot forget about. They have a lot of 25

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1	violence.
2	Q. So who was receiving that message and
3	making ultimately making the decision to add And I
4	believe that, you know, the you know, as you pour
5	through all of the things that have been before this
6	Audit Commission, what we see is you made certain
7	recommendations like that, that there is maybe
8	underrepresentation of the Latino communities in the
9	plans and you suggested that those communities be added
10	to the mix?
11	A. Correct.
12	Q. When Who does that suggestion go to, and
13	who made the decision that you were right or wrong?
14	A. I don't know who made the decision about it,
15	but I know that there was various people. It was kind
16	of a collective effort on who on dealing with such
17	issues. And so you had Toni Irving there; you had
18	Barbara Shaw; you had Jack Lavin, maybe a few others.
19	Q. In those meetings, I mean, were there any
20	quantifiable selection criteria that might suggest why
21	one community might be a recipient where another might
22	not be?
23	A. In the meetings that I was part of, I know
24	that there was discussion about these communities needed
25	to have certain things in place, organizations needed to

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1	show that they've done this type of work before or can
2	do this work, but I don't since it wasn't my area to
3	really deal with the requirements, I didn't much get
4	involved in it.
5	Q. Did you ever see this There was There's
6	suggestions that there was a list of communities that
7	was produced that this Audit Commission has never been
8	able to see. In other words, no one has produced this
9	list of communities. Did you ever see this supposed
10	list that was in existence at one time?
11	A. No. In fact, one of the e-mails that's from
12	me says it shows me asking, you know, Does anybody
13	have a list of of the communities?
14	Q. So did in those meetings, did anyone ask
15	questions like, you know, Are we benchmarking whether
16	we're targeting the most violent communities to be the
17	beneficiaries of this program? Did anyone say, Let's
18	look at Chicago crime crime statistics and make sure
19	that we're not guessing wrong that there are communities
20	out there
21	A. Yeah. I don't recall who, but, yes, there was
22	a lot of questions saying, you know, we should look at
23	these figures, we should look at those figures. I think
24	there was a lot. In the meetings that I attended, I
25	can't recall who exactly it was, but there was a lot of

Page 308 discussion about requirements. 1 2 Well, what -- Right. But what were those ο. 3 figures or statistics that you might look to? I mean, I can't -- I can't tell you --4 Α. 5 Was the Chicago --Q. Α. -- that right now. 6 7 Q. -- Police Department ever asked to provide 8 information? 9 Α. I remember them asking about the Chicago Police Department. 10 In what -- In what -- In what --11 Q. 12 Α. I mean, basically what communities, that they 13 may have a list that would be helpful. DHS may have a list that would be helpful. IVPA had done work in 14 communities. So I think they were looking at compiling 15 a lot of different lists. 16 17 Q. But you don't remember what any of those lists said, and we evidently don't -- we've asked you to turn 18 over documents you might have that would include 19 20 those --21 Α. I have no documents. I have no documents. 22 Q. Okay. The agencies that were selected, did --23 You know, Representative -- I think in the prior 24 questions you were asked whether you had a role in 25 approving any of the agencies. You -- You claim you did

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1	not
2	A. No, I didn't.
3	Q. The There When Barb Shaw was here, in
4	her questioning, there's there was discussion with
5	her about meetings that transpired that appear to have
6	had your involvement, where Barb Shaw says the meeting
7	was to approve or not approve a list of of agencies.
8	Ultimately there was a there was a list of agencies
9	that by our records look to have been approved by the
10	Governor's administration. It appears that you were a
11	part of those meetings when that approval took place.
12	Do you remember any of this?
13	A. No. I do remember her bringing up a copy of
14	every organization that had applied and giving us copies
15	of those. But the meeting didn't take place, and I
16	was I didn't I wasn't part of the meeting where
17	they actually made the selections.
18	Q. Okay. That's then. I mean, so you're
19	referencing the same thing I saw. There was a list of
20	what appeared to be potential grantees. I think there's
21	been a lot of suggestion about Project Hope. Project
22	Hope is on that list.
23	A. Okay.
24	Q. But you're saying that you weren't at the
25	meeting where that list was approved or not there

Page 310 1 were -- some were not approved. You're saying you 2 weren't in any of those --3 Α. No, I wasn't. 4 Q. -- in any of those meetings? 5 Well, then obviously you won't know whether any of them were rejected? 6 7 Α. I don't. SENATOR BARICKMAN: Okay. That's all the questions 8 9 I have. Thank you. 10 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions? 11 Representative Crespo. REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Thank you. Thank you, 12 13 Chairman. 14 Señor Ocasio, buena tarde. 15 THE WITNESS: Buena tarde. Gracias. 16 EXAMINATION 17 BY REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: 18 We talked about meetings, and then you had Q. 19 mentioned that you attended some meetings and some you 20 did not. Number one, who invited you to the meetings? 21 Α. Various people. Sometimes Barbara Shaw invited me to meetings. Sometimes Toni Irving invited 22 me to meetings. I think it was -- Probably those two 23 24 were probably the ones who invited me to most of the 25 meetings.

Page 311 1 ο. Okay. And -- And some meetings you did 2 attend; some meetings you did not. How did you decide 3 which meetings to attend and which meetings to not attend? 4 5 Α. Well, it depends. If it was something that dealt with budgets and those sorts of things, it wasn't 6 7 my role, so I -- and I got cc'd on a bunch of things. I 8 got cc'd. Not all of it was for me to be at. 9 Now, when there was a meeting regarding the Q. 10 crime prevention program, you would know that the 11 meeting was to -- to talk about that, did you attend 12 some of those meetings? 13 Α. Probably a few. Again, I attended less than 10 percent of -- of the invites. 14 15 Q. Okay. And --16 Α. Well, I got invited to less than 10 percent of 17 those meetings. 18 Q. You got invited to less than --19 Less than 10 percent --Α. 20 -- 10 percent --Q. 21 Α. -- of all the meetings that are in your e-mails. 22 23 Q. And -- And you attended -- You didn't attend 24 all of those less than 10 percent? Some you did, and 25 some you did not?

Page 312 1 Α. Yes. 2 So you attended very few meetings? Q. 3 Α. Yes. In your recollection, the meetings that you 4 Q. 5 did attend that had -- where they talked about the crime prevention program, to -- to the best of your ability, 6 7 who -- who attended those meetings? I think you already 8 mentioned Shaw, right? Yeah. I think Shaw would have been there. 9 Α. 10 Irving? Q. Toni Irving would have been there. 11 Α. 12 Q. Okay. 13 Α. Malcolm Weems may have been there. Who is that? 14 Q. 15 Malcolm --Α. 16 Q. Okay. 17 Α. -- Weems may have been there. 18 There were some meetings where Teresa Garate, who was the chairperson of the Anti-Violence Commission, 19 20 may have been there. 21 Q. Okay. 22 Α. Jack Cutrone may have been at some of those meetings from the crime -- I forgot what it's called --23 24 Criminal Justice whatever, people from DHS. Who from DHS was there? 25 Q.

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1	A. I think a lot of the ones would have been
2	Her name was, like, Matthews, Sharron Matthews,
3	something like that.
4	Q. Okay. You had mentioned it earlier. The
5	reason I bring this up is it's the second time her name
6	comes up, Michelle Saddler. Did she attend some of
7	those meetings?
8	A. She was in a few that I was at. Yes.
9	Q. Okay. And the Now, you did mention that
10	you did see a list that was provided. They were asking
11	for a list from different folks to come up with some
12	kind of universe to decide where they're going to do
13	this. And you saw that list. Was it sort of like a
14	master list or
15	A. A list of those who had been selected or
16	those
17	Q. Those
18	A who had applied.
19	Q. Those Well, you tell me. I guess there's a
20	list of those that had applied. Was there a list of
21	those that were being recommended?
22	A. Oh, I didn't see that list.
23	Q. Okay.
24	A. I remember seeing The only thing I remember
25	seeing I think the Chairman asked about it was

	Page 314
1 Barbara Shaw had brought us a list of documents or	
2 documents of all the agencies that had applied.	
3 REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Okay. Thank you. I j	just
4 needed that for clarification. Señor Ocasio, mucha	as
5 gracias.	
6 THE WITNESS: Gracias, thanks.	
7 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions, me	embers
8 of the Committee?	
9 (No verbal response.)	
10 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Seeing no further	
11 questions Let me check first with Mr. Barickman	to
12 see if he has any further questions before we relea	ase
13 you.	
14 Now, the subpoenas are in existence for t	che
15 8th and the 9th. They are still recallable. I do	not
16 envision that we'll be asking you back, but there i	LS
17 that possibility.	
18 (Discussion off the record.)	
19 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: With that, thank you	for
20 your time and your attention. I appreciate you com	ning
21 in. And we will see you we may see you again.	
22 THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.	
23 Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.	
24 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Okay. Thank you. Fo	or
25 this evening, you are dismissed.	

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1	I would ask Warren Ribley to join us.
2	(Discussion off the record.)
3	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Okay. Mr. Ribley,
4	welcome.
5	MR. RIBLEY: Thank you.
6	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Joining with us is Warren
7	Ribley.
8	We appreciate you coming in and appearing
9	before us today.
10	Would you please for the for our court
11	stenographer, court reporter, please state your name and
12	your attorney's name as well and spell them.
13	MR. RIBLEY: Certainly. Warren Ribley,
14	WARREN, RIB, as in boy, LEY.
15	MR. PRENDERGAST: Richard Prendergast,
16	PRENDERGAST.
17	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Mr. Prendergast, welcome.
18	MR. PRENDERGAST: Thank you.
19	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Please raise your right
20	hand.
21	(Witness sworn.)
22	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And we will proceed.
23	Mr. Ribley, would you like to make any opening
24	statements or comments.
25	THE WITNESS: No, I do not have an opening

Page 316 statement. I am here to -- prepared to answer any 1 2 questions the members may have. 3 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you, sir. And we have questions. Members of the 4 5 committee? 6 Representative Reboletti. 7 REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and, Mr. Ribley and Counsel, for being here today. 8 9 WHEREUPON: 10 WARREN RIBLEY, called as a witness herein, having been first duly 11 12 sworn, was examined and testified as follows: EXAMINATION 13 BY REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: 14 If I can bring you back to the -- it would be 15 Q. the summer and the fall of 2010. Could you state what 16 17 your position was in the State Government at that time. Yes. In -- Yes. Summer and fall of 2010, I 18 Α. was the Director of the Department of Commerce and 19 Economic Opportunity. 20 21 And how long did you serve in that capacity? Q. I became director, I believe it was, in 22 Α. December of 2009, and I left the agency in April 23 2.4 of 2012. 25 And where are you currently employed? Q.

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1	A. I'm the Executive Director of the Illinois
2	Medical District here on the Near West Side of the City
3	of Chicago.
4	Q. And how long have you served in that capacity?
5	A. 2 1/2 years, since April of 2012.
6	Q. If I can bring you back to the DCEO
7	involvement with the NRI or what is more commonly known
8	as the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative. If you could
9	tell me what your direct role was in its implementation.
10	And I'm not going to try to do the yes or no questions
11	with you. I would like you to just from what you
12	remember what your direct involvement was.
13	A. Yes, certainly. So the portion of the NRI
14	program that was subject to the performance audit, I
15	really had no involvement in that whatsoever. There was
16	a program component known as a micro-lending program for
17	small businesses that DCEO administered. The funding
18	source for that program, however, was Federal funds from
19	a Federal disaster relief program that had been awarded
20	by the Federal government as a result of the flooding in
21	2008.
22	Q. If you could explain that. Because my
23	understanding is not only did it deal with flooding but
24	it dealt with Hurricane Ike that had hit the Texas coast
25	back in 2008. If you could explain how the money from

	Page 318
1	that program was able to find its way into the NRI.
2	A. Well, I wouldn't really characterize it saying
3	it found its way into to NRI. But to the to the
4	question, so there was a lot of flooding that occurred
5	in Illinois as a result of the hurricane. And there was
6	41 counties, I believe, as I recall, that were declared
7	as a federal disaster area. And there had been a fairly
8	long-established precedent for Congress to provide
9	funding to states beyond just sort of the typical
10	cleaning up, rebuilding the houses, but to provide for
11	economic and community development assistance and
12	funding for those, to help communities that have been
13	devastated by the flooding. So that's how we got that
14	source of funds.
15	Q. I'm going to have our staff show you a
16	document which we marked at CS-18. You and your counsel
17	can take a look at it before I ask any questions. I'll
18	give you some time to review that.
19	(Witness viewing document.)
20	BY REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI:
21	Q. Have you and your counsel had a chance to
22	review the document and
23	A. Yes.
24	Q be able to answer questions?
25	MR. PRENDERGAST: Certainly we're prepared to

	Page 319
1	answer questions unless the question is, Is everything
2	on here accurate? It may very well be, but we've just
3	read it for the first time, so.
4	REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: And I appreciate that.
5	MR. PRENDERGAST: Okay.
6	BY REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI:
7	Q. So I'll give you as much time as you may need
8	to go back and review or or speak with counsel.
9	So let me jump into this because it may it
10	appears that the Governor's Office issued a press
11	release about these loans and that there would be
12	\$5 million available in these microloans and that they
13	would be administered by DCEO. Is that Is that a
14	fair assessment?
15	A. Yes.
16	Q. So there were some groups that were selected
17	to administer these loans. And if you could tell me
18	what those groups were first. And the follow up
19	question is: How are these groups chosen?
20	A. Sure. There were three lenders selected under
21	the microloan program. It was ACCION, Chicago Community
22	Ventures, and Women's Business Development Center.
23	ACCION and Chicago Community Ventures are federally
24	chartered community development financial institutions,
25	and the agency had a fairly long history of working

	Page 320
1	with with both of those entities. Women's Business
2	Development Center is one of a number of development
3	centers for that support small businesses that DCEO
4	has funded over a number of years with funding that's
5	made available from the U.S. Small Business
6	Administration. So these federally chartered community
7	development financial institutions, there aren't a lot
8	of them in the state of Illinois and even a much smaller
9	number that actually provide lending to small
10	businesses.
11	Keep in mind that this was at a time when the
12	economy was still reeling from the the crash of 2008
13	and then exacerbated by the devastation from from
14	flooding. There were not There was not access to
15	to credit and traditional financial institutions.
16	So we wanted to select agencies that had
17	experience in small business lending, and and based
18	on our track record with them, that's how those three
19	particular lenders were selected. They also had to
20	complete a fairly elaborate application process. And
21	they did that. And And And that added a lot of
22	the requirements that that HUD required as part of
23	their overall program guidelines.
24	Q. So while they were able to complete this
25	elaborate application process, were there any other

Page 321 1 lenders that also completed that process but were not 2 selected? 3 Α. No. No, there were not. So this --4 Q. 5 Again, there's -- there's just a very finite Α. number of these federally chartered community 6 7 development financial institutions that have small 8 business lending programs. 9 So was there any other -- Did any other groups Q. 10 contact you to use these -- these groups? Did the 11 Governor's Office contact you, any other State agencies 12 contact you, the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority 13 contact you in the selection of these three firms? 14 No, no. They were chosen by DCEO and our --Α. myself, Director -- Deputy Director Maureen Palmer, 15 again, based upon the long-standing history that we had 16 17 with them. 18 Q. Mr. Ribley, I'm going to have the staff again 19 provide you and counsel as well as the Commission the 20 document that we had marked as BL-3. I ask you to 21 review that, and then when you're prepared, I'll ask you 22 a few questions about that. 23 (Witness viewing document.) BY REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: 2.4 25 Okay. Have you had ample time to review the Q.

documents? Have you -- Have you seen these documents before, Mr. Ribley? Α. No. No, I haven't. Q. Let me walk you through the first one on page 1 of BL-3. It's a letter dated September 13, 2011, regarding Ike Business Assistance Program Grant -there's a number -- 08-356002, and it says Suspension Notice. And that says, basically the important part, to the Chicago Community Ventures, to Ms. Reddi, that the Department has learned that an employee by the name of Anita Hollins, H O L L I N S, was relieved of her duties at the CCV because of allegations regarding misuse of approximately \$960,000 and that in response, in May and June of '11, the Department began on-site monitoring which revealed that costs had been charged against the grant that were not eligible for payment and that no deliverables had come to fruition despite the fact that CCV had spent approximately 2900 programmatic hours on the grant's scope of work and that CCV had failed to maintain a proper recordkeeping file system. Are you aware of this finding, and -- and did you have a chance to talk to your General Counsel about this? Α. I recall generally the -- you know, the

24 problem that came to light with Chicago Community 25 Ventures. And when it did come to light, we took

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	Page 323
1	immediate action to make sure that the Department and
2	the State's interests were protected.
3	Q. Were you or anybody in DCEO, to your
4	knowledge, aware of these issues with CCV when they were
5	charged with administering these loans?
6	A. I I was not aware of any of those issues,
7	and to my knowledge, none of my staff was. And if they
8	did have knowledge, it was not brought to my attention.
9	Q. Do you know if they're still in existence,
10	Mr. Ribley?
11	A. It's my understanding that they are not.
12	Q. And if CCV never awarded the loan before
13	closing its doors, does the organization owe money to
14	the State or Federal government?
15	A. No. They They don't. There was extensive
16	monitoring that took place that's documented in the
17	in the packet that you provided. And there were some
18	costs that were found to be non-allowable under the
19	grant. There were some costs that were found to be
20	allowable. And so the full amount of the funds that
21	were disallowed were recovered, and the the program
22	was terminated.
23	Q. Was there any stress or pressure placed upon
24	your organization when this NRI rollout occurred that
25	you felt rushed in choosing those groups to administer

Page 324 these loans? 1 2 Α. No. 3 And if I could take you back to Document Q. 4 CS-18. On page 2, there is a -- under No. 11, it says 5 Catwalk Consulting with a loan amount of \$10,000. It says that -- in the auditor's communication that: DCEO 6 7 does not have any documentation on how these 8 organizations were selected to participate. DCEO 9 assumes that the above-referenced statement recently 10 provided by former Deputy Director Maureen Palmer is 11 correct and speculates the selection decision was made 12 by Director Ribley and Deputy Director Palmer. 13 Do you remember this Catwalk Consulting loan 14 for \$10,000 and why they may have been selected for 15 this -- for this program? No. I don't recall Catwalk Consulting. 16 Α. And 17 DCEO did not have any role in selecting what borrowers were approved. That -- That was the -- the job of 18 the -- of the entity. And I think what the -- the --19 the note is referring to is that it's presumed that 20 21 Deputy Director Palmer and myself were involved in the selection of the -- of the underlying lenders, not the 22 23 specific loans that they subsequently made. 2.4 REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: I don't have any 25 additional questions of this witness, Mr. Chairman.

Page 325 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Chairman Barickman, 1 2 questions? 3 SENATOR BARICKMAN: Thanks, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Ribley, for being with us 4 5 today. 6 EXAMINATION 7 BY SENATOR BARICKMAN: 8 Q. There's been some questions about CCV, Chicago 9 Community Ventures. I think it's -- they were the 10 subject of some of the news stories that had been 11 prevalent over the summer, I believe, in relation to the 12 NRI program. As I understand it, DCEO gave a grant to 13 CCV of about nearly \$2 million. CCV didn't make any 14 loans. They wasted more than \$150,000 before they were 15 finally shut down. I think that's our understanding of CCV, and I think that's been established here. I mean, 16 17 you don't dispute that, right? Well, I -- I would dispute the 18 Α. characterization of wasted 150,000. I mean, there 19 were -- there was work that was done, that was called 20 21 for to be done under the grant agreement. Those activities were subject to DCEO monitoring and were 22 found that those were allowed expenses under the grant 23 24 agreement. So they were entitled to that. 25 Okay. I mean, they were charged with making Q.

Page 326 1 loans; they didn't make any. So it's hard to -- So I 2 understand you might --3 Α. But the process worked. The process worked. I mean, we -- we detected a problem. A problem was 4 5 brought to our attention. We immediately sought steps that -- that were part of our standard operating 6 7 procedures to make sure that we were protecting the 8 State's interests. 9 The -- The problems, though -- There were Q. 10 problems identified with CCV even, I think, around 2008, 11 something regarding the fact they had kept \$60,000 in 12 funds for itself, that were meant to go towards loans 13 back then. Were you aware of those problems? No, we were not aware of those problems. 14 Α. And -- And, again, I'm fairly certain that did not 15 involve any funding from -- from State resources. 16 17 Ο. Was it funding from Federal resources? I don't know. 18 Α. 19 Okay. But you weren't aware of the problem Q. 20 that the media was able to evidently identify that 21 happened back in 2008 regarding CCV? 22 Α. I was not aware of any media revelations at 23 that time, and I'm not sure if there were any, honestly. But, no, we were not aware -- Again, we had had a track 24 25 record of working with them, and our prior grant

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agreements had -- had been fully complied with. So our -- our history at that point with them had been good.

4 Q. Okay. And was there -- when the decision was 5 made to utilize these Ike funds and provide a microloan 6 program, was there any discussion, any collaboration 7 with anyone else about who might administer those loans, 8 the three groups ultimately that did, or, again, was 9 that -- that was a decision that you made on your own? 10 Yeah. It was a decision that -- that -- that Α. 11 I mean, the only -- I would have had some I made. 12 consultation with Jack Lavin, the, I believe, Chief 13 Operating Officer at the time. I'll just point out that -- that Jack had been Director of DCEO prior to 14 15 going to the Governor's Office. So he was well-aware of the -- the agency's operations and how it administered 16 17 that -- its programs. So, you know, we clearly identified credit 18 crunch to -- to small businesses as a -- as a need. We 19 20 knew that this was an eligible use of the Ike disaster 21 funds. So we based our decision on selecting lenders based upon our -- our -- our past history and experience 22 23 we had as an agency. 24 So was it Mr. Lavin who chose CCV, or was it Q.

25 you, or was it --

Page 328 No. I -- I -- I would take -- I take 1 Α. 2 responsibility for that, yeah. 3 Okay. And so you made continued suggestions Q. that there's a limited numbers of these entities who are 4 5 able to administer these microloans. Evidently, you know, there are some 30 different entities who can 6 7 administer those programs, providing the service in --8 in and around Chicago. Were those other 29 considered? 9 Α. Yeah. So, again -- And I'm not sure if that's the exact number of federally chartered community 10 11 development financial institutions operating within 12 the -- within the State or Chicagoland area. However, many of those CDFI's have limited lending activity. 13 Some of them focus primarily on housing. Some focus on 14 15 infrastructure. Based on our research at the time, these were the only two in the Chicagoland area that 16 17 did -- that had a micro-lending program. 18 And the -- that research was done in this fall Q. of 2010 time frame? 19 20 Α. Yes. 21 I mean, was that a document? Is that -- We Q. 22 haven't seen any of that research on the --No, no. I mean, it's --it's just information 23 Α. you can find just by -- on -- on the -- on the Internet 24 essentially. I mean, most of these CDFI's have 25

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1	websites, and you can find out what type of lending
2	activity they they perform. They're Also, you can
3	find it on on the Federal government, U.S. Department
4	of Treasury website, and it describes the activities
5	that various CD CDFI's undertake. So it's
6	Q. So
7	A really not that difficult.
8	Q. So I understand your testimony, there's 30
9	I'm of the understanding there's more than 30 of these
10	institutions in and around Chicago, these CDFI's. But
11	your testimony is that of those 30, there you can
12	look at their website and find out that only 2 of them
13	or some smaller number are able to administer these
14	microloans?
15	A. Yes.
16	Q. The The decision to use to fund NRI
17	using these federal disaster recovery funds, where did
18	that come from?
19	A. I'll try to answer your question as I
20	understand it. So, again, we had been awarded these
21	federal disaster relief funds separately from NRI. And,
22	again, there was a need for small business lending. So
23	we were we were in the process of implementing the
24	disaster relief program. There were I don't I
25	don't recall probably six to ten different program

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1	components. And the that particular component for
2	micro-lending for small businesses became branded as
3	part of the NRI program. Honestly, I didn't know what
4	the NRI program was at the time. To me, it was just a
5	name that was given to to this program. And that
6	that's essentially how it occurred.
7	Q. Okay. But why You know, I'm missing the
8	the leap here
9	A. Okay.
10	Q which is So we've got a fund established
11	in 2008, I believe, that was designated for disaster
12	recovery initiatives in 41 counties that someone made
13	the decision it should be used for microloans related to
14	this new NRI initiative that the Governor wanted to
15	launch. Help me bridge that gap. How do you use
16	Federal funds designed for 41 counties in Illinois for
17	disaster relief but use them, instead, in one city for
18	violence prevention?
19	A. Again, the NRI program was not a program that
20	I was familiar with. It And, again, the best way I
21	can characterize it is it that particular program,
22	the micro-lending, small business program, became
23	branded as part of of NRI. I don't know how else to
24	answer your question, Senator.
25	Q. Right. I understand the branding. I mean,

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1	you're on some of the press releases that fall of 2010
2	where you talked about the importance of microloans
3	being a part of NRI. So I get the branding component.
4	What I'm not understanding You know, we've been led
5	to believe that all of the NRI programming in this
6	massive mismanagement was housed within the Violence
7	Prevention Authority, but it looks like a piece of this
8	NRI program, branded as it may be I'm I'm with
9	you. I mean, it's just a it's just a name of a grant
10	program.
11	A. Right.
12	Q. So what I don't know but what I've heard today
13	from you is that there's no record of how the lenders
14	that administered these funds exist. This fits well
15	within what we've heard out of the audit, unfortunately,
16	but it it fits well within that. But what I'm not
17	understanding is this new piece, which is, you know,
18	we've been led to believe that DCEO even today
19	administers grants and that we in the legislature should
20	have confidence in their ability to administer those
21	grants. But I don't under what I don't understand
22	is how an agency takes Federal funds that are supposed
23	to be used for disaster relief in 41 counties around the
24	state and uses those funds, instead, in one city for
25	violence prevention. Aren't there standards and

Page 332 1 procedures that the -- that HUD or the Federal 2 government require for --3 Α. Yeah. -- these --4 Q. 5 Α. Yes. -- Federal dollars? 6 Q. 7 Α. Yes, absolutely. 8 Q. So how do you make -- again, how do you make 9 that leap? 10 Well --Α. Or do you just say it is? 11 Q. 12 Α. No. In fact, HUD did sign off on and -- and 13 requires their approval on each individual program component for the overall disaster funding. So it was a 14 program component that -- that we defined, submitted it 15 to HUD for their approval, and they found that to be an 16 17 eligible use of the Federal disaster relief funds. MR. PRENDERGAST: Senator, could I -- Just to move 18 it along, if you're misapprehending that there was only 19 \$5 million in Federal disaster relief money and it all 20 21 went to Chicago, that is not --22 SENATOR BARICKMAN: That's not what I'm suggesting. 23 MR. PRENDERGAST: Okay. But --24 SENATOR BARICKMAN: Sorry. 25 MR. PRENDERGAST: But just for the record, the

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1	amount of disaster relief money was far in excess. It
2	was probably 150 million, 165 million. A very small
3	component of it was used for the micro-lending program
4	with the approval of HUD. That's the point, I think,
5	that the witness is trying to make.
6	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Understood. And I understand
7	the size of it.
8	MR. PRENDERGAST: Because when you mention 46
9	counties and and then it goes to Chicago, it sounds
10	like 45 $1/2$ counties got left out. And that's not the
11	case.
12	BY SENATOR BARICKMAN:
13	Q. To the extent the 41 counties were eligible
14	for evidently microloans, they did get left out.
15	A. Well, I would point out that that that
16	ACCION and and actually at the time Chicago Community
17	Ventures served more than just Cook County, a number of
18	counties in the northeastern region which were eligible
19	counties for for funding. So their their lending
20	territory extends quite a bit beyond just Cook County
21	and Chicago.
22	Q. So And so did we make loans beyond Cook
23	County?
24	A. I I I think that they did, yes.
25	Q. Can we look Can we get a list of that? I

Page 334 1 mean, again, these are the gaps that I think we'd like 2 to close the loop upon. 3 Α. I -- I -- I think --So who were the beneficiaries? 4 Q. 5 Probably -- I mean, I certainly don't have Α. access to those records now. I haven't been with the 6 7 Department in 2 1/2 years. But I -- I suspect that that -- that information would be available from the 8 9 Department. 10 Q. And these loans would be separate from these 11 Training For Tomorrow grants that DCEO also 12 administered? Yes. 13 Α. 14 Q. Explain those. 15 I'm sorry. Explain what? Α. 16 Q. Could you explain the Training For Tomorrow 17 grants. 18 Yes. So Training For Tomorrow was, again, a Α. program that, I think, despite what I read in one of the 19 documents, had actually been funded through DCEO for a 20 21 number of years under a name known as JTED, Job Development -- Job -- Job Training For Economic 22 Development. So that -- the General Assembly had funded 23 24 that program for a number of years, which essentially provides grants to not-for-profit agencies for job 25

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1	training purposes, for the the hardest-to-employ
2	individuals, the chronically unemployed, people that
3	have have not been in the workforce for a number of
4	years, for ex-offenders, for people that don't speak
5	English well, homeless individuals. So it's really
6	designed to provide training for those hardest-to-employ
7	individuals.
8	So in that particular year, DCEO was allocated
9	\$5 million from the Governor's lump-sum appropriation to
10	administer what is essentially the former JTED program
11	rebranded, called Training for Tomorrow. So the
12	Department's Office of Training and Employment put out a
13	notice of funding availability through a
14	request-for-proposal process. A number of applicants'
15	applications were received. They were evaluated, and
16	awards were made based on based on that process.
17	SENATOR BARICKMAN: So to the Auditor General, I
18	guess. The You know, I understand you have not
19	audited those grant recipients that were the recipients
20	of the Training for Tomorrow grants that that I
21	believe sound very similar to many of the grants that
22	were provided through IVPA's NRI program. And my
23	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I'm sorry?
24	SENATOR BARICKMAN: And so my my question is
25	whether you have you or your team has any

understanding of whether or not the -- the -- the 1 2 problems that were so prevalent within IVPA also exist 3 within DCEO on those Training for Tomorrow or those NRI 4 pieces. 5 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Well, we -- our audit was 6 done pursuant to HR 1110. HR 1110 was pretty focused, 7 the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority and the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative. And, you know, we 8 9 made it -- we reached out to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and we found that it was not 10 11 significant, it was not a major part at all. In fact, 12 you know, in the written response that they gave and in 13 our work papers that you shared, has there been any coordination with the Violence Prevention Authority and 14 the State agen- -- agency with regard to NRI? The 15 answer is no. We -- The an- -- The answer is no, we 16 17 didn't. 18 SENATOR BARICKMAN: So is that program -- do you know offhand, is that program the subject of another 19 audit that may be pending? 20 21 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I'm re- -- I'm always reluctant to engage in offhand comments. 22 23 SENATOR BARICKMAN: Fair enough. 24 Okay. Thank you. 25 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions?

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1	Representative Crespo and then Representative
2	Sandack.
3	REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Thank you, Chairman.
4	Mr. Ribley, thank you for joining us.
5	EXAMINATION
6	BY REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO:
7	Q. Real quick, I need some clarification. On
8	the On the selection of the lenders, I believe you
9	said there's only three out there that can actually do
10	this, these microloans. Was there an RFP, or you just
11	selected them?
12	A. No. It was It There was There was
13	not an RFP. We selected them based on our prior
14	knowledge. And then they did fill out an application
15	process, though, that we then further evaluated to just
16	confirm that we believed that they would be eligible
17	and and and good lenders.
18	Q. How were they vetted, or who who did the
19	vetting who did that? Who looked at the
20	applications, and who evaluated those?
21	A. It would have been the Office of Community
22	Development that was administering the program within
23	the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.
24	Q. Okay. And you did testify that DCEO had no
25	input on who would get the loans, right? These lenders

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1	decided on their own?
2	A. Yes, that's accurate.
3	REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Okay. Thank you.
4	Thank you, Chairman.
5	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions?
6	Representative Sandack.
7	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Thank you.
8	Mr. Ribley, thanks for being here.
9	EXAMINATION
10	BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK:
11	Q. Obviously, the component of DCEO and these
12	microloans with the rest of NRI is a difficult logical
13	combination when we have been spending a lot of time
14	looking at the propriety and the implementation and all
15	of the aspects involved with NRI and then we have this
16	microloan component. Do you know how it came to be that
17	this got lumped in with NRI and how it's part of the NRI
18	program, the DCEO microloan portion?
19	A. No, I I I really don't. I mean, we were
20	working to implement the Federal disaster relief program
21	and designing program components for the for the use
22	of those funds. That's how we initiated the the
23	microloan program for small businesses.
24	And, again, as I said to Senator Barickman, it
25	really, I think, became a branding tool. And I was not

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1	even aware of what the other NRI program components were
2	or what it was designed to do. I mean, we were focused
3	on developing programs for use of the Federal disaster
4	relief fund.
5	Q. Understandable. And, obviously, branding is
6	the part I wanted to ask you about, so that's a great
7	segue. Because Neighborhood Recovery Initiative and,
8	you know, some of these microloans that were ostensibly
9	for recovery of a different kind and sort, from a
10	natural natural disaster, how is it that the branding
11	was going to make these two at least seemingly distinct
12	concepts, you know, form into one, if that was the goal?
13	A. Yeah. I don't know.
14	Q. Who gave you Or how did you find out that
15	this microloan program under DCEO was now part and
16	parcel of or being branded with NRI?
17	A. Yeah. I mean, that was that was really
18	decisions made at the Governor's Office level.
19	Q. Do you know who?
20	A. No, not specifically.
21	Q. Do you remember how you came to find out that
22	someone at the Governor's Office wanted this microloan
23	program through DCEO kind of lumped into NRI?
24	A. Yeah. I mean, I think that would have been,
25	you know, just through discussions I had with our Deputy

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1	Chief of Staff at the time, which was Andy Ross, and
2	then it may have come up in conversations with with
3	Jack Lavin.
4	Q. Lavin Mr. Lavin was your predecessor, the
5	Director, the head of DCEO prior to you, correct?
6	A. Yes.
7	Q. And did you report to him at one time at
8	DCEO before
9	A. Oh, yes.
10	Q you became Director?
11	A. Yes. Because I started DCEO in 2003.
12	Q. In or around August of 2010, what was your
13	title? Were you Director of DCEO then?
14	A. August Yes, yes.
15	Q. And what was Mr. Lavin's title then? Do you
16	remember?
17	A. I believe he was Chief Operating Officer at
18	the time.
19	Q. Do you Do you remember any specific
20	conversations with Mr. Lavin about NRI, whether it had a
21	DCEO component to it or not?
22	A. No, not not directly. I And in, you
23	know, preparation, looking through the e-mails, I I
24	ran across that apparently I did participate in one
25	conference call. I don't I don't recall that

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1	specific conference call that I think I was a part of
2	it. And And, again, I I did receive at at
3	the I think, the outset of the program kind of a
4	one-page, maybe two-page briefing on what NRI was going
5	to be. And then, you know, they had the Governor's
6	Office had asked us for input on, you know, some on
7	job training, for example, if there was something that
8	could be done and and on small business lending. But
9	I was no, I did not have any extensive discussions
10	with with anyone about the broader NRI program.
11	Q. In August of 2010, Mr. Ross, was he working
12	for you at that time?
13	A. No. He was As I recall, I think he was in
14	the Governor's Office as a Deputy Chief of Staff.
15	Q. At some subsequent point, he became part of
16	and affiliated with DCEO, correct?
17	A. I think that actually was prior to that, at
18	at under under Jack under Jack's tenure as
19	Director. Andy worked at DCEO as a Communications
20	Director.
21	Q. Okay. So
22	A. I think he left State government at that point
23	and then came back to the Governor's Office.
24	Q. Do you know where where he works right now?
25	A. He's I think it's a company called Clayco,

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1	I believe.
2	Q. Have you had any conversations with Mr. Ross
3	about that bridge that Senator Barickman talked about
4	and you talked about, the branding component of NRI, the
5	traditional NRI program and DCEO's role with this
6	microloan program under NRI?
7	A. During what time frame?
8	Q. Yeah. It wasn't very articulate. I
9	apologize.
10	A. That's fine.
11	Q. Did you have any conversations with Mr. Ross
12	about what DCEO was supposed to be doing in conjunction
13	with this larger NRI program?
14	A. I suspect I had conversations with Andy during
15	the time when the our program components were being
16	put together and while they were working on the broader
17	NRI. I mean, I think that's where, you know, the
18	decision came to to link through the branding the job
19	training programs that we traditionally had done and
20	this new micro-lending for small business program that
21	we were developing. I don't recall specific
22	conversations, but just, you know, given the typical
23	interaction that I would have and I think as most agency
24	Directors would have with their Deputy Chief of Staff,
25	it's very feasible those kind of discussions would be

Page 343 1 had. 2 Sometimes, you know, in State government Q. 3 employees go off State time and -- and retire for a 4 short period of time and work on campaigns. Are you 5 familiar with Mr. Ross's services or Mr. Lavin's services outside State time with the election efforts in 6 7 2010 to reelect Governor Quinn? 8 Α. No. 9 Did you ever have any involvement off State Q. 10 time with respect to efforts to -- or campaign efforts to reelect Governor Quinn in 2010? 11 12 Α. No. I felt the best way I could serve the 13 Governor was running the agency in the best way I could, and I devoted all my time to that. 14 Any conversations with Mr. Lavin and/or 15 Q. 16 Mr. Ross with respect to their efforts, if any, to get 17 Governor Quinn reelected in August or September of 2010? 18 Α. No. 19 Any conversations with those gentlemen about Q. 20 the propriety of NRI and trying to get the NRI 21 project -- program, excuse me, put together quickly, before the election in November of 2010? 22 23 Α. No. 24 0. Have you had any conversations with anybody 25 about how NRI became structured, how it came into

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1	formation and structured in August, September, October,
2	and November of 2010?
3	A. No, not beyond just the two components that
4	we've talked about that got branded under the program.
5	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Thank you, sir.
6	THE WITNESS: You're welcome.
7	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Any further questions?
8	Representative Reboletti.
9	FURTHER EXAMINATION
10	BY REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI:
11	Q. I'm still perplexed on this bridge, of how NRI
12	and DCEO with these Federal grants to provide disaster
13	relief become intertwined. So there was \$5 million set
14	aside that you said the Federal government signed off
15	on, that said you can make microloans. Is that That
16	is fair to say, correct?
17	A. Yes.
18	Q. Help me What type of maneuvering did the
19	did your agency have to do to to come within the
20	Federal parameters to allow this money to be used for
21	NRI? Do you Do you recall how you had to explain how
22	the program would be administered, who it would be
23	administered too? Because obviously we had there was
24	flooding issues. I remember being with the mayor and
25	the vice mayor of Addison at the time, and there was

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1	tons of flooding in DuPage County. And you said there
2	was 41 counties that were under duress. So how did that
3	\$5 million that was supposed to be used for that relief
4	help in that relief effort, or was it able to be
5	approved by HUD to help in that relief effort?
6	A. Yeah. So upon award of the funding from
7	Housing and Urban Development, we had to define and
8	and develop various program components for use of the
9	that funding, and each of those program components had
10	to be described, laid out, and submitted to to the
11	Department of Housing and Urban Development for their
12	approval as being eligible uses under the broader
13	disaster relief program. And
14	Q. Do you recall what how those grants were
15	written or how you explained that you would use those
16	dollars that would comport with those regulations? Do
17	you recall?
18	A. No, not specifically. I mean, the program
19	staff within the Office of Community Development would
20	have put that together.
21	Q. Because I just I'm trying to wrap my arms
22	around the fact that 41 counties were under duress from
23	flooding and then somehow \$5 million would be directed
24	from that relief to targeted microloans that would
25	somehow eventually work their way back to help either

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1	violence prevention, or was it to help flooding efforts
2	or neither?
3	A. Yeah. So, I mean, again, the purpose of the
4	funding that was made available by an appropriation of
5	Congress to Illinois and other states was really to
6	assist in sort of community development and economic
7	development efforts to help those communities recover
8	from the negative economic impacts that they suffered
9	from the flooding.
10	Q. And Senator Raoul earlier today referenced
11	that, about using money to help in disaster readiness or
12	during disastrous times, that the dollars should be
13	expended, but here we have a crossover. And, obviously,
14	the Federal government must have some pretty wide
15	latitude in how to use these funds because to me I'm
16	trying to be as a taxpayer, I would submit that if
17	I'm paying for \$150 million, as your counsel pointed
18	out, was to help these counties immediately. And so I
19	would assume that myself and my constituents believe
20	that this is about helping people dealing with
21	municipalities and counties, townships, dealing with
22	flooded roads and basements and so that's why I'm
23	having so much trouble saying how does \$5 million in
24	Federal money, taxpayer money, help either one of those
25	efforts. Because it's to me it's being it's

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1	directed away from immediate relief to 41 counties and
2	at the same time it takes a roundabout way to help in
3	violence prevention. It would take a number of weeks or
4	months for those loans to be vetted and given and then
5	for people to be hired from those businesses, assuming
6	all those dollars matter. Is that fair to say?
7	A. Yes.
8	REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: Thank you.
9	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Are there any further
10	questions, members of the Committee?
11	(No verbal response.)
12	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: No?
13	With that, Mr. Ribley, thank you for joining
14	with us and answering questions today. The I believe
15	you will be dismissed.
16	MR. PRENDERGAST: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman, I'd
17	like to thank the staff for accommodating our schedule.
18	We asked that we be put in on the first day because of
19	Mr. Ribley's schedule for tomorrow.
20	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And I believe he's flying
21	out tomorrow, yes.
22	MR. PRENDERGAST: He is. And I we appreciate
23	it.
24	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Okay. And without
25	objection. Thank you for joining with us.

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1	I believe we are going to take a short break.
2	Hold on one second, and I'll give you a time.
3	Warren, bon voyage.
4	(Discussion off the record.)
5	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: All right. We'll be at
6	ease for 15, 20 minutes and to the call of the chair.
7	See you in a bit.
8	(A short break was had.)
9	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: The hour of 7:00 o'clock
10	having arrived, 7:14 to be exact, we'll reconvene the
11	Audit Commission.
12	Mr. Weems, would you join us at the table,
13	sir.
14	Joining us at the table is Malcolm Weems. If
15	you would, for our court reporter, please announce and
16	spell your name and your attorney as well.
17	MR. WEEMS: My name is Malcolm Weems. That's
18	Malcolm, M A L C O L M. The last name is Weems,
19	WEEMS.
20	My attorney.
21	MS. NOLLER: I represent Malcolm Weems. My name is
22	Lisa thank you Noller, N O L L E R.
23	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Welcome.
24	Malcolm, would you raise your right hand.
25	(Witness sworn.)

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1	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Welcome to the Audit
2	Commission. Thank you for coming in to talk with us
3	about the performance audit of the State moneys provided
4	to the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority.
5	Would you like to make any opening comments.
6	THE WITNESS: Yes, please. Thank you.
7	My name is Malcolm Weems. And as you know, I
8	served as the Chief of Staff of the Governor's Office of
9	Management and Budget in 2010. As such, I had many
10	duties related to fiscal management statewide and
11	knowing this all sectors knowing that all sectors of
12	government intersect and are tracked by the Budget
13	Office, especially those deemed sensitive in time and in
14	im and in impact.
15	I also served as a member of the Illinois
16	Anti-Violence Commission. The Commission itself is made
17	up of individuals who have lost loved ones to gun
18	violence.
19	The gun violence issue in Chicago is not a new
20	one. I outlived my father by the time I turned 21
21	because of gun violence. My uncle shot and killed my
22	cousin, his son. My other cousin was a perpetrator of
23	gun violence. During high school and college, I lost
24	half a dozen friends to gun violence. The violence in
25	Chicago has been a constant in my life since August 3rd,

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1	1974, when my father was murdered in front of his home
2	by a person he grew up with.
3	I say all of this to clarify where my
4	dedication to anti-violence efforts come from. Personal
5	passion and responsibility for making sure government
6	runs and addresses the needs of citizens summarizes my
7	involvement in NRI.
8	The need for NRI is still evident today. Our
9	commitment was sincere, and many of us continue to do
10	work in anti-violence in the community.
11	Thank you very much.
12	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you. I appreciate
13	your opening comments.
14	And questions, members of the Committee?
15	(Discussion off the record.)
16	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Representative Sandack.
17	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
18	Good evening, Mr. Weems
19	THE WITNESS: Good evening.
20	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Ms. Noller.
21	EXAMINATION
22	BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK:
23	Q. I was struck by one comment you mentioned
24	And, obviously, sorry for your loss. It's a horrific
25	background that you've had with

Page 351 I appreciate it. 1 Α. 2 -- respect to gun violence. Q. It's 3 unimaginable. 4 And connected to that was your comment that, 5 Our commitment was sincere. What commitment, and who's -- who's us --6 7 Α. Oh. 8 Q. -- in that comment? 9 And, again, I -- this -- that was my personal Α. statement as a -- as -- as it relates to the events that 10 lead us here. So when I talk about us, I talk about the 11 12 folks that I worked with and when this -- the NRI program was put together, the people that I interacted 13 with while I was involved and why I personally really 14 15 was happy to be involved. 16 Q. But who are you referring to is --17 Α. I'm talking, in general, the administration, the Governor, the administration. 18 Okay. We've heard from a number of witnesses 19 Q. 20 today with respect to NRI. I still can't figure out 21 whose idea it was, the concept of the Neighborhood 22 Recovery Initiative. Do you know? 23 I -- I don't know if we could attribute it to Α. any one person. I would -- I would -- I would say that 24 the idea about doing something about the violence in the 25

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1	city of Chicago was something that was, in part, the
2	community and and all of us. We all live Not all
3	of us, but many of us lived in Chicago. It was
4	something that we saw every day. I live on the South
5	Side of Chicago still, and this is it hasn't stopped
6	since 2010. So it was something that was always on our
7	minds. So when the when the public started asking
8	questions about it, I think that's when, you know, there
9	was you know, conversation had started about doing
10	something.
11	Q. I certainly appreciate that. But someone or
12	some people had to have said, We're going to call it the
13	Neighborhood Initiative Recovery Initiative and this
14	is what we're going to try to do. That's what I'm
15	trying to figure out.
16	A. Oh, so you're talking Again, so I was
17	Q. NRI. I'm talking about
18	A. Just the name NRI? Oh, it it was it was
19	someone in the Governor's Office. I won't say exact
20	I think it started off with with with Save Our
21	Children, and and people were calling it the NR
22	Neighborhood Recovery Project. And then at some point
23	the Governor made an announcement that it was the
24	Neighborhood Recovery Initiative.
25	Q. And in as it evolved from Save Our

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1	Children, Neighborhood Recovery Project, Neighborhood
2	Recovery Initiative, the documents we've had through the
3	audit revealed that it started out as maybe a
4	\$10 million initiative in August 2010 and then pretty
5	rapidly it grew in size and scope. Do you know how it
6	came to go from 10 million to 50 million in 2010?
7	A. What I Again And I'm just trying to
8	remember. And I Again, forgive me for for taking
9	a moment here. But I I think what happened was we
10	needed to see what the program was going to look like.
11	I'm not a program person. So when we talk about
12	budgeting for let's just say, for an initiative or a
13	purpose of funding, the question is going to be: What
14	did the program look like that you're going to put
15	together? That has to be done. And once that's done,
16	you can again, depending on what resources are
17	available, you can decide how much you want to put
18	towards those.
19	Q. Well, in the instance of this program, again,
20	the documents show that it kind of got bigger in a real
21	quick hurry. And I'm just finding trying to find out
22	what your
23	A. Again
24	Q role or involvement was with respect to how
25	the project grew.

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1	A. So if we're talking about my role or the
2	decision to increase, I think I didn't make that
3	decision to
4	Q. Separate them then.
5	A. Right.
6	Q. Separate them then.
7	A. So
8	Q. What was your role?
9	A. So my
10	Q. What's your role
11	A. So my role is two-fold. As I said, I was the
12	Chief of Staff of the Governor's Office of Management
13	and Budget, but I was also on the Anti-Violence
14	Commission. So once when everyone you know,
15	again, on the Anti-Violence Commission, this issue is
16	not didn't start in 2010. So when we were brought
17	together, we dealt with a number of different issues.
18	There was the abolishing the death penalty and all
19	and we were asked by the Governor as survivors how we
20	felt about that. So it became kind of a gradual
21	progression when the community when these children
22	started being killed on the South and West Side of
23	Chicago, and, you know, there were many community folks
24	that had come in.
25	Me, personally, I I I asked to be a a

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1	member of the Anti-Violence Commission. Because at the
2	time they were putting the Commission together, folks in
3	the administration did not know my background. And so
4	as as more of this started to happen and it started
5	to take center stage, you know, again, it so my
6	involvement started there as being a person, again, that
7	people asked my opinion as as a Commission member.
8	But as we started to move into the budget
9	season, the question was over the summer Coming into
10	the end of the that fiscal year, which would have
11	been fiscal year '10, we started looking at the the
12	budget and what could be done in terms of how much we
13	could fund for programming. And that was something that
14	had started in the end of fiscal year 2010. So I worked
15	in the Budget Office. And so we were tasked with asking
16	how much money did we have available to do something
17	with and what ideas we could come up with so that we
18	could put together a robust program.
19	Q. I want you to focus on August of 2010, around
20	that period of time. You were Chief of Staff for
21	Management and Budget
22	A. GOMB.
23	Q at that time?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. How often would you speak with the Governor

Page 356 1 with respect to your --2 Α. Oh. 3 Ο. -- duties and responsibilities? Not often. Again, there was a Director of 4 Α. 5 GOMB, David Vaught, who probably spoke to the Governor a lot more than I did. But I had -- during the budget, 6 7 during putting together the budget, we had meetings, but I would say -- I wouldn't say I talked to the Governor 8 9 once a week or anything like that. But there were moments when we were getting out of crunch time, 10 finishing up the budget, or if there were certain things 11 12 that we needed -- if the Governor's Office needed 13 expertise from the Budget Office, there were a number of times that I was called in. But, again, there was --14 15 David Vaught was the Director, who was called in 16 probably more than myself. 17 Ο. There was -- In the record in this case -- in 18 this instance with respect to e-mails and documents, 19 press coverage, et cetera, it's pretty clear that in 20 August -- July or August the Governor had a meeting with 21 some African American ministers in the Roseland 22 community because of their grave concern about the 23 continuing violence occurring in their neighborhood and 24 other neighborhoods. From what I can read, at or about 25 that time, the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative, as it

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1	is, you know, known now, was being talked about by a
2	variety of people, and your name is on a lot of those
3	e-mails. Have you seen those e-mails?
4	A. I've seen some. I have not seen all. But
5	I I I But if you're asking me I mean, I
6	guess, is there a question? Yeah, I've seen some of
7	them, not all of them.
8	Q. All right. And what I'm trying to get an
9	understanding of is who was on the team, if it was a
10	team? Who were the responsible people for trying to
11	roll out this Neighborhood Initiative Recovery
12	Initiative to qualm violence in the City of Chicago and
13	in certain southern suburbs?
14	A. So I I had been in meetings on that. And
15	that would have been myself. I was there. Toni
16	Dr. Irving was there. Again, we ended up talking with
17	Director Shaw. There were people, different people in
18	and out from the Governor's Office that would have had
19	some Again, with any program that is being rolled
20	out, you're going to check with the program people,
21	you're going to check with the Budget Office to make
22	sure we have the funding, and then you're probably going
23	to talk to you know, and any other experts that have
24	any knowledge of whatever that program is going to be
25	about.

Page 358 1 ο. Was Jack Lavin involved with those 2 discussions? 3 Α. He was the Chief -- He was the Chief Operating 4 Officer, I believe, at that time, so yes, yes. 5 And do you recall discussions in or around Q. August of 2010 with respect to NRI? 6 7 Not specifically, but if -- if you talk about Α. 8 a particular -- I mean, again, in terms of the date, I'm 9 not sure, but yes, definitely we had conversations about 10 it. 11 What was your role? If you had to say what Q. 12 your role was, if there was -- Was there a day-to-day 13 role that you had with respect to NRI? No, not a day-to-day role. Again, it was --14 Α. my -- when we -- The funding, making sure that -- that 15 we were in constant communication about the funding, 16 17 understanding what it was and how we were going to be rolling out funding, those were things that I was --18 again, should have -- you know, was involved in in terms 19 20 of monitoring and managing, also, again, my personal 21 interest in it, again, where I sat on the Illinois Anti-Violence Commission. 22 23 Let's talk about funding because as Chief of Q. 24 Staff for Management and Budget, that's certainly 25 something in your wheelhouse at that time --

Page 359 1 Α. Absolutely. 2 -- in 2010. **Q**. 3 Α. Absolutely. 4 Q. What do you recall the -- how -- how this 5 program was going to be funded? Where was the money coming from? 6 So in 2000- -- fiscal year 2010, the General 7 Α. 8 Assembly, you-all passed a budget that was lump sum. 9 And that lump-sum budget was coming to an end, and there 10 was funding still available from those lump sums. And so as we talked about what to do -- Usually the problem 11 with the fiscal year, of course -- and many of you 12 already know this -- is that it ends June 30th. So when 13 you try to do things related to helping young people 14 15 with jobs and things of that nature, having a summer program is very difficult to get started because funding 16 17 is not in place. With all of the attention on the violence and -- and literally -- literally every day, 18 every day, you -- You know, you were scared to go and 19 20 get the paper on Monday morning because it was going to 21 say, you know, 30 kids got shot. So we -- we felt like 22 we had to do something, and so we started looking for, at least in the Budget Office, ways to -- if there were 23 24 ways that we could start programs or -- or -- or fund 25 program from the lump sum throughout the summer. And

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1	that actually Because it took longer, I believe, to
2	get it started, you know, that that from the
3	summer, it moved on and it went into it started, of
4	course, as you know, in the fall.
5	Q. Mr. Weems, I'm going to have pulled out an
6	e-mail that has been discussed with other people who
7	have testified here today from September 6th that was
8	sent to you from Barbara Shaw.
9	A. Okay.
10	Q. And I'm going to ask you to look at it and see
11	if it refreshes your recollection.
12	A. Okay.
13	Q. You'll get a copy in just a minute.
14	(Document tendered.)
15	BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK:
16	Q. Did you have a chance to look at that?
17	A. Yes, yeah.
18	Q. Thank you. Do you recall that remember
19	that e-mail being sent to you?
20	A. I don't remember it specifically, but I'm
21	I'm I'm sure I mean, yes.
22	Q. Is there anything about it as you look at
23	at it now that looks like it's inaccurate or not?
24	A. Not at first read reading. No, not at
25	all.

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1	Q. Whose idea was it to have the involvement of
2	aldermen with respect to determining lead agencies?
3	A. I'll And I'll And I'm I mean, I'm not
4	exactly sure who came up with using the aldermen. What
5	I do know is that there started being discussion, and I
6	don't but, again, I don't know who the the person
7	was that brought it up. But I do remember there being
8	discussions about working closely with the communities
9	and that there had been some outreach to aldermen to
10	talk to them about because, again, these a lot of
11	the ministers that had come and started talking about
12	this violence, they had, I guess, already started having
13	some conversation with the aldermen.
14	Q. Well, I mean, clearly there was because
15	A. Yes.
16	Q that's what Mrs Ms. Shaw is saying.
17	But And ultimately it became that's how the lead
18	agencies were basically determined; isn't that correct?
19	A. That is To my knowledge.
20	Q. Whose idea was that?
21	A. I'm not sure about that.
22	Q. Give me the universe of possibilities. I
23	mean, we have a pretty close group of people, right?
24	This didn't happen I mean, it was either the Governor
25	himself, you, Mr. Lavin, Ms. Shaw. Who else could it

Page 362 1 have been? 2 Α. Well, I think there -- I mean, well, there's 3 also -- there could be -- it could be a number of people talking to those folks. I'm not -- And just -- Again, 4 5 I'm just not exactly sure whose idea it was to say, Aldermen --6 7 Did you object at this time --Q. 8 Α. No, not at all, no. 9 Okay. Do you think that was the best way of 0. doing, you know, this project? 10 11 Α. Again, I'm not a program person, but I do 12 think it's important to talk to people that are closer 13 to the affected citizens that we're talking about. 14 No argument there. But, of course, best Q. 15 practices, RFPs, making sure things are tested and value 16 propositions occur, you being a budget person, that 17 means something to you too, I would assume, right? 18 Absolutely. Α. 19 At the time of this memo or at least Q. 20 September, do you know the size from a budgetary 21 component of what the NRI -- NRI program was supposed to 22 be? 23 Α. And by this ... 24 Q. In September of 2010. I'm going to assume that by September we -- it 25 Α.

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1	had already I'm going to assume. Again, I I'm not
2	exactly sure, but I would I would think that by this
3	time it had gotten to the \$50 million mark.
4	Q. How did it get there? How did it get to the
5	\$50 million mark?
6	A. Again, it would have been based on funding
7	that we had available and what the the programmatic
8	needs are. Again, I'm not a program person, but I do
9	know as you talk if you look at the communities, the
10	number of communities that you want to affect, you end
11	up spending more money.
12	Q. From a funding component, where did the
13	50 million come from? Do you remember?
14	A. Yes, actually. So as I as I stated
15	earlier, there were funds available still from the
16	previous fiscal year that were deposited into a fund, an
17	appropriated fund that was housed at IVPA.
18	Q. How much was unappropriated funds that were
19	available for IVPA?
20	A. I couldn't give you the exact dollar amount,
21	but, again, we we ended up at 54 million. And there
22	was probably when as I can remember, when we first
23	started talking about this, there were funds there
24	were more funds than that available at the towards
25	the end of the the fiscal year, but I don't all of

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1	those funds I don't believe were moved, to be used for
2	the NRI program.
3	Q. Mr. Weems, I'm going to try and dig out
4	minutes of an IVPA meeting. I believe the date is
5	September 29th or 30 of 2010.
6	A. Okay.
7	Q. When the document is located, I'll show it to
8	you. But what I'm interested in is a notation and,
9	again, it will be coming in a second that attributes
10	a comment to you.
11	Malcolm explained that the Governor's Office
12	is committed to allocating some of the funds for this
13	initiative immediately and will allocate the rest after
14	the election.
15	Does that sound like something you said, sir?
16	A. No. What was asked It was It was a
17	question that was asked and Thank you. A question
18	was asked. So I if I if I may, let me set the
19	the stage. I was accompanying Ms. Shaw to a what I
20	thought was a board meeting for IVPA. And She asked
21	me to go. And I actually when she was starting her
22	work on the program, I went to a lot of these types of
23	meetings when there was going to be public you know,
24	public whatever back and forth. And I wanted to be
25	there to reassure people that we had the funding.

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1	What had happened This is around the time
2	where the State had started running up these unpaid
3	bills. And what you many of you may or may not know,
4	that in when you're dealing with social service
5	agencies, usually the ones hardest hit when we're not
6	paying our bills, they become gun-shy, they don't want
7	to participate because they think the State may or may
8	not pay or may not pay in a long for a long time, and
9	that puts them at risk. We could easily put them out of
10	business by not paying them, you know, within 30 days.
11	And so a lot of what I was doing was going so that
12	people could ask fiscal questions. Is there really
13	funding for this program? Is this really going to
14	happen?
15	So when I was there at the IVPA board meeting,
16	there were questions about and there was all kinds of
17	questions. But my you know, my biggest focus was

saying we had funding set aside for this initiative and 18 that it was there and that we had worked with the 19 20 Comptroller's Office to make sure it was there and that 21 we weren't going to have a program where young people 22 started working and then couldn't be paid. Because that was exactly the opposite of what we wanted to happen. 23 Well, I thank you for that elaboration. But 24 Q. 25 what I want to focus on is -- is the sentence --

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1	A. So So there was even a question. Someone
2	had asked a question and at you know, at the time.
3	And I can't remember, you know, verbatim how it was
4	asked, but I I felt like they were being facetious
5	and they were trying to imply that we you know, we
6	were that we didn't have the money and that we
7	weren't going to really do something. So I only
8	answered a question. I didn't make a statement. These
9	were people that were on a board. These weren't people
10	receiving any money. So they were asking a question,
11	and there was a bit of as I recollect, there was a
12	bit of you know, they they weren't real sure that
13	there that the that the program was really going
14	to take off and that they wanted to make sure that there
15	was funding there. So
16	Q. I
17	A I answered those questions.
18	Q. And I appreciate that. If you look at the
19	document, which is this board meeting minutes of
20	September 30, 2010, if you look at maybe the second
21	paragraph, at the time at least the contemplated program
22	was 30 million and not quite 50 million yet, at least as
23	of the date of this of these minutes. And the last
24	paragraph does, indeed, reference a discussion regarding
25	payment for this initiative and the fact the State had

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1	been late on existing bills. But, again, the second
2	sentence, I want you to focus just on that sentence:
3	Malcolm explained that the Governor's Office is
4	committed to allocating some of the funds for this
5	initiative immediately and will allocate the rest after
6	the election. Was that statement something you said at
7	that at that meeting?
8	A. No. This is I did not state I mean,
9	again, by this sentence This is This is
10	inaccurate. I I answered a question. I responded to
11	a question.
12	Q. Okay.
13	A. And so in my response to that question, what I
14	was saying was that if you're asking if we're going to
15	get money out on the street before the election, I mean,
16	that would be great but we are not going to do that, we
17	are not going to be able to do that. It was my
18	impression It was September 30th at that time. And
19	it was my impression that this board had to approve this
20	spending, number one. And, again, the election, of
21	course, whatever when that when the question was
22	asked, was not that far away. I worked in the Budget
23	Office. It usually takes time to get things paid.
24	Q. With respect Again, the word in this
25	memorandum of minutes is is "election." Was there

Page 368 1 any pressure to get this program funded, whether it was 2 30 or \$50 million, before the election coming up in 3 November? Α. No. I -- I -- No. There was no pressure put 4 5 on, I think, me. My pressure was -- Again, I live on the South Side of Chicago, and I see little black and 6 7 brown children getting killed all the time. That was my 8 personal pressure, but there was no pressure put on me 9 by anyone else. 10 Okay. The reason I -- again, these questions Q. 11 come is because --12 Α. I understand. -- of the words --13 Q. 14 I understand. Α. 15 -- in this memo. Q. Α. I understand. 16 17 Q. Ms. Shaw testified earlier today that the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority prior to July or 18 August of 2010 was a relatively small department that 19 20 had 9 to \$11 million in appropriations and it's usually 21 a funding group. This contemplation of NRI, throwing 22 50 million at it, was a big endeavor for this group, was 23 it not? Yes, it was. 24 Α. 25 How is it that this sum of money, \$50 million **Q**.

Page 369 1 lands on a relatively small -- small organization or 2 agency within State government? 3 Α. Well, there's a couple of reasons. Number one, they -- the fund -- the fund that -- that 4 5 actually -- that the -- that the dollars were actually housed in was actually an IVPA fund. But on -- But more 6 7 than that, Barbara Shaw was the person that had the most experience with dealing with anti-violence issues. You 8 9 know, again, she was known for the work she had done. 10 Q. You're a budget guy? Yeah. 11 Α. 12 She didn't have experience running \$50 million Q. and overseeing a program of this size or scope. 13 14 I understand that. I -- I understand that. Α. 15 So didn't that concern you at the time? Q. In all honesty -- I will say this again, and 16 Α. 17 you-all will probably get tired of hearing it. Where I live, it is -- No one pays enough attention to the 18 children that die where I have live. So when the 19 Governor was willing to do this, I didn't think at all 20 21 about, Is it too monumental a task? It -- It -- It's 22 going on. It's happening. Kids are dying. So, no, I didn't view it that way. I was very -- I was excited. 23 I was happy. And --24 25 But, of course --Q.

	Page 370
1	A so
2	Q Mr. Weems, again, you're a budget guy. You
3	want to see it work too, right?
4	A. I absolutely want to see it work. I don't
5	think those two things are are at ends. I think at
6	the same time what we decided was to come up with a
7	program. And And so when we worked with Barbara and
8	she put together these components of the program,
9	program people were involved. I'm not a program person.
10	I'm a I was a budget person at the time. And And
11	what I know is if you want to find out what people
12	value, see where they spend their money. And so we were
13	spending our money in something that we cared about. So
14	I was very happy. And I I followed along to make
15	sure all of the things that needed to be done from the
16	Budget Office perspective were done. So that that
17	was my concern.
18	Q. And And was everything that should be done
19	from a budget perspective done properly?
20	A. In my eyes, yes, from a budget perspective,
21	yes. I think there were some things that probably
22	again, one thing in particular. There was advice given
23	about how to do some some tracking that and,
24	again, I'm not specific on it because, again, I just
25	kind of knew this happened afterwards that that

Γ

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1	wasn't taken. But I think at the end of the day, the
2	plan that was shown to myself and to others in the
3	Governor's Office was a good one.
4	Q. And what was the plan?
5	A. Again, the program, which is the the
6	components and what those components You know, again,
7	I don't believe that anti-violence is monolithic in any
8	way. At least Again, that's my personal belief.
9	But, again, the program folks didn't believe that
10	either, so they had these a number of different
11	components, I think, four or five components and they
12	had a they had a dollar amount, so a budget assigned
13	to each. And it looked good.
14	Q. Have you ever seen the audit report from the
15	Auditor General?
16	A. It's been a while, but I I have seen it.
17	Q. Did you take issue with any of the findings or
18	recommendations from the Auditor General and his office?
19	A. Well, I'm an accounting major by education, so
20	I I don't take issue with them but I think that in
21	in some ways I you know, again, I think that the
22	context is important. So I don't I don't know.
23	Again, I don't want to say I take issue, but I I
24	might disagree with certain things.
25	Q. Is there anything you can think of as you sit

Page 372 1 here today that you disagree with? 2 Well, some -- I mean, something that I heard. Α. 3 I -- I think -- Again, when we talk about hastily, you know, put together programming -- I think that it was a 4 5 crisis. And so, for example, there have been many emergencies in this State that we just kind of take care 6 7 of the emergency first and we fill out the paperwork 8 later. That happens every year, by the way, whether it 9 be a storm, whether there be some other kind of horrific accident where people lose their life or their property. 10 This State tends to rally together and act, and then we 11 12 take care of paperwork afterwards. 13 Q. To your knowledge --14 Α. It happens every year. 15 And to your knowledge, has paperwork been Q. taken care of with respect to the NRI program? 16 17 Α. Again, I -- I'm not sure. I was the Chief of Staff there up until the following year in June. 18 Ι didn't follow the program in terms of the operation of 19 the program after it got -- really got started, but I 20 21 think for the most part and up to where I was specifically involved, I thought it was -- I thought it 22 was moving along as it should. 23 24 Well, I mean, you've expressed pretty 0. 25 emotionally and convincingly the personal -- the

	Page 373
1	profound personal investment you made with respect to
2	this because this was essentially a very personal issue
3	for you. Once the money is out and these programs are
4	starting to be put into place, you didn't monitor the
5	the effectiveness or the efficacy of the program?
6	A. Well Well Well Well, we didn't say
7	effectiveness. I didn't I asked about effectiveness.
8	You asked me did I monitor paperwork and making sure
9	paperwork was done. No, I did not do that
10	Q. Did you monitor the program in any way, shape,
11	or form?
12	A. Oh, I asked I asked about the program.
13	I I see anti-violence advocates all the time, and
14	many of them were happy.
15	Q. With respect to NRI?
16	A. Yeah.
17	Q. Okay. Did you Okay. So what involvement
18	did you have as far as monitoring the program after
19	A. I thought I had no For For my job, I
20	had no work to do afterwards, after the funding was
21	established. What I did was I talked to people in
22	communities. That's what I did on my personally to
23	see how the program was going. Barbara's office was on
24	the fourth floor. She would come and see me sometimes,
25	and and, you know, we'd talk but not specifically

Page 374 about work to do, just how are things going. And, you 1 2 know, again, we thought things were going well. 3 Ο. All right. Let me just break a couple things 4 down. 5 Α. Sure. 6 Q. Because you mentioned the term hastily put 7 together. 8 Α. Yeah. 9 And that was one of the findings of the audit. Q. Because the time period, at least in the record, 10 11 established is -- is roughly late August, you know, 12 through October. We have, at least from the record, the 13 inception of a program and then the attempt to fund a 14 program in really short order of \$50 million. 15 Well, technically I don't think we moved Α. funding before the end of the prior fiscal -- fiscal 16 17 year, which ended in June. So I think the concept of wanting to do something really is before August. I 18 think when you're talking about August, you're talking a 19 little bit more specific of what the program looks 20 21 like --22 Q. Yes. -- at the end. Right. So, again -- So my --23 Α. 24 my -- my time period is a little -- in my mind is a 25 little broader than -- than yours.

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1	Q. But do you have documents that go to June that
2	talk about NRI or
3	A. Well, no, other than the fact that you know
4	that the funding was that the funding that was
5	deposited into the IVPA fund had to take place before
6	August. So the the thinking about doing something
7	related to this had to have been prior to August.
8	Q. Were you involved in that thinking?
9	A. Yeah. Again, I was in the Budget Office.
10	Absolutely.
11	Q. Okay. And who and who was part of this
12	thinking
13	A. This
14	Q group?
15	A. Again, this is the Governor's Office. This is
16	the same folks. I mean, we're talking Jack Lavin, Toni
17	Irving. Because there are community groups that are
18	coming in to talk to the Governor's Office probably
19	starting as early as March, April.
20	Q. Are there e-mails of documents that show
21	communications with respect to this initiative or plan
22	you're talking about? Because we have nothing that
23	starts in that early.
24	A. I don't know if there are e-mails or Again,
25	this is folks come into the office and and when there

are things that -- that affect the community and there might be some fiscal nature to them, we'll have a meeting. It's not always that we would send e-mails about it. But I know that what I -- what was asked of me was to come up with recommendations because we had funding left over and we wanted to do something. From your record so far at least, the timeline Q. isn't March. It's really August. And from August to October, this NRI -- NRI program is born and it looks like it's funded in pretty short order. In your experience, working in State government, can you think of another instance where some program, at least in paper, in a timeline of three months comes from

14 inception to funding in that type of time period?

15 I can't think of any one specific -- No. Α. But I'm also not -- again, I don't -- I don't build programs 16 17 in State government.

18 Q. So in addition to the hastily constructed 19 nature that the auditor found, they say that there were 20 other deficiencies and that some of them were pervasive, 21 to use the right term, including a lack of documentation 22 on the selection of the communities to receive money. 23 You made a very personal and very emotional set of 24 comments with respect to how violence has affected you. 25 There are obviously such other instances in other parts

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1	of the city as well. And from what I can glean, a
2	number of communities were not within the scope of NRI
3	even though they were in the top 20 as the most violent
4	areas in the city. Do you know how the 23 communities
5	were selected, Mr. Weems?
6	A. Actually I do not know exactly how. Again,
7	all I what I knew at the time was that there was some
8	sort of there was crime data or poverty data that was
9	used. Again, I'm I'm not I'm not an expert in
10	that, in that.
11	Q. Did you ever see anything that showed the data
12	and any analysis to determine
13	A. I did not. I did not see anything about
14	Q. Did you
15	A. But no, I had not seen anything.
16	Q. All right
17	A. Englewood was in there. Where I grew up was
18	in there.
19	Q. West Englewood wasn't, though?
20	A. Again, I Again And I don't know how
21	and I don't know how they were chosen. I don't.
22	Q. Okay. But obviously if this program if
23	we're going to spend the kind of money we're going to
24	spend, we want it to work, right? Every good-hearted
25	person

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1	A. Absolutely, absolutely, absolutely.
2	Q. Okay. And so did you ever get the impression
3	that perhaps some communities weren't involved in this
4	equation and had somehow been excluded?
5	A. If you're Yes. I think there's always
6	going to be communities that Listen, violence is
7	going to probably probably going to exist everywhere.
8	Let's Let's You know, so I I think you're
9	right. I think there's going to be some people that are
10	going to feel left out. But, again, from where I stood,
11	you know, we had the best person we could have running
12	it, and that was Barbara Shaw. So, again, we knew
13	you know, there was no direction that I had heard of by
14	anyone not to pick a particular community. There was
15	just data that was used to arrive at the communities
16	that they picked.
17	Q. And one of the deficiencies out outlined
18	in the audit was that NRI lead agencies were not
19	competitively selected for State funds, there was no
20	competitive process, it was selective. And that's what
21	we're kind of talking about right right now. And I
22	can tell you I don't know of anyone that's testified
23	that can show us a piece of paper that shows the
24	analysis of any type of scientific or data-driven
25	analysis as to how communities in the City of Chicago

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1	and beyond were selected to receive money and how some
2	communities in in areas of the city were not. And so
3	that's one of the criticisms. Do you have any any
4	idea why there was no competitive selection process?
5	A. Again, if we're
6	Q. For the lead agencies.
7	A. But then we're just talk Okay. For the
8	lead agencies, not communities?
9	Q. Correct.
10	A. Okay. So with lead agencies, no. What I do
11	know is I have a pretty extensive background in
12	procurement with the State of Illinois. And I know that
13	when you're dealing with grants versus a a
14	procurement for goods or services, it's different. And
15	there are a lot of subjective views involved in grants
16	versus when you're making a business decision. So,
17	again, I just know that they're different
18	Q. Yeah.
19	A but I don't know
20	Q. You're a budget guy, right? You're a budget
21	guy. And that means sometimes you have to have data
22	that shows
23	A. Agreed. Oh, absolutely, absolutely.
24	Q. And there are community organizations that
25	existed in different areas of the city that had

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1	established track records that could have been lead
2	agencies that were obviously not permitted to do so
3	because of the path undertaken with NRI to utilize
4	aldermen and their suggestions for lead agencies. Do
5	you think that's best practices?
6	A. I'm not really qualified to say that on that
7	particular Again, I don't I don't do I I
8	didn't do grants when I was in State government.
9	How However, I would say that, you know, we all
10	would want to cover as much or as many lives as we
11	possibly could, but I'm just not qualified to say if
12	that's what the best practices are on that, you know. I
13	apologize.
14	Q. There was other criticisms in Obviously,
15	there were several criticisms with the the program.
16	One of them was the paperwork and the follow-up and the
17	accountability. Taking into due consideration the
18	emotional component of trying to quell violence, trying
19	to get a really unstable situation stabilized, there
20	still needs to be accountability, right? We need to
21	know where dollars go. We need to know that they're
22	being used wisely. These are tax dollars after all.

They're not our money. It's the people's money. Did you have any -- Do you have any thoughts on the

25 propriety of, well, I guess, the auditor's comments that

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1	not good practices were utilized, less than best
2	practices occurred, and not I mean, pretty shabby
3	paperwork and sometimes nonexistent paperwork occurred
4	with respect to NRI?
5	A. Again, I believe there were some things that
6	could have been done better. Again, I I'm just not
7	that familiar with all of the issues that Again, I
8	can't remember all of them. But I I think there were
9	things that definitely could have been done better.
10	Q. Fast-forward after the election in November.
11	NRI's money is getting out there. Organizations are
12	are ostensibly applying their trade, trying to help put
13	people to work, offer counseling, after-school projects,
14	things that that are important. Was there any
15	follow-up from Mr. Lavin, yourself, Dr. Irving,
16	Mr. Ocasio, Ms. Shaw? Was there ever a follow-up
17	meeting to say, Hey, here's what we've got here's how
18	far we are on this program, here's what we've done well,
19	taking kind of stock of what's gone on? Do you recall
20	that kind of group session after the election?
21	A. After?
22	Q. Right.
23	A. I can't say that I remember that, that
24	included me, that included me.
25	Q. One of the other And this goes into the

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1	paperwork component that you said could have been done
2	better. IVPA untimely approved contracts. There were
3	33 NRI contracts that had no execution date or no no
4	approval by IVPA. Did you know that, Mr. Weems?
5	A. No, I did not.
6	Q. Lead agencies expended 46.2 million for NRI.
7	Over 37 million was for day-to-day operations. Did you
8	know that, Mr. Weems?
9	A. No, I did not.
10	Q. Was there any follow-up after Well, I
11	should have asked you this. When did you leave State
12	service?
13	A. When did I leave that office or leave
14	Q. State service
15	A just State
16	Q entirely.
17	A. Oh, I left State service a year a year and
18	five days ago.
19	Q. We'll round it up to a year.
20	A. Yeah.
21	Q. So go a year and a half plus backwards in
22	time. Has there been any involvement by you with
23	A. No, there has not.
24	Q respect to
25	A. No, there has not.

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1	Q taking stock of this?
2	A. No, there has not. And so to put it to
3	give you to add to the timeline, so that following
4	the beginning of the spring or, I'm sorry, beginning
5	of the summer, end of the spring, I had moved over to
6	CMS. The Governor had appointed me to a new job as the
7	Director.
8	Q. Mr. Weems, there was a a series of e-mail
9	that we got yesterday, and I understand there's more
10	stuff coming in today, such is the way of obtaining
11	documents. But there was some e-mail that came in
12	yesterday from Mr. Lavin talking about activities on the
13	campaign side and the need to essentially utilize the
14	NRI program. And I want to read it to you because I
15	don't want to get it wrong. This is a September 5th,
16	ironically, 2010, e-mail:
17	If we are trying to get the base out and
18	that's the key to our victory It's page 6. I'm
19	sorry. Page 6. Let me catch (inaudible) you guys
20	catch up. It is in order. Page It's not paginated.
21	You have to do it the old-fashioned way. Sorry. The
22	very bottom, and then you go to the next page. It
23	starts on September 5, 2010. Do you see that? The very
24	bottom.
25	A. Okay, yeah.

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1	Q. And then turn the page. So that's where I'm
2	at.
3	If we are trying to get the base out and
4	that's our key to victory, we better prioritize
5	correctly. We spent a lot of money in the AA community
6	in the primary. We did a lot of robocalls utilizing
7	Congressmen Davis, Rush, and Jackson. We also did radio
8	with the same people. Obama can be positive and get
9	people to be more excited about PQ. The Congressmen and
10	an ad like Andy suggests, from a typical AA family,
11	particularly women, can say why Brady would be a
12	disaster. The AA community tends to break late, so we
13	need to have some time so we have some time. The
14	Governor's Neighborhood Recovery Initiative will also
15	help on the jobs and anti-violence messages.
16	Do you see that, Mr. Weems?
17	A. I do.
18	Q. Were you ever privy to any communications with
19	respect to getting the NRI program going before
20	November 4, 2010?
21	A. Just so that I'm clear, you're asking, like,
22	these kind of this campaign stuff? No. If you're
23	asking if we were talking now If you were If
24	you're asking when we were working on the on the
25	program, from where I what I originally thought we

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1	were going to try Because I know that living in
2	Chicago, the summer is the worst. So you you want to
3	do it quickly. And so there was no there was no one
4	saying, you know, beat the election, if that's if
5	that's your question. But I I think many of us
6	and, again, I shouldn't speak for other folks, but I can
7	speak for myself wanted again, I mean, the sooner
8	it happened, the more lives we saved.
9	Q. But we're in fall. I mean, we're close to
10	fall right now, right, and, of course, the the
11	election is in November. This sure looks like, at least
12	from Mr. Lavin Lavin's perspective, you know, that
13	that this could be helpful to get this program going for
14	purposes of reelection. Did anyone ever tell you to
15	hurry up because
16	A. Oh, no.
17	Q hastily put this
18	A. No.
19	Q program together?
20	A. No, no, not at all, not at all.
21	Q. You're a realist. You're a South Sider. So
22	you understand the political sport that that that
23	elections sometimes become. Was it your intention to
24	move this project quickly along to to to occur
25	before November 4, 2010?

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A. Was it my intention?

Q. Yes, sir.

1

2

3 Α. The only thing that I wanted to see happen was for them to do it instantly because I -- if you're -- if 4 5 you're referring to my realism, it is -- I know that everybody comes around talking to black people about 6 7 what we can do to help your community when there is an election. That doesn't mean anything to me at all. 8 9 What does is the fact that the more -- that the sooner we get something done -- Again, as I said in my opening 10 statement, this is 40 years and running for me. 11 And 12 just like the kids that are getting shot by people they 13 know, that are their age now, they were -- that's what happened to my father. So any waste of time is a waste 14 15 of time to me. So immediately is always better. It had nothing to do -- It still has nothing to do with an 16 17 election. 18 Q. Do you think the NRI program worked? 19 I think the NRI program saved children's Α. 20 lives. 21 Q. Do you know how many? 22 Α. No. 23 Do you have any idea how we could measure the Q. 24 efficacy of the -- of the program? 25 I think trying to measure how many kids don't Α.

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1	get shot is like measuring how many terrorist attacks we
2	didn't have. What I know is this, that there's a time
3	period during the day where kids are most susceptible to
4	getting hurt because they're either their parents are
5	working or something of that nature. And I know that
6	the more that they're involved in doing something,
7	they're not on the corner. And if they're not on the
8	corner, they're not getting shot. That's That
9	And, again, that's my personal belief.
10	Q. Understood. So with respect to the supposed
11	shuttering of the program by the Governor, the Governor
12	has been quoted as saying, multiple media outlets, that
13	he once he learned what happened with the program,
14	ostensibly the results of the or the concepts that
15	make up the audit, he shut it down. Were you involved
16	in the decision to shut down NRI?
17	A. No, I was not.
18	Q. Do you think it was a good decision?
19	A. I think it was a decision that he had to make
20	because he has to deal with the public trust. I don't.
21	I'm not an elected official. So I'm not really even
22	interested in how many people think these kind of
23	programs are good or bad because I know at the end of
24	the day we're talking about some child's life on the
25	other end. So would I have done that? Probably not.

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1	But I think the Governor has different concerns and
2	different credibility issues with the taxpayers than I
3	do. That's why he ran for Governor and I did not. So
4	do I think it was a good idea? I think it might have
5	been a good idea for him. Would I have done it? Of
6	course not. We're different people, and we see the
7	world different. And he has a different responsibility
8	than I have.
9	Q. And your responsibility, though, was to to
10	give him the information with respect to budgets and
11	managing budgets. And, obviously, with respect to this
12	program, looking only at it from a budgetary component,
13	did you get the information you needed to as far as
14	the efficacy of the project, where the dollars went, you
15	know, whether it was a good investment?
16	A. So when we talk about when we talk about
17	budgeting, budgeting is on the front end.
18	Q. Right.
19	A. Right? And so the the compliance people
20	and the people that do the monitoring and and when we
21	have audits done after programs are are running,
22	those folks will kind of figure out the effectiveness.
23	What What you do with when you're doing a budget
24	is saying we want to fund an effort to deal with
25	whatever this issue is. And what you try to get is

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1	information on the front end about what are we going to
2	be funding, right? There was a push a couple years
3	ago a few years ago, budgeting for result, right?
4	We I mean, so the idea from a budget perspective
5	isn't to fund something and then sit next to the person
6	and watch them do it. No. There are There's
7	different directors that run agencies that do that.
8	So what we got was the components that Barb
9	Shaw had outlined for us. And those and all of the
10	the planning that in that structure was satisfactory
11	for us in terms of the budget.
12	Q. Well, then $$ but then there's another budget
13	the next year, correct?
14	A. Correct.
15	Q. And so you take into effect experience in the
16	prior year when you run another budget, right? You
17	don't just say, you know, we spent that money, we're
18	never going to look at it again? It was
19	A. Oh, no, absolutely not. Yeah, absolutely.
20	But, again, that's done by
21	Q. But there is a component of backwards looking
22	too for determining where it sits?
23	A. Right. But that's when you So, again So
24	now we're talking about the budget process for the State
25	of Illinois, and that's where you have agency directors

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1	sit with their finance people and some program people to
2	say, you know, Malcolm, or, Mr Director Vaught, this
3	is where we think we should spend more money because
4	this was very effective, this worked, or we want to
5	change programming. And that's part of the budget
6	process, again. But those agencies are advocates for
7	programming and what we should continue and when we
8	should, you know, cancel. And it's our job to weigh the
9	other needs, you know, from other agencies, whether
10	you're weighing education and human services or what
11	have you, in determining what the final budget should
12	look like to at least make a proposal to the General
13	Assembly.
14	THE COURT REPORTER: Excuse me.
15	(Discussion off the record.)
16	BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK:
17	Q. Mr. Weems, with respect to an earlier comment
18	you made, I think you testified that you worked with the
19	Comptroller's Office to make sure funding was in place,
20	correct?
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. Tell me I'm going to ask I forgot
23	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Tom, could you grab
24	what is it?
25	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Patrick has got it.

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1	REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Oh, Patrick has it. It's
2	a 10-4-10 to 10-5-10 e-mail.
3	BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK:
4	Q. Okay. Tell me about that e-mail between you
5	and Mr. Lavin of October 4, 2010, and October 5, 2010.
6	A. He was asking where I was. And I was on a $$
7	I was on So I had been working on a program to get
8	vendors' bills paid. So he was wondering where I was
9	and wanted me to be somewhere available Wednesday for
10	something for NRI. And I just, you know, basically was
11	telling him while this was important and, again, my
12	interaction in NRI is mostly, again, making sure that
13	the budget was in place. But I you know, I'm really
14	not you know, I'm African American, but I'm not
15	always the person that deals with the program, so.
16	Again, and I And I'm just speculating what his
17	thought was, but my this e-mail is about asking me
18	where I was because it was an important you know, NRI
19	was important. And I was explaining to him that I was
20	out of town doing something else.
21	Q. Well, what is the cutting out of the middleman
22	and confirming cash availability?
23	A. So All right. So let me make sure I read
24	this properly. When If So what I would do if we
25	were talking to the Comptroller's Office about making a

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1	payment or moving cash or Because funding and cash
2	are not the same thing in the State of Illinois. So you
3	could have a bunch of funding available and people can
4	turn in bills and they will sit there if there's no cash
5	available. So what you end up having to do is make sure
6	that that when you talk to the Comptroller, that
7	they're ready to get it, right, they're ready to receive
8	these vouchers that you're going to send because they
9	may have a plan to pay down debt service that week or
10	they may be paying some other bills that week. So the
11	idea is stay in contact with them and not have other
12	people do it. I wanted to keep I tried to keep the
13	conversations high level enough I think at the time
14	we might have been working with their Chief of Staff.
15	This is under Comptroller Hynes. This isn't the current
16	Comptroller. So, again, the idea was to talk to them
17	directly so they knew that, you know that we took
18	this program very seriously and that if we did not pay
19	or get the cash out, you know, on a on a in any
20	regular sense of order that it would be problematic for
21	the program and and thus would affect children.
22	Q. So you were in New York talking with who?
23	A. No, no, no. So I think what he was And,
24	again, this is me this is him asking me where I was
25	and me kind of knowing why he wanted me around. And

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1	And I'm Again, it's still in my mind it was a
2	phone call. It's not going to be me having to go into
3	someone's office and sit down with them and because
4	we, you know, had already talked about this.
5	Q. Okay. What are you confirming cash for in
6	that memo?
7	A. So when you Again, so we have funding,
8	right, and so you have to have cash you talk about
9	having cash because if the program is going to be
10	rolling out soon, then you're going to get invoices.
11	And so you talk about when you get the invoices, you
12	want to make sure there's going to be cash available.
13	Again, this isn't giving a specific date because you
14	have to wait for the Comptroller to tell you what the
15	real cash
16	Q. That's really what I'm asking. So you're
17	A. Right.
18	Q you're not talking to the Comptroller here?
19	A. Right. Well, I'm explaining I was
20	explaining to Jack because So when I was gone You
21	know, the idea was you've got to be right here because
22	we're rolling out this big program, why aren't you right
23	here. And I was trying to explain to him I could make
24	the phone call so no one has to do any talking for us,
25	to make sure that there's cash available whenever we're

Page 394 1 ready. 2 Q. Okay. Was this a typical way of getting cash 3 for a program, though? I mean, you're talking --4 you're --5 Α. Letting the Comptroller know? I mean, this is -- this is all -- all this is -- it's coordinated, 6 7 right? So when you're in the Office of Management and 8 Budget and people are going to spend money, you 9 coordinate. And so because it's -- Children were going to be paid. So the difference between saying we've got 10 11 to pay the guy that delivers, you know, you know, 12 materials to a prison versus paying young people that 13 are in some program that you've done is that if you don't pay these young people after they work their --14 15 whatever their hours are, it -- it has more of an 16 impact, right? It teaches them the wrong thing. Ιt 17 teaches them that you can do a day's work and not be paid for six months. We don't -- That's not what we're 18 tying to do. And the impact to that community is --19 is -- is more heartfelt, heartfelt, than it would be, 20 21 you know, with -- with a business. So when you're coordinating, the idea is to 22 23 make sure everyone is prepared. We -- I was -- I 24 coordinated for debt service on all kinds of -- on 25 bonds -- we do that all the time -- or when you have to

	Page 395
1	pay Medicaid now. All right. So you have to make sure
2	you move cash around, into, you know, different funds,
3	whether health insurance, right, for everyone's
4	health insurance here. So you always have to coordinate
5	when you have cash problems like the State does.
6	Q. Last question from me, Mr. Weems. From the
7	Governor's Office perspective, who is the person most
8	knowledgeable about NRI?
9	A. In my view, the most knowledgeable person
10	would would have been Barbara, Barbara Shaw.
11	Q. Was she part of the Governor's Office?
12	A. Oh, in the Governor's Office?
13	Q. Right.
14	A. Oh, she reported up to to to Toni
15	Irving.
16	Q. So you'd say she was the most knowledgeable
17	person about NRI?
18	A. Again, I And I followed. So I would say
19	yeah. I would say Toni would be the most knowledgeable
20	about what we what we were trying to do, whether
21	getting information from Barbara and and making sure
22	that there was some kind of coordinated effort with the
23	Governor's Office. That would have been Toni.
24	Q. Actually I have one more. Who was the most
25	responsible person for articulating what was going on

Page 396 1 with this program and transferring that information to 2 the Governor? 3 Α. I don't know that for sure. I -- I -- Again, I don't know that for sure. 4 5 Would you assume it's Mr. Lavin? Q. Α. I would assume that. 6 7 REPRESENTATIVE SANDACK: Thank you. 8 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Just a quick clarification. 9 10 EXAMINATION BY REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: 11 12 I do believe that you answered it, Malcolm. Q. 13 But in the transfers, which were the main point in this 14 audit -- Towards the end of the fiscal year, transfers were made into non-appropriated funds. Now, the -- at 15 16 that time when the lump sums were available, that --17 there was an option for transfers at that point that has since been repealed. I believe that was in the bill 18 19 language. Who authorized the transfer to the 20 non-appropriated fund? I think you mentioned -- I've 21 been waiting for that answer all day from somebody. 22 Α. Okay. 23 Q. So ... So authorization. I know that --2.4 Α. 25 Someone had to say --Q.

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	Page 397
1	A. I made a recommen we made a
2	recommendation
3	Q. You made a recommendation to who?
4	A. I'm going to I'm going to tell you. So we
5	were asked what we could do. We had our analysts run
6	through 900-and-some-odd funds that exist, and there
7	were recommendations. I looked I made
8	recommendations. I think I would have given them up
9	through Director Vaught, and he would have had a a
10	a meeting with, again, maybe maybe Jack Lavin. But I
11	know that there had been questions. So we'd have kind
12	of follow-up meetings about how would this work, what
13	would the timing be. But I think the recommendation
14	came out of GOMB.
15	Q. So David Vaught?
16	A. Again And I'm just trying to remember.
17	Q. You were Chief of Staff; he was Director?
18	A. That's right.
19	Q. Recommendation came from David Vaught?
20	A. Well, the representation came up through the
21	OMB and gave and it was given to David Vaught. Yes.
22	Q. And since then and from that point going
23	forward Because that's what concerns all of the
24	budgetary people that are around here, and you've got a
25	few of them that are around. We can't do that anymore.

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1	I believe the Comptroller's Office also needed to go
2	through the 900 funds and sign off on anything in the
3	past. I think that has been taken out. Am I correct?
4	A. I'm Currently, no. Because I think what
5	what we were looking at that particular year because of
6	those lump sums Look, in general, I think I get to
7	your point, and that is: How can you have funding
8	that's
9	Q. It's pretty straightforward.
10	A. Yeah, yeah.
11	Q. My point is that funds to non-appropriated
12	funds at the end of the fiscal year were listed out and
13	billed as expended funds when they weren't.
14	A. Well, so that's why I want to make the
15	clarification.
16	Q. Right.
17	A. During that year 2010, fiscal year 2010, the
18	actual enacted budget bill as I remember it and,
19	again, you-all may check that. But it defined expenses.
20	And when it defined expenses, deposits into another fund
21	was a defi was in the definition. So that Again,
22	so I don't think this was for every year.
23	Q. No, no. As a matter of fact
24	A. Yeah. It was just for that
25	Q it was repealed. That is correct.

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Page 399 1 Α. Okay. 2 ο. That was in the --3 Α. Okay. 4 Q. -- language for that year. But since that 5 point and prior to the time you left ... 6 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Rep- -- I almost said 7 Representative. Sorry about that. But you are President of the auditors. 8 9 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I would just like to -to clarify that, Malcolm. That was an argument that was 10 11 made by one of the legal counsels in the Office of 12 Management and Budget. And we just simply asked for the documentation to -- to substantiate that claim. We're 13 still waiting for that documentation. 14 15 THE WITNESS: It's in the enacted budget bill for 16 2010. 17 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I think you could have easily pulled that out and sent it to us if that's it. 18 19 THE WITNESS: Well, I didn't -- I had not been -- I had not been asked that. It's a -- It's an enacted 20 21 bill. It's -- It's -- It's in the definition of 22 expenses. 23 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Which fiscal year are you 24 talking about? 25 THE WITNESS: The one that ends June 30th, 2010.

Page 400 That would be fiscal year '10. 1 2 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Okay. So the -- the --3 the -- the funds we're talking about are fiscal year --THE WITNESS: '10. Yes, they are. 4 5 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: They're fiscal year '11. THE WITNESS: No. Fiscal year '11 started on 6 7 July 1 of 2010. AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Correct. 8 9 THE WITNESS: Right. So we're talking about the funds that came from the prior fiscal year. I believe 10 that is what the Representative was --11 12 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: The press -- The press 13 conference that laid out the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative was October 6th of 2010. 14 15 THE WITNESS: I'll take a step back so that we can 16 all be on the same page. 17 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Yeah. THE WITNESS: I thought what the Representative was 18 asking me was to kind of clarify who was involved in 19 20 taking funding from fiscal year 2010, putting it in an 21 unappropriated fund that was being used in fiscal year 2011. That's what I thought. I mean, again, correct me 22 if I'm -- if I'm wrong. 23 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Well, I don't know if 24 you're wrong. I don't know if you're right. I just 25

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1	don't know what you're talking about.
2	THE WITNESS: Start over. So the lump-sum budgets
3	that were passed were for fiscal year I'm going to
4	ask the people that passed it. 2010, right? So
5	(Discussion off the record.)
6	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: The lump sum for '10 and
7	'11.
8	THE WITNESS: Okay. All right. Yeah. I'll
9	let
10	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Malcolm, those lump-sum
11	appropriations were Look at ninety-six oh nine five
12	sixty. The effective date of that was July 1 of 2010.
13	That would have been for the next fiscal year, fiscal
14	year '11.
15	THE WITNESS: If that's the case, then I then
16	I'm not understanding what the issue would have been
17	moving the money.
18	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: What would be
19	THE WITNESS: If that's the fiscal year it was used
20	in and you're telling me that's the year the budget was
21	for
22	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I think you're just off a
23	fiscal year. I'm I'm going to try and help you here.
24	I just think you're off a fiscal year.
25	THE WITNESS: I apologize. I I I mean I

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1	mean, are you asking me a question? I Yeah. I
2	disagree. Again, I respectfully, respectfully. But,
3	I mean, again, I What's the question? I mean, again,
4	the Representative asked me a question. I was
5	responding. I just
6	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: It's '11 and
7	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: So So what we've been
8	talking about for for some time is transfer of funds
9	that took place on June the 23rd, June the 23rd of 2011.
10	That would have been ten days before the end of the
11	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: It's '11 and '12.
12	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Or seven days before
13	the
14	THE WITNESS: Right. Okay. So then we were
15	talking about then we're talking about something
16	different. Okay.
17	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Okay. I think we're
18	getting on the same page now.
19	THE WITNESS: I think I I I hope so.
20	So So that we're being clear, we're talking about a
21	program that was started in calendar year 2010, right?
22	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Fiscal year '11.
23	THE WITNESS: Right. Started there, right? So the
24	program started in, let's just say, fall if we're
25	using the e-mails, fall of calendar year '10, fiscal

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Page 403 1 year '11. 2 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Correct. 3 THE WITNESS: When I was talking about funding transcending fiscal years, I was talking previous to 4 June 30th, 2010, which fiscal year, I believe, should be 5 fiscal year 2010. 6 7 AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: The program wasn't announced until October of 2010. 8 9 THE WITNESS: But I think the Representative was 10 asking about the money. 11 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: I was asking about the 12 money, and it would be carried forward from fiscal year 13 '11 into '12. The unexpended amounts were transferred about 11 days -- into an unappropriated account. 14 15 THE WITNESS: Well, I wouldn't have known --16 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: According to OMB --17 THE WITNESS: -- about -- I wouldn't have done that because I would have already been the Director for CMS 18 19 that I recall. 20 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Well, that's --21 THE WITNESS: Right. I was just saying --REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: This is --22 23 THE WITNESS: I mentioned --REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: This is where I had the 2.4 25 most interest in the whole audit actually, is the

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1	transfer of those monies because that circumvents, to my
2	way of thinking, the appropriations process and you can
3	continue to do that at the end of the fiscal year if
4	there was any money left over. So that was always my
5	concern.
6	THE WITNESS: Right.
7	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And I believe that
8	practice has since been stopped by the current
9	Comptroller.
10	THE WITNESS: Well, right. And when we're
11	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And then
12	THE WITNESS: calling when we're calling it a
13	practice
14	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And also
15	THE WITNESS: it was just Okay.
16	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And also a repealer of the
17	language from the Budget Implementation Act that allowed
18	that.
19	Okay. Let us continue on. And I am really
20	sorry. I didn't mean to jump in, but I I heard three
21	different versions of that question that I wanted
22	answered: Do we still do that?
23	THE WITNESS: And And the an the answer
24	would be no. Okay.
25	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Rep Senator Brady.

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1	I'm used to calling him Representative Brady.
2	SENATOR BRADY: Frankie, you can call me whatever
3	you want.
4	Mr. Weems, thank you for being here.
5	EXAMINATION
6	BY SENATOR BRADY:
7	Q. I don't believe this has been asked, but I
8	think it's been talked around. There's an e-mail dated
9	December 13th, 2010. It's from Barbara Shaw to Billy
10	Ocasio and Toni Irving, repre representing an
11	upcoming meeting the four of you were to have to approve
12	the provider agencies for NRI. My question is: What
13	was discussed at this meeting? How did you vet the
14	potential provider agencies? And did you reject any of
15	them, and why, if you did?
16	A. I wouldn't have approved any lead agencies. I
17	don't I didn't. That wasn't my role at all. I'm
18	Q. Were you
19	A. I'm going to assume I'm going to assume
20	that
21	Q. Were you at the meeting?
22	A. I don't remember this meeting. However, I
23	I would have definitely talked to Barbara. I'm sure she
24	would have Absolutely. But, again, I wouldn't have
25	approved any lead agencies.

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1	Q. Who did?
2	A. I'm not sure, again, from this meeting if
3	you're talking about particularly about this meeting.
4	If you're saying in general, it it came up
5	Q. Who would know who approved?
6	A. I'm assuming Barbara, Toni.
7	Q. You don't You didn't have You did not
8	evaluate the agencies?
9	A. I didn't evaluate. I I talked to Barbara
10	and Toni often, but I did not evaluate, no.
11	Q. And you were never in the discussions of
12	evaluation?
13	A. No. Not evaluation, no.
14	Q. So even your home community of Englewood, you
15	didn't
16	A. No.
17	Q have any discussions about who would get
18	that?
19	A. No.
20	Q. There's another e-mail dated September 16th,
21	where Barbara Shaw asked you why members of the
22	Governor's Office were compiling a list of Chicago area
23	ministers in connection with NRI. Your response was
24	that you would explain it in person. What was the
25	explanation you gave her, and why did it have to be in

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1 person?

2	A. And I'm just trying to remember. So we asked
3	Barbara to put together a program. And because they
4	were you know, people were very concerned about its
5	progress, I think a lot of times there were folks that
6	wanted to constantly look over her shoulder. And so I
7	think that part of Barbara's confiding in me about
8	different things is because I was one of the people,
9	again, when we I I actually came to her when we
10	had started talking about this funding being available
11	and then how it was going to be used and and this
12	investment in anti-violence the Governor was going to
13	make. She I was a sounding board for her. And it
14	Let's be very honest here. It was Just as you all
15	are suggesting, it was a big undertaking and I think it
16	was very stressful. So we talked often about just how
17	to deal with people, you know, and, again, internally
18	dealing with folks to make sure that we could stay on
19	top of this and keep things moving. I don't I don't
20	remember that specific conversation. We had many. We
21	had many.
22	Q. Well, her question was why the Governor's
23	Office was compiling a list of ministers. That was her
24	question to you. You told her you would explain in
25	person. So my question to you is: Why were you

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Page 408 1 compiling a list of ministers, and what did you tell her 2 in person? 3 Α. I wasn't compiling a list of ministers. I think she was trying to ask me to see if I understood 4 5 what was going on. And my thing is -- is -- Most of the time it's -- you know, you'd be --6 7 Q. Did you understand --8 Α. -- typing a dissertation. 9 Did you understand what was going on? 0. 10 I can't remember it specifically, but --Α. You don't --11 Q. 12 Α. -- this kind of -- Hold on. This kind of --13 I'm sorry, sir. But this kind of question or this kind of issue would come up, you know, almost daily or weekly 14 15 because there would be issues with people wanting to do things different. And so I don't particularly remember 16 17 this, the one that you're talking about, but I was -again, I was a sounding board for her. And I think a 18 lot of times I did that a lot in State government and 19 20 tried to talk to people to make sure that everybody was 21 on the same page, that we understood one another. There are a lot of personalities, as I'm sure you all know in 22 23 the General Assembly. 24 Q. So back to her question. If you were going to 25 talk to her about why the Governor's Office was

Page 409 1 compiling a group of ministers, what did you find out? 2 Again, I -- I don't specifically remember. I Α. 3 don't -- I don't know. There's a handout that was distributed on 4 Q. 5 September 16. It's for a meeting with NRI lead agencies and applicants, and you expressed that a payment would 6 7 be made in late October. Also, in the September 30th 8 board meeting, you said: The Governor's Office is 9 committed to allocating some of the funds for the 10 initiative immediately and will allocate the rest after 11 the election. We've talked about that portion. 12 Α. I didn't -- I didn't -- Again, we also talked 13 that I didn't say that. 14 You didn't say that. Why did the handout Q. 15 express that the funds would be distributed in late October? 16 17 Α. I didn't -- I didn't produce this document. I don't know. I don't know. 18 19 So you were involved in funding the project, Q. 20 but you didn't have any conversations about how funds 21 would be available in October? No. I -- I -- Again, I didn't produce this 22 Α. document, so I --23 24 Q. You seem to be very intimately involved in the 25 project. This is the funding -- I mean, as you said --

Page 410 No. This is -- This is the --1 Α. 2 -- in the State of -- As you said, in the Q. State of Illinois, there's a difference between 3 4 appropriation and cash --5 Α. Right. -- in our State, unfortunately. 6 Q. 7 Α. Right. 8 Q. And this document says cash will be 9 distributed in late October. And you were involved in 10 that. You're telling me that although you were 11 intimately involved particularly in the funding, no one 12 ever talked to you about funds being distributed in 13 October? 14 The -- This -- You're -- You're talking about Α. a particular document that was -- it looks like a Q and 15 A that was handed out. To what group, I'm not exactly 16 17 sure. But the point I'm making is -- When I just talked about coordinating, what would have happened would have 18 been at some point when there was really something 19 20 happening, Barbara would let me know that there were 21 going to be vouchers going in. Again, I don't know if it was related to this particular document, but I didn't 22 produce this document. 23 24 64, give or take, agencies under the Governor 25 at the time. I mean, they all had fiscal issues. I'm

Page 411 not -- I won't -- I don't get down that low. I would --1 2 I would talk to her about it, when she was ready, to 3 make sure that cash was ready at the Comptroller's Office. 4 5 One other e-mail that -- Excuse me. I believe Q. there's two. Did you attend any meetings with 6 7 ministers? I was at -- Yes. I would have attended some 8 Α. 9 meetings where ministers were definitely there. Yes. 10 And what's your recollection of the gist of Q. 11 these meetings? 12 Again, so all of the -- And, again, I'm just Α. 13 kind of looking at all of the minister meetings that I've been -- been at. And most of them, again, were 14 talking about, A, is there going to be funding 15 available, at least that was what would have been 16 17 directed to me. The other stuff was talking about the need that -- for those communities, that something needs 18 to be done. Again, you're talking about the ministers 19 20 coming in every week with -- with, you know, shooting 21 numbers going up by 40 and 50. So it was -- you know, 22 it was -- they were clamoring a lot. 23 I guess there's just one more e-mail that I Q. 24 didn't -- There was one other question. There's a lot 25 of e-mails that are going back and forth, but I haven't

Page 412 1 seen any that involve the Governor. I've seen the 2 Governor's brother involved. I've seen -- But is it 3 uncommon that -- I mean --I never received an e-mail from Governor Quinn 4 Α. 5 other than that he sent something out, like, statewide like, you know, Happy whatever, Veteran's Day. I don't 6 know -- I never had an e-mail from the Governor that I 7 8 can remember. 9 **Q**. So all of these people who are e-mailing, the Governor wasn't involved in the e-mail --10 Not -- Not --11 Α. 12 ο. -- strands? 13 Α. No, no, no. 14 And I quess the last question. This is an Q. 15 e-mail. On September 15th, Barbara Shaw expressed 16 concern to you that a Chicago -- a Chicago Tribune 17 reporter was planning to attend a meeting for NRI applicants. You followed up with her later and said 18 19 that you would do the dirty work and kick out any 20 members of the press who arrived. Why would you kick 21 out the press? You know what? You know, again, I'm going 22 Α. 23 to -- So I've -- I've been in this situation probably a lot more than Barbara. And I think -- You know, again, 24 25 I'm not exactly sure.

Page 413 1 Q. I don't have a problem with you doing the 2 dirty work for her, I guess, if she didn't want to do 3 the dirty work. My question is: Why is that dirty 4 work, and why were you afraid of having the press in the 5 meeting? 6 As you all may know, sometimes when you're --Α. 7 things are taken out of context, like some of these e-mails, like a lot of things in State government. And, 8 9 again -- And I'm speculating because I don't remember to 10 this day. But there -- there's a number of reasons why 11 you don't want the press involved in government 12 decisions until after they're made, until after you can 13 kind of explain to them. That is -- That's something that I think is -- is particularly -- you know, is 14 15 particular to this particular situation. But, yeah, 16 again, the idea was --17 Ο. Did it have anything ---- I knew that she was under a lot of stress. 18 Α. I -- I -- I --19 20 Did it have anything to do with her statement Q. 21 earlier today that this was a political football from 22 day one? No, no, no. Now, there may be people that 23 Α. 24 want to make it into a political football, but I will finish with you, Senator, by saying there's no political 25

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1	football. We're talking about children's lives. That's
2	how we view the program.
3	SENATOR BRADY: We We agree that we're talking
4	about children's lives and we don't think there's
5	anything more important, but we also know we've got
6	limited resources and our concern is that, at least
7	according to the Auditor General, these resources
8	weren't put into place in the right way that they should
9	have been. Therefore, we're concerned about the waste
10	and the fact that the resources didn't get to as many
11	children as they could have.
12	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Are you done?
13	Representative Crespo.
14	REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Thank you, Chairman.
15	EXAMINATION
16	BY REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO:
17	Q. Malcolm, while we've been here, like it
18	seems like a hundred hours already. And I hope when I
19	leave today that that I can leave with something,
20	that I've learned something today.
21	A. Okay.
22	Q. I'm struggling with that. We'll be back here
23	tomorrow. Maybe I'll learn something tomorrow out of
24	this whole process.
25	And you and I have had the opportunity to talk

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1 as well when you were head of the CMS and you came 2 before the Appropriations Committee. And we had good 3 conversations about audit reports, about best practices, 4 and things like that because of our backgrounds, and I 5 enjoyed that.

6 You know, one of the things I've learned today 7 is when we talk about the children dying -- And -- And 8 the closest I've -- I've been involved with having a 9 family member die was my uncle back -- he owned a little 10 restaurant on Taylor Street before I was born. My 11 family still talks about that. But I'm here today, and 12 I hear your story. I here Billy Ocasio's story and -and -- and Kwame Raoul and some of the other folks. And 13 14 I'm like, wow, it becomes more real.

And, you know, in fact, I was so frustrated because I'm like: How can people not understand these are grant dollars, this money that's going down the drain? And I -- So it bothers me.

But I can see why people feel so passionate and so strongly because of those experiences, they've been there. And I hope that we learn from that, that, okay, we understand that some folks might look beyond the funds not being used properly, whatever have you, because there's a bigger issue out here. I get that today. It becomes very real today. And I think as --

Page 416 1 as -- as I hear about the genesis of the -- the program, that there was some good intentions, you know, there was 2 3 a need out there, and some people understand better than 4 most. I get that. 5 And I also get that we brought some people in, some "subject matter" experts like Director Shaw based 6 7 on her expertise. But I'm going to share a couple 8 things with you. And I'm hoping I get at least this in. 9 And I'll get your opinion because you probably weren't 10 part of these decisions. 11 But it was part of the audit report that 12 starts on page 29, and it talks about a meeting that 13 was -- they were going to have with the -- with some of 14 the aldermen and Director Shaw brought in this MEE Productions. I'm not sure if you know who they are. 15 Ι don't. 16 17 But then -- then I go to page 30. And this 18 is -- I think, goes to the gist of the problem in my 19 mind. I know we're looking for something else. We're 20 looking for e-mails, trying to connect the dots and then 21 figure something out. But what I'm getting so far --22 and tell me what you think about this. And I'm just 23 reading verbatim from the audit report. 24 One of the bullet points talks about this 25 Telpochcalli Community Education Project, which is a

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1	Latino project or group. And they told the auditor:
2	Another challenge faced with the program was MEE
3	Productions' inability to provide Spanish material. MEE
4	Productions was not prepared to work with the Latino
5	community. So that's what this says from one of the
6	providers out there.
7	Black United Fund of Illinois, they stated:
8	The Overhead/Project Costs Box on the second page of the
9	budgets of each of the NRI program components was
10	extremely frustrating due to the absence of written
11	instructions and/or guidelines.
12	Proviso Leyden Council talked about they did
13	not receive the outreach material. This was 80 days
14	after the contract began.
15	Association House of Chicago talked about that
16	the planning for service delivery had been challenging
17	due to the changing timeline for the start of the
18	program and the NRI program design.
19	And I can go on and on and on and on.
20	Now, based on your experience, would you agree
21	with me that at worst it seems this program was grossly
22	mismanaged? You read the audit report, I know, sometime
23	ago, and I know you read audit reports. We had the
24	conversation
25	A. Oh, yeah. Oh, yes.

Page 418 1 ο. -- years ago. 2 Α. Oh, yes. And if you read the audit report the same way 3 Q. 4 I -- I did -- And -- And, again, what I got from this 5 was that -- and you know what? And this is not the only program in the State that's been mismanaged. 6 I've been 7 in office seven years. And it's been so frustrating to 8 me because it seems like every single RFP that we issue 9 is flawed, is badly drafted, and that causes so many 10 other problems. And it seems like they're just so --11 there's good intentions but yet lousy management. Would 12 you agree with me there is? 13 Α. Representative, I think I get your point. Т would not use terms like "grossly mismanaged" with 14 15 programs like this. I think there are things, if you've been in State government long enough on the operating 16 17 side of things, you are going to see that most things -just like legislation. In its first year, you have to 18 do follow-up legislation. The same thing goes with 19 20 programs. You have to look at them and fine-tune them. 21 I think that if you look at how this State operates in any other emergency situation, any other emergency 22 situation -- and I'm talking about from tornados to 23 flooding to everything else, when buildings collapse. 24 There is no predetermined path of how to handle an 25

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1	emergency. It just doesn't That's why it's an
2	emergency, right? I don't I would not characterize
3	it as a gross mismanagement. I would characterize it as
4	responding to the need.
5	You mentioned earlier that some of the
6	things like their that some of the information was
7	not in Spanish to help Latino communities. I thought
8	that's what I heard you say. You know, I don't think
9	anybody involved in this meant to not have information
10	for Latino citizens. All right. As you know, I'm
11	married to one. And she's probably watching this, so I
12	want to make sure I say that. But But those are
13	mistakes that are made when you're trying to do
14	something, like you said, that's really important.
15	There's nothing that's going to happen here
16	that's going to make me feel bad about my involvement in
17	the NRI program. It's just not going to happen. And so
18	I would not categorize it that way. I would say that it
19	was a new program, that after its first run it could
20	have improvements, but I wouldn't call it grossly
21	mismanaged. And I'm just being honest.
22	Q. I was hoping I would (inaudible) you, so I
23	could get that before I left.
24	You know, and some of these are mistakes, and
25	some, I think, are just obvious oversights. And the

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1	issue with the MEE that that Director Shaw brought to
2	the table If you're going to deal with a Latino
3	community I'm Latino, and I can't even pronounce
4	this, Telpochcalli, whatever it's called. And I'm
5	letting you know the most obvious thing. I need to make
6	sure that that then I find a group that's going to
7	deal with them, that's sensitive to the Latino
8	community. They can't even provide the materials. So
9	to me that's not even a mistake. To me that's that's
10	just an obvious oversight. And here's the sad part,
11	that all these things are to the detriment of of our
12	African Americans and brown people like me, the people
13	that we care about, because of that lack of knowledge.
14	And what I still insist, at the end of the
15	day, it's just mismanagement. I don't know. I've been
16	trying to connect the dots like everybody else has.
17	I've been looking at e-mails, and I'm having a really
18	difficult time. Maybe tomorrow we'll connect the big
19	dot. I don't know. But I'm taking from this today it's
20	just maybe it's too strong to say gross
21	mismanagement. I'll take the "gross" away. I'll leave
22	it mismanagement.
23	A. I'll meet you halfway. I think there was some
24	things that we could have managed better.
25	REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Thank you very much. Good

Page 421 1 seeing you. 2 THE WITNESS: You too. 3 REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: And say hi to your Latina wife. 4 5 THE WITNESS: I sure will. REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Senator Martinez. 6 7 SENATOR MARTINEZ: From the other Latina, right? 8 You know, I -- And I've got to just share this 9 because it's important that -- There's many organizations in both the black and Latino communities 10 that their intentions are good but sometimes they have 11 12 not been trained properly. We have many agencies, you 13 know, that are doing good work in our communities, but even yet the -- the -- the training on -- on -- on these 14 15 applications, on the monitoring system, on the auditing system, they're not trained sometimes to do this, you 16 17 know, correctly but that they want to participate because they need the dollars to go to the schools, go 18 to the after-school programs, and talk to the parents. 19 20 All the intentions are there, you know. 21 But when you talk about crime, you know, and what's going on -- And let me just share that I was one 22 of those mothers that if it wasn't the fact that I took 23 my daughter, grabbed her, and threw her on the floor, 24 behind a car, my daughter or my son would have been 25

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1	shot. Those are the kind of things that we live in the
2	neighborhood with on a daily basis, now more than ever.
3	You know, that the management of this
4	particular NRI was lacked lacked many fundamental
5	parts, I think that I think Director Shaw said it,
6	that, you know, sometimes we can't monitor the agencies
7	that are supposed to be the fiscal, you know, agents
8	that are watching, but at the same time those fiscal
9	agents are not training our organizations on how to do
10	the paperwork correctly.
11	So I think that there is a whole lot that we
12	can learn from this but that the need I I I'm
13	with you on this Malcolm, is the fact that we needed to
14	do something right away. The crime situation I mean,
15	the violence situation with the shootings that were
16	going on now and still going on today, still going on
17	today, when Every time you pick up your your phone
18	or you or you turn the TV on, there is a shooting,
19	some shooting somewhere.
20	And I think that that's why we have to take
21	this report, this auditor's report, and and and
22	the findings and and really make it work either for
23	legislation or for things that we need to do, but right
24	now we haven't addressed the issue. All we're talking
25	about is these findings and what happened, but we're not

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1	talking about what we need to do.
2	And I know that you've worked in the community
3	for many And I've seen you out there on your own,
4	not during just talking to people about programming
5	and everything else that we need to continue to do in
6	our communities. And I thank you for that.
7	But I know that we have a lot of work to do.
8	Our Our agencies have a lot of work, DHS, DCFS,
9	when Representative Crespo talked about why aren't we
10	talking about the children that are in these, you know,
11	DCFS programs, children that are sometimes dying
12	because not because of mismanagement but because
13	there's a lot of work that needs to be done educating
14	people. And that's what we should be concentrating our
15	efforts on.
16	So, you know, when it comes to mismanagement
17	of programs, I just think that we have to just we
18	reacted we overreacted to things that were going on
19	but that we have to do a better job as we roll out, make
20	sure that people are trained, especially in the
21	communities train these folks that want to help, that
22	want to participate, that want to be able to bring some
23	of these services to our children, to our parents, you
24	know, to our our professionals that are there; make
25	sure that we just put more money into training our

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1	agents, you know, our agencies out there; but making
2	sure that our not-for-profit organizations that are
3	working in our both in the black and brown
4	neighborhoods and, I guess, across the whole entire
5	state, you know making sure that they know what it is
6	to how to dot an I and cross a T and know that when
7	you're talking about expenditures and when you're
8	talking about State dollars, every dollar has to be
9	accounted for. And I think that's what we have to start
10	teaching our people more about, about accountability
11	when it comes to State dollars, but the intention and
12	the fact that we have a crisis on our hands that we
13	don't seem to find any answers for, you know, I
14	that's what I'm concerned with right now when I go out
15	to the neighborhood and see and hear shots, you know, in
16	the in the alleyways, on the streets, and hearing
17	squad cars on a constant basis all through the night in
18	our neighborhoods. And that's what I have that's
19	what I want to concentrate my energy on when it comes
20	to to to educating, you know, our community
21	organizations about State dollars and how important it
22	is, that accountability. That needs to be that needs
23	to be taught, to go with that. So thank you.
24	THE WITNESS: Thank you. Agreed.
25	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions.

Page 425 1 Representative Reis. 2 REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 3 You got a little reprieve there. The court reporter didn't, though, did she? 4 5 EXAMINATION BY REPRESENTATIVE REIS: 6 7 Did you speak to anyone from the Governor's Q. 8 Office prior to today's testimony, since --No. I -- I mean, I --9 Α. 10 -- June of this year? Q. 11 Α. No, I have not. I -- I saw people, but I have 12 not talked about this at all. 13 Q. Anybody from the Audit Commission? Did you 14 speak to anybody at the Audit Commission this summer? 15 Α. No. No, no. 16 Q. Anybody at CMS? 17 Α. Have I spoke to anyone at -- I have spoke to people, not about -- not about this. 18 19 Did you speak to anybody at all this summer Q. about this? 20 21 Α. Yes. 22 Q. Okay. This young lady sitting next to me a lot. 23 Α. 24 You mentioned in your testimony earlier this Q. 25 evening that you were in New York working on a way of

Page 426 1 getting vendors paid? 2 Α. Yes. 3 Q. You also mention in your resume that -- your excellent analytical and financial skills? 4 5 Α. Yes. Well, my resume isn't under oath, 6 though, right? 7 I know, but I'm leading here. Why -- If there Q. 8 was money left over in fiscal year '10 and, according to 9 the Comptroller's Office, there were \$6.37 billion in 10 unpaid bills, why wasn't that extra money used to pay down bills? 11 12 Α. (No verbal response.) 13 Q. Aside from --14 So we're talking about --Α. 15 Aside from --Q. 16 Α. So we're talking about --17 Q. -- your strong feelings --18 That's what I'm saying. Yeah. We're talking Α. 19 about -- Okay. 20 Aside from your strong feelings for this Q. 21 program, why wasn't those vendors that had been owed 22 money, sometimes months --23 Α. I just want to make sure I know what we're 24 talking about. We're talking about June -- June --25 Of '10. Q.

Page 427 -- 2000- -- Okay. I -- I think -- And, again, 1 Α. 2 it's actually not my decision, but what I -- what I 3 believe was that the crisis of these children dying was 4 paramount. 5 So not only -- And -- And I agree with you Q. that it was fiscal year '10 money being --6 7 Α. Okay. 8 Q. -- forwarded into '11. I don't agree that it 9 was done. And I think that's one of the glaring things 10 that several of us have brought up, that that's just not 11 practices that should be done. And I'm glad there are 12 steps being taken -- or have already been taken to stop 13 that. That's the -- That's the responsibility of the 14 legislature and appropriation process. But you guys 15 skirted it at the time, and it was what it was. 16 REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Do we have an e-mail dated 17 August 20th? 18 (Discussion off the record.) 19 REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Do we have copies for 20 everybody too? Is this the one about parent stipends? 21 BY REPRESENTATIVE REIS: 22 Q. You've got the one about parent stipends? 23 Α. Yeah. 24 Q. Yeah, okay. Just for everybody else that 25 doesn't have it in front of them, on August 20th, 2010,

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1	Shaw Barbara Shaw e-mailed you discussing parent
2	stipends and stating that they would be another good way
3	to get money into the community. What was your response
4	to this e-mail?
5	A. I I don't remember. Again, it Again
6	And I don't remember even when she asked me, if she
7	talked to me on that on that Sunday. But, again,
8	I'll tell you what I think about the stipends right now.
9	I mean, I think that part of that is if you have
10	children in certain communities where they're and
11	they're working and their parents aren't working or
12	there's an effect that can be felt if if you want
13	if you want certain things to work, the parents have to
14	be involved. And some of that means them spending their
15	actual time. And so spending your time if you're
16	spending your time with your child, maybe you're not
17	somewhere else working or earning you know, so the
18	stipends in my mind were designed to make sure that both
19	the child and the parent could be involved together.
20	And, again And for some of these communities, again,
21	where, you know, black and brown children live, there's
22	all kinds of studies that will tell you about the impact
23	of of of not having this stuff. So I think that's
24	where that conversation was and what that conversation
25	was about.

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1	Q. Is that how you responded to her in
2	A. Again, I'm not I'm not exactly sure. I
3	can't really remember. But, again, I I don't think
4	my belief about stipends for parents and for high-risk
5	children has changed?
6	Q. There's been a lot of focus on your time in
7	the GM and GOMB. But in 6-11, you went over to CMS?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. So you were Director of CMS from 6-11 through,
10	you said
11	A. Yeah, to last October.
12	Q. Last October.
13	A. '13.
14	Q. Were you in any way involved with the audit
15	which was being conducted at the time you were still at
16	CMS?
17	A. The first time I heard Well, the audit, the
18	first
19	Q. This audit that we're talking about
20	A. That we're Right, right. So my my
21	earliest memory, the first time that I really heard that
22	there was a problem was C I guess, there was a CNN
23	story. And then I don't know if the audit was done
24	started prior to that or after that or I don't
25	remember.

Page 430 1 **Q**. It was a -- a year after that. 2 Α. A year after --3 Q. So it was in --4 Α. Okay. 5 Q. -- the summer of 2012. 6 Α. Right. 7 Auditor General Holland started his work on Q. 8 the audit as per the House resolution. 9 Α. Okay. 10 And you were the Director of CMS at the time. Q. 11 So my question is: Were you involved in any way 12 providing information to the Auditor General on his audit investigation? 13 14 Not that I remember. Α. 15 Who in your staff would have been? Q. 16 Α. From GOMB? 17 Q. No. 18 Α. From CMS? 19 Q. From CMS. And I'm talking about the e-mails. 20 And we've got about 350 pages of e-mails when -- after 21 the audit report was issued in February. 22 Α. Okay. 23 Q. And we went into CMS's office and started 24 going through boxes. There's about 350 e-mails. So 25 someone from -- from CMS had to provide those e-mails.

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1	A. Okay. But it it it it wasn't I
2	don't remember doing any of that. It could have been
3	that the request came through the Governor's Office.
4	And CMS is the IT infrastructure part of the State, so
5	they our office would pull e-mails. No matter who
6	you're asking for, it would come through CMS.
7	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Can you clarify? Did you
8	guys ask for e-mails as part of the audit process.
9	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I'm not following your
10	line of questioning, Representative Reis. Maybe you
11	could help me out.
12	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: The 350 e-mails that we were
13	given.
14	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I don't know what 350
15	e-mails you're talking about.
16	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: 350 pages were given to us in
17	May, members of the Audit Commission. And they
18	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Do you Somebody needs
19	to clarify for me.
20	(Discussion off the record.)
21	BY REPRESENTATIVE REIS:
22	Q. The e-mails that started everything this
23	summer, weren't those requested by the Auditor General
24	staff as part of their audit of this program during that
25	two-year period?

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1	A. I don't remember getting I'm sorry. I
2	don't recall getting any requests for me to do anything
3	specific.
4	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: General Holland.
5	BY THE WITNESS:
6	A. My relationship with the Auditor General was
7	pretty pretty good, I would
8	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Malcolm, hold on.
9	General Holland.
10	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Representative Reis, are
11	you pleading or suggesting that maybe I didn't get
12	everything I needed?
13	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Not for the lack of trying.
14	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Well, you'd be wrong.
15	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: And that's the question, I
16	guess, if that's the case. If every e-mail that had
17	anything related to
18	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: So are you are you
19	referring to some other document that's out there that
20	suggests I didn't get everything I needed.
21	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Well, here's an e-mail that
22	was missing. I mean, everybody responded to each other
23	many times, but there's certain times when people didn't
24	respond to each other. And, as you know, we tried in
25	December through FOIA requests and stuff to get e-mails,

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1	and we were blocked at every turn. Not one bit Not
2	one bit of concern about your job. I'm wondering if
3	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Well, let me let me
4	You know what? I have read suggestions that maybe I
5	didn't get access to everything I needed to do my audit.
6	I have read those suggestions. And I think you're
7	familiar with those suggestions.
8	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Yes.
9	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: And would that be
10	would that be some of the information that's contained
11	in this June 10th letter from Representative Kay that
12	cites a June 10th
13	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: No.
14	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Nothing to do with the
15	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: I don't I don't have
16	I've never seen that letter.
17	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: The one from
18	Representative Kay to Representative Reis?
19	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Okay. Well, I'm going to
20	pretend to be you guys today because I haven't seen
21	that. I don't know what you're talking about.
22	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: I'll give it to you.
23	Because there is a a report attached from Garrett
24	Discovery, Garrett Discovery. And there is a suggestion
25	in there, in the body of this report that's dated

	Page 434
1	June 10th, June 10th, an important date, that suggests
2	that June 10th of 2014, just recently. Okay? And in
3	this in this report, it makes the suggestion that
4	maybe I didn't get everything, and it's suggested
5	because Malcolm Weems was the Director of CMS and was in
6	control of the very system that contained the ESI
7	requested by the Auditor General but was unable to
8	verify whether or not I got all the e-mails.
9	And, in addition, I'm I'm I'm bothered
10	by this report because it's dated June 10th. And at the
11	very same time, it on June 10th, it says, How How
12	can we deal with this, from somebody who's been
13	subpoenaed before the Commission. Now, the subpoenas
14	weren't issued until June the 25th. I don't know how
15	you issue a report on June the 10th. Now, that's only
16	one-half of this report that suggests I didn't get
17	everything.
18	REPRESENTATIVE REIS: Well, I mean
19	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: The other half of the
20	report is the the e-mails that there was a
21	question about: Did we have access to Barbara Shaw's
22	vault? Did we have access to all of her e-mails? And
23	the short answer to that question is yes. But we
24	didn't we don't keep every e-mail that Barbara Shaw
25	produced if it didn't relate to the Neighborhood

Page 435 Recovery Initiative. And we didn't -- if it didn't 1 2 relate -- We're not about collecting e-mails. We've got 3 50,000 pages of documentation. We collected what we needed to accomplish the 4 5 goals and mission as sponsored by you in HR 1110, and I think we did a pretty good job. And we got everything 6 7 we needed, every single e-mail, access to every single 8 e-mail we needed, and every one of those e-mails that we 9 needed in order to -- to reach our goal that this was a 10 hastily developed program that did not have good 11 management, did -- not good planning, all of those 12 problems. We -- We had access to those, and -- and I 13 think we did a pretty good audit. And we got everything we needed. 14 15 REPRESENTATIVE CRESPO: Hey, Chairman, could we get a copy of that letter for the committee as well. 16 17 REPRESENTATIVE REIS: And -- And I was referring to my letter to the Governor's Office and to the new 18 Director -- acting Director of CMS this summer with 19 20 e-mails, not -- not Representative Kay's letter that 21 he's referring to. And I'll certainly take a look at it 22 when I get it. 23 I guess where I was going with this was that when we were here in July, we were told by one of the 24 subpoenaed witnesses that there was 107,000 e-mails. 25 We

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1	didn't know what they were, what they were related to.
2	Were they all related to NRI? We didn't know. But they
3	said they would work with us. And after many months of
4	going back and forth, I think it was trimmed down and
5	then trimmed down. And then the Governor claimed
6	executive or client-attorney privilege on a bunch of
7	them.
8	And I for one second don't want to take away
9	from the unblemished credibility of Speaker Hol or
10	Auditor General Holland, not one second. And I think
11	you know me and I I know you, and I would never do
12	that.
13	But I just don't know from the standpoint of
14	everybody getting all of the e-mails that connect these
15	dots. And if someone will tell me we got everything
16	And that's why we asked to supervise the search in
17	September, just supervise, stand over the back and
18	and watch the keywords that are typed in, the spacings,
19	the periods, everything. That's all we wanted to see.
20	And it would it would spit out a report, this big IT
21	program you guys put in 2005. It would spit out every
22	search that's being conducted, right? That's all we
23	wanted to do, was supervise. If that was the case, I'd
24	go home and say, You know what, the Audit Commission got
25	everything, Auditor General got everything, and we would

	Page 437
1	know that we had truly every e-mail. But we have not
2	we don't know that.
3	Now, I'm going to take the Auditor General
4	saying that he got everything he needed to do his work
5	outlined in the House resolution with the caveat that
6	maybe we didn't get all of the e-mails and how the
7	program was put together ahead of time. Maybe we'll
8	Maybe we'll never know. So that's all I have.
9	Thank you.
10	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you.
11	Senator Raoul.
12	SENATOR RAOUL: I don't know how to follow, but
13	I'll I'll try.
14	EXAMINATION
15	BY SENATOR RAOUL:
16	Q. Mr. Weems, I'm not going to ask you about
17	any any e-mails because I think, you know, we've
18	exhausted that line of questioning.
19	I'm going to start by saying focusing in on
20	just kind of the audit findings. You've been asked,
21	and and I think Ms. Shaw was asked before And I
22	think You know, I think Senator Martinez just did a
23	great job of highlighting the fact that the Auditor
24	General's findings does a great job of highlighting a
25	desperate need in your and my community with regards to

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1	a network of community-based organizations that have
2	been serving the community for a long time and have to
3	make tough choices between whether they keep their
4	lights on, when they pay the limited staff that they pay
5	and because we historically underinvested in such
6	community-based organizations.
7	You have the benefit, as you expressed kind of
8	in your opening statement, of being familiar with the
9	neighborhoods and of you're probably also familiar
10	with some of these community-based organizations. So
11	are you familiar with the fact that there's a need for
12	capacity building with a lot of these community-based
13	organizations?
14	A. Absolutely. I think the thing to your
15	point your point and Senator Martinez's point is
16	that and and actually to Representative Crespo's
17	point when we talk about the things that could have been
18	done better That's what all of that is. I have not
19	witnessed any ac you know, program programmatic
20	activity that has taken place that has gone on without a
21	hitch, right? And we learn from that because whatever
22	that cause is is important enough. So I think you're
23	right. I think, you know, the first time we rode a
24	bike, any of us just rode it without falling? So I I
25	think you're correct. To really say that we invest in

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1	these types of programs or this type of funding or in
2	trying to come up with a program that prevents all this
3	violence, you have to be willing to allow organizations
4	to grow and be really ready to do it and and learn,
5	like you said, to be taught how to do things. So I
6	think that's absolutely right.
7	Q. Now, I need to make it clear. And I agree
8	with Representative Crespo and and the Auditor
9	General that we ought to seek for each and every one of
10	these organizations to to provide documentation
11	and and proof of everything that that they've
12	done.
13	The conclusion that I don't think that a
14	lot of people are reading into the Auditor General's
15	finding is that the notion that there is some
16	shortcoming in some of this compliance reporting
17	necessarily concludes that they didn't do anything? Is
18	that Is that your feeling and understanding of such
19	or organizations?
20	A. Right. It It It It kind of sounds as
21	if people are saying because there was some mistakes,
22	that nothing good happened. And that I think the
23	question was asked And it might have been
24	Representative Sandack that asked me if I knew how many
25	children we saved. I mean, I think that there was a lot

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1	of good things that were done. There are a lot of
2	things that could have been done better. But, again, it
3	was it was the first. This program was, you know, in
4	its first year. And, again, usually what we do when we
5	try something that we know is important, we try again
6	and try to do it better. And, you know, again, capacity
7	building is how you do that.
8	The The The truth of the matter And I
9	don't want to take too much time. But the truth of the
10	matter is that most of the people that can reach young
11	people that are at risk are usually at-risk people. So
12	when you try to bring in someone that is maybe has
13	great intentions, maybe has has the money to do
14	has the resources to do something, all of that is great
15	and they may be able to dot all the I's and cross all
16	the Ts, but until you can present all of that in a way
17	that the people that are on the front line can handle
18	and and then incorporate into their message, you're
19	going to have a hard time reaching the people that need
20	to be helped. Because it's it's not just that
21	there's a bunch of very well-educated people sitting
22	around, killing each other, waiting for somebody to tell
23	them that they shouldn't do it. These are people that
24	don't know. And And And that way of violence and
25	all of that is all they do know, you know.

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1	And And And, you know, not to equate it
2	to something else, but you know, we have many of us
3	have relatives or loved ones that are in the military.
4	And when they come back home from very dangerous
5	assignments and they come back and they're not the
6	same. And we we talk about treating those people and
7	helping them to integrate them back into society. But
8	we're not talking about that in the same way when we
9	talk about a 13-year-old that has probably witnessed two
10	or three homicides in their life right around the corner
11	from them, in the same building they live in. We don't
12	treat it the same way.
13	So I think when you talk about capacity
14	building and we talk about other emergencies that exist,
15	right, other emer It's a crisis. It's an emergency.
16	You have damaged children that are only see violence.
17	And then we talk to them about you know, and the
18	people that are going to treat them about, Hey, make
19	sure you fill out all of this paperwork and this
20	paperwork, those people make the decision like, I'll get
21	to that because I'm going to do this first. So I think
22	there's training that needs to be done because they need
23	to learn how to do it, but it doesn't mean that they
24	weren't doing a service with taxpayers' dollars that
25	taxpayers could be proud of.

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1	Q. Now Now, much has been made about the
2	selection of the organizations and the the process
3	and the questions on whatever the pro process was,
4	and, you know, mention has been made of best practices
5	in selection of organizations. Can you discuss a little
6	bit of how just general objective criteria doesn't
7	necessarily do the work to determine who at best is
8	servicing these particular communities on the front
9	front line and it just doesn't fit into a nice and
10	easy
11	A. Right.
12	Q box?
13	A. I can say this Because again, like I said,
14	earlier, I'm not the program expert. So I don't, you
15	know, want to use my personal opinion to do that. But
16	what I will say is there are examples of organizations
17	that are well-funded and well put together that can't
18	get enough kids to participate in their programs because
19	either those kids and those families are like who are
20	these people, they don't live here with us, and then
21	there's an opportunity for them to go to a program
22	that's either in their church or at their local whatever
23	center where they know the people, where their older
24	brother may have grown up with the guy and used to be in
25	a gang with the guy that's now teaching the program,

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1	they trust him, he understands what they're talking
2	about. So that exists all the time.
3	Q. And I'm going to talk about a topic that I try
4	to stay away from, is aldermen and ministers. There's
5	been a lot of talk about aldermen and ministers. One of
6	the realities that's unfortunate for people like
7	Senator Martinez and myself is that in Chicago it's a
8	little bit unlike in other parts of the State where the
9	State Senator or the State Rep is a big honcho in the
10	area. In Chicago, the alderman's office is where people
11	come to lodge a lot of their complaints and where it's
12	more than just the you know, my curb needs cementing
13	or whatever, my cracked sidewalk. It's everything; they
14	go to their alderman.
15	And And in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
16	and I'm not saying I I don't get these visits. It
17	was about crime. And aldermen tend to have, as a
18	result, they're ear to the ground as to, you know, who
19	in their respective areas
20	A. Right.
21	Q can help deal with this. Could that have
22	come into play as to why aldermen were consulted in
23	A. That's what I believe.
24	Q in the process?
25	A. Yeah. That's what I believe. Again, I don't

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1	remember exactly who came up with it, but that's what I
2	believe, is that you went to the people that were
3	constantly being bombarded with all of these things. I
4	think that you said it correctly.
5	Until I started working in State government
6	I'll be honest I didn't have a lot of knowledge of
7	how the the State Senator or State Representative
8	really worked, right? In fact, I used to get them mixed
9	up with you know, with the Congressman versus you
10	know. So it it And I think that's a lot of
11	people, especially in the communities that we're talking
12	about.
13	So I think that was what the goal was, to get
14	people that were closer to the issue and actually closer
15	to the the organizations that were on the ground and
16	not that that the that the State Senators and the
17	State Representatives aren't close to those
18	organizations. But I think, like you said, Senator,
19	that people come to them when they're desperate and
20	they're crying. And the you know, the children get
21	shot, and they're storming into the aldermen's office,
22	you know.
23	Q. Now, the other place they go to is their
24	minister, right?
25	A. It's usually the minister bringing them to the

Page 445 al- -- I mean, yeah, absolutely, absolutely. I mean, 1 2 yeah. 3 And that seems to be recognized by elected Q. 4 officials, politicians, Republican and Democrat alike. 5 That's why during these times they're -- they're -they're -- you know --6 7 It's proximity. It's proximity. Α. 8 Q. -- the politicians are flocking to the 9 ministers to find out what -- what's going on in their 10 respective communities and to try to come up with a plan 11 to re- -- react to it? 12 Churches are (inaudible), especially in -- in Α. the African-American community, I'm sure, and in 13 Latino -- and maybe in all communities really, really. 14 15 I mean -- But churches are really good -- you know, 16 people go there on a regular basis. 17 Now, I'm going to have you help me maybe Q. explain to some others who may not be familiar with 18 19 these neighborhoods other than seeing them on a list of 20 neighborhoods and -- and statistical criteria through 21 the -- to these labels for these geographic areas by --22 frankly, you know, in my area there's a debate of where 23 Woodlawn ends and -- and West Woodlawn begins, where 24 Hyde Park ends and Grand Boulevard begins, where Hyde 25 Park ends and Kenwood ends, and where Grand Boulevard

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1	intersects with Oakland and where Woodlawn intersects
2	with Grand Crossing. What is I mean, what is the
3	dividing line between Englewood and West Englewood?
4	A. Again, this is not an official answer in any
5	form or fashion. But we tend to you know, for us it
6	was, you know, Ogden Park, when I was you know, when
7	I was a kid, And so you think of either Loomis or you
8	think of Racine kind of being the divider. But that
9	if you asked a real estate agent, they'd give you the
10	real answer. And, in fact, until I started working in
11	State government, I didn't know there was a West
12	Englewood. It was just Englewood. I'll be honest.
13	Q. I'm just now learning that too.
14	A. All right.
15	Q. Related to that question And so I'm
16	familiar with a lot of these organizations that have
17	been touched by this and that they may be delegated to
18	serve a particular neighborhood. So, for instance, an
19	organization serving Woodlawn, necessarily, if they're
20	effectively doing their job, has impact on Hyde Park?
21	A. Correct. I think that's Yeah. That's
22	absolutely true, where the children are going to be
23	drawn from. It's just like if you had a Boys' Club in
24	your neighborhood. I mean, it usually, you know, at
25	the Boys' Club, it was kind of anybody within probably a

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1	5 or 10-mile radius from all the way around was going to
2	come to that particular location. So when we talk about
3	where the providers of the service, where they're
4	physically located, that doesn't mean that's where all
5	of the participants, the children, are coming from.
6	Q. So sometimes you may have an infrastructure
7	Let's say that we identify an Englewood versus West
8	Englewood, whatever that definition means.
9	A. Yeah.
10	Q. Maybe you have a better infrastructure in
11	Englewood that serves both Englewood and West Englewood,
12	wherever that is
13	A. Or you Right. And you have then one
14	location have allow more kids to come, right? So
15	it it has the capacity to kind of deal with kids that
16	would be, again, over across the train tracks.
17	Usually, you know, it's something like that, some
18	physical divider but yeah.
19	Q. Now, the the the negative implication
20	of that 7 of the 20 most dangerous neighborhoods
21	weren't served is that 13 of the most dangerous
22	neighborhoods
23	A. Were.
24	Q were
25	A. Right.

Page 448 1 **Q**. -- served; is that correct? 2 Α. That's correct. That's right. 3 Q. And some of those neighborhoods neighbor the seven that were --4 5 Α. They're against. 6 Q. -- allegedly --7 Α. Right up against, correct. 8 Q. Efficacy, I think the -- the -- you know, 9 there's probably consistent agreement that an investment 10 in early childhood education has an effect on reducing 11 violence. But can you measure when a child is 12 four years old, if you invested dollars in early -- in 13 child- -- in an early childhood education program, 14 whether during that time you've been -- you've done that? 15 Yeah. I -- I don't know how you could. I 16 Α. 17 have a 20-year-old --18 Q. Likewise. 19 -- son. I don't -- I don't know if Α. 20 anything -- how it -- you know, again we just try, 21 right? 22 Q. Likewise. It's very difficult to measure. Ι 23 mean, the Mayor was in this very room a couple of weeks 24 ago, and he talked about what we have to do is 25 comprehensive and involves enhanced policing. It

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1	involves, in his opinion, enhanced sentencing, and he
2	says it involves some social services, some investment
3	in social service, but all of these things
4	comprehensively. Doesn't that also make it difficult to
5	measure in isolation whether a program which was
6	discontinued was
7	A. Successful at the time.
8	Q successful at reducing I mean, the
9	question the question of whether it was successful at
10	reducing violence.
11	A. Right.
12	Q. I Again, I If the University of Chicago
13	crime lab was going to figure that out, I'm I'm
14	really curious to
15	A. Know how they were going to do it?
16	Q to know how they were going to do that.
17	A. Again, there's no way Again, I I don't
18	know. I don't know.
19	Q. Finally, much has been made about money
20	getting out before the election. Was there any money
21	that got out from NRI before the election? Was there
22	any money that
23	A. Again, I Not No, not that I know of.
24	I I remember, for the most part, everything being
25	after the election.

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1	Q. I mean, wasn't it, in fact, sometime in the
2	spring of the next year?
3	A. I mean, I think the bulk of it there might
4	have been some stuff that started to go out in December
5	maybe or end of November. But, again, the bulk of the
6	money was much later, was much later.
7	SENATOR RAOUL: All right. Thank you.
8	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Thank you.
9	Chairman Barickman.
10	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Thank you, again, Mr. Chairman.
11	Thank you, Mr. Weems, for being here.
12	EXAMINATION
13	BY SENATOR BARICKMAN:
14	Q. Let's maybe continue along the line of
15	questions that were just asked. I think you just
16	suggested the bulk of the money And, you know, I want
17	to bring this back to the audit.
18	A. Okay.
19	Q. You know, a lot of high-level discussion about
20	violence prevention efforts, which is useful
21	conversations, but I don't know that they're necessarily
22	directly pertinent to the audit.
23	SENATOR RAOUL: They are.
24	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Fair enough.
25	BY SENATOR BARICKMAN:

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1	Q. But to the audit and to your comments here,
2	the bulk of the money you thought was spent, whenever it
3	was, in the spring. It appears there was this effort in
4	October to make a significant payment. Barb Shaw, in
5	fact, submitted a voucher for what was \$19 million,
6	which I think is a significant amount of the NRI money.
7	\$19 million was submitted by voucher on October 12th.
8	She said in that, when that was submitted, that the
9	first payments for the Safety Net Works' grantees and
10	the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative grantees need to be
11	made as soon as possible. Shortly thereafter she
12	instructed her staff to cancel the voucher and submit a
13	new one for \$10.3 million explaining that the Violence
14	Prevention Authority had been informed that there were
15	insufficient funds to satis to make the full payment
16	on the initial voucher. Do you remember any of this?
17	A. Not really. I'm sorry. Not really. But I
18	would I would I do remember that the idea that
19	I thought Barbara had discussed was the start-up, right?
20	So for people to get started, you had lead agencies that
21	were going to be working with folks. And part of this
22	whole idea of the State taking a long time to pay these
23	organizations I knew that there was And this is in
24	some a number of different grants where you try to
25	get, you know, 20 percent up front to start or something

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1	of that nature, but I don't remember the exact dates.
2	Q. Okay. Well, again, to the to the facts
3	that exist here and I know there's been suggestions.
4	No harm; no foul. Don't worry everyone. All the money
5	was spent after the election or in the spring or
6	whenever it was. But the facts clearly show a different
7	story. And you don't remember those facts, but that's
8	what it says on paper. The voucher was submitted. It
9	was a voucher for a very considerable amount of money,
10	\$19 million. And evidently I'm not sure if the check
11	bounced or what communication happened internally, but
12	something happened that made those at IVPA say, We need
13	to cancel the check request for 19 million and reduce it
14	to 10.3. And that's what it appears happened. That was
15	all in October 2010. You don't remember any of that?
16	A. I'm I'm just Yeah. I'm I don't
17	remember specifically, no. I just remember
18	Q. Do you remember generally?
19	A. No. I remember that again, what I just
20	explained to you, that there was a desire to have
21	start-up seed cash or seed money for these
22	organizations starting the program. Again, the exact
23	dollar amount escapes me.
24	Q. Earlier you talked about the the the
25	fund transfer to the non-appropriated fund. In your

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1	comments, you reference an effort that was made, I
2	believe, in June of 2010 to identify you said you
3	went through the 900 funds. Some effort was done in
4	GOMB to go through those funds to identify what, I
5	presume, were excess dollars that had been appropriated
6	but not spent as we approached the end of that fiscal
7	year, and you provided a report to your boss.
8	A. I made a recommendation.
9	Q. Okay. So in Give me the context of that.
10	I mean, what exactly was happening there?
11	A. We We would have We do budget exercises
12	all the time. And we tend to find out how much funding
13	or appropriation is left throughout different points in
14	the year, right, so that we can estimate what's going to
15	be remain unspent as it will go towards paying down
16	the backlogged bills.
17	So what would have happened at that time was
18	we would have looked at, upon everyone deciding that we
19	want to look at these anti-violence efforts, what did we
20	have available for those efforts. And we would have
21	done we would have taken a look at what appropriation
22	was unspent. And then we would have looked at what
23	opportunities we had to spend that money in or invest
24	it, let's say, in anti-violence.
25	Q. So what was the what was the result of your

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1 analysis generally?

2	A. That That That knowing what the what
3	the investment was intended to be, you wanted to make
4	sure that we could we could do it and where and
5	how could we go do it. So the how would be what funds.
6	Again, it wasn't just spending the money on anything.
7	It was particularly for anti-violence efforts. So we
8	looked you know, you look at all the funds as they
9	relate to the agencies that deal with anti-violence
10	efforts, and we identified a fund at IVPA.
11	Q. Okay. And that what what dollar amount
12	did you see when you made your analysis?
13	A. So first So, first, the analysis of what
14	was unspent. Again, I don't remember what the exact
15	number was, but I think at the time it could have been
16	as much as a hundred million dollars or something very
17	high like that. When it came down to looking for the
18	an looking at stuff for anti-violence, we weren't
19	looking at everything that was unspent for that. So
20	And, again, I'm just trying to remember as much of this
21	as I can. We would have looked at started having
22	conversations, how much do we want to invest. And here
23	we found a vehicle, right? And that vehicle would have
24	been the IVPA fund.
25	Q. Okay. And, again, all this, though, was

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1	sometime prior to June 30th, prior to the end of the
2	fiscal year
3	A. Right.
4	Q 2010?
5	A. Right.
6	Q. So you identified this fund that had some
7	amount of money, maybe a significant amount of money?
8	A. Mm-hmm. Wait, wait. There was only two
9	funds I should say this two appropriations for
10	2010, right? So it wasn't like we had to look for where
11	the where the appropriation that existed was. We
12	were looking for where we were going to put it.
13	Q. And the timing, though, is what I what I'm
14	missing here. Because you're telling me that effort all
15	happened before June 30th?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. And everything that we have seen in this audit
18	has suggested that this program that ultimately became
19	defined as NRI really started in August of 2010.
20	A. Okay. So, I mean
21	Q. The only testimony I've heard today from you
22	and others was that there were these series of meetings,
23	which we seem to have documented generally, that
24	occurred with community leaders and clergy members and
25	aldermen and others in that August time frame that

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1	resulted in this demand for doing something which was
2	ultimately NRI. But what I am hearing from you is that
3	there was really this effort in sometime before
4	June 30th to identify funding sources for anti-violence.
5	A. Well, it was it it's funding sources and
6	for whatever other things that were going on in that
7	particular fiscal year that we had funding to address.
8	Because there would have been other things. There would
9	have been, you know, some other program that might have
10	been ending where they had more people in that program
11	than they may have thought they would and they you
12	know, they were going to run a deficit and they needed
13	money or funding for it. So it wasn't all just for
14	the anti-violence efforts that would have been in this
15	new program.
16	Q. Okay. And I want to involve the Auditor
17	General here. As he reviews the notes I still don't
18	think we're all clear on what occurred and when.
19	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Can I ask a question
20	maybe to help?
21	Malcolm, are you talking about other
22	anti-violence programs other than the Neighborhood
23	Recovery Initiative?
24	THE WITNESS: I'm I'm I'm talking about not
25	any particular program. I'm just talking about funding

	Page 457
1	that was un unspent, right, or appropriation that
2	was unused at the end of fiscal year 2010.
3	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Okay.
4	THE WITNESS: Because it didn't have a program
5	name.
6	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: To be put for what
7	purpose?
8	THE WITNESS: Again, so we so That's kind of
9	what I was talking about a little bit earlier, is that
10	when we had when the the the this violence
11	was starting to go where it was becoming more evident
12	that there was going to be an increase in the in the
13	homicide the number of homicides and the shootings,
14	we started getting people coming in to the Governor's
15	Office. You know, you you had clergy; you had
16	community groups; you had families. We had the
17	Anti-Violence Commission established by then. So there
18	was all of these different people coming in, talking
19	about what was going on. I think I'm just trying to
20	explain the
21	SENATOR BARICKMAN: I understand.
22	THE WITNESS: answer the question.
23	SENATOR BARICKMAN: I understand. But, again,
24	we've been here all day. And this is the first that
25	we've heard that those activities were occurring before

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1 June 30th.

2	THE WITNESS: Again, I'm trying to make sure that
3	we're very clear. I'm not talking about a program that
4	existed. What I'm talking about is a need. And so we
5	didn't have a program; we had a need, right? We had
6	There was this issue. There was something that was
7	affecting citizens. So the idea was at some point you
8	had to take Because the the fiscal year was
9	ending. And so if you were going to address that need,
10	you needed to have funding. So I didn't have any I
11	didn't we didn't know what the program was going to
12	be.
13	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: So I'm looking at my
14	audit. This is This is past audit work. This is not
15	something future. This is the Compliance Examination
16	for the Violence Prevention Authority for the two years
17	ended June 30th of 2010, two years ended June 30th,
18	2010.
19	THE WITNESS: Okay.
20	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Okay? So now I'm looking
21	at the Special Projects Fund, Illinois Violence
22	Prevention Authority, the 318 fund. Okay? And in that
23	fund there was at the time \$5.8 million.
24	And I'm going to run down what the programs
25	were for you. There was a Blue Cross Blue Shield grant,

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1	18,000; a CJIA grant for 375,000; Voices for Illinois
2	Children, 358,000. This is the yeah. Safety Net
3	Works grant program, 2.8 million; another Safety Net
4	Works program, 9.5; a refund to the State none of
5	that counts. A refund to CJIA for 8100. But that takes
6	us up to the 5.8. That's how much money was in the 318
7	Fund. Okay? Spent from. That was the money that was
8	spent from the 318 Fund.
9	Are you Are you suggesting that you were
10	looking for money from other funds to put into the 318
11	Fund other than these purposes? Because now you go
12	to
13	THE WITNESS: No.
14	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Now you go to the next
15	audit, which is shows the 318 Fund for the year
16	ending June 30th of 2011, fast-forward 12 months. Now
17	we're in the next year. And there's \$28.9 million in
18	that fund and twenty-four from Governor's Neighborhood
19	Recovery Initiative is the bulk of it.
20	So what you're what you're talking about,
21	transferring money or looking for other funds to
22	transfer fill in that blank. For what purpose? Fill
23	in that blank.
24	THE WITNESS: Are you asking I'm I'm I'm
25	trying to figure out what the question is because I've

	Page 460
1	got I think I've got two things going. So So that
2	one Again, what I am talking about is during And
3	I'm going to make it easy so we can all stay together
4	here. So we know that when we talk about fiscal year
5	2010
6	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: That's all we're
7	THE WITNESS: we're talking about a fiscal year
8	that started July 1, 2009
9	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Correct.
10	THE WITNESS: and ends June 30th, 2010.
11	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Correct.
12	THE WITNESS: During that year, during that fiscal
13	year, we didn't move any funding into the unappropriated
14	fund until June. That would have been 2010. So it
15	would it wouldn't it would not have shown up as
16	anything budgeted for
17	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Were these fund sweeps?
18	Were these fund sweeps?
19	THE WITNESS: Were what
20	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: Fund sweeps? Is that
21	what you're talking about? Fund sweeps?
22	THE WITNESS: No. I'm not talking about fund
23	sweeps at all. I'm talking about a transfer or a
24	deposit into that the unappropriated fund of GRF,
25	which is something that by the budget bill we were

allowed to do as an expense. So -- And, again, I 1 2 apologize. I -- I lived in this world of budgets. And 3 I'm getting calendar years and fiscal years kind of mixed up. So I'm just -- that's why I'm -- again, I'm 4 5 trying to say it slow to make sure we're all staying 6 together. 7 But what we're talking about is there were two 8 big lump sums that Governor Quinn was given for fiscal 9 year 2010. By the time he got to the end of fiscal year 10 2010, there was money left in those two big lump sums, 11 right? And so we said: How -- Is there a way to deal 12 with the violence? We're getting all of this -- this -these requests from the community to do something, and 13 we had some funding, but the time was running out. So 14 15 we made a deposit of funding or appropriation, if you will, however you want to call it, into the 16 17 unappropriated fund that resided at IVPA before June 30th of 2010, without knowing exactly how we were 18 going to use it, but we knew that we wanted to make an 19 20 investment in anti-violence, in that program at the 21 time. 22 So, again -- So I think to -- your point, 23 Representative, earlier was we keep -- people keep 24 talking about August and late July or August or whatever. That's when they started to formulate a 25

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1	program. I think what we were talking about what I
2	was talking about, which is always the case when you
3	work in the Budget Office, is before you see anything
4	happen, there has to be some discussion about how we're
5	going to pay for it. And that's what I am discussing
6	with you, is that we put we seeded money into the
7	IVPA unappropriated fund from fiscal year 2010.
8	SENATOR BARICKMAN: I think
9	THE WITNESS: The program took place in fiscal year
10	2011, but we seeded that money at the end of '10.
11	BY SENATOR BARICKMAN:
12	Q. And I think that's something new for the
13	Commission to understand, that that thought process
14	occurred at the end of fiscal year '10 when we were of
15	the understanding that it really began at the in that
16	fall of 20 the fall of
17	A. That is when the program That is when the
18	program began.
19	Q. Well, it's also when when the budget
20	decision is made about the 20 million to 30 million,
21	50 million?
22	A. I just have a question to make sure I
23	understand what you're saying. If the money was in the
24	correct fiscal year, then is there even an issue about
25	money? If you thought the money started in fiscal year

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1	'11, then there really is no harm, no foul, I mean
2	according to what I mean
3	Q. Right. But what you're saying is that it was
4	fiscal year '11 money because you took it from '10
5	you figured out where it was at in '10, you moved it in
6	'10 to a non-appropriated fund, and then began spending
7	it in '11?
8	A. Correct.
9	Q. That is new.
10	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: If it exists. I mean,
11	if, in fact, that happened, which I would not I would
12	not stipulate to that at all. I would I would
13	suggest that maybe Malcolm has got his fiscal years
14	mixed up. How much money
15	THE WITNESS: Again, I'm answering the question.
16	If there was the question was asked, and I just
17	answered the question. Now, if you
18	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: That answer works pretty
19	good in fiscal year '11. It doesn't work very well in
20	fiscal year '10.
21	THE WITNESS: No. I know. Because normally you
22	couldn't do that. Well, what happened with those two
23	lump sums was the definition for expense One of the
24	definitions for expense that particular fiscal year that
25	I remember is that you can you can count a deposit

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1	into another fund as an expense.
2	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: That That particular
3	legal opinion cannot
4	THE WITNESS: And I'm not a lawyer, so I again,
5	I'm just I'm telling you the auspices under which we
6	operated. I think, at the very least, what we're
7	talking about is there was some ambiguity in that
8	particular
9	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: That That That
10	That opinion which was given to us by Mr. David Hall,
11	David Hall, who is the he worked for Representative
12	Reis. I'm just kidding. I'm just joking. I was only
13	joking. He's the Yeah, it is getting late. He's the
14	Deputy Counsel for the Governor's Office of Management
15	and Budget. Okay?
16	So on June the 23rd, June the 23rd, okay, of
17	2011 now that would be fiscal year '11, right, fiscal
18	year '11. There's seven days left in June in in
19	that fiscal year, not including (inaudible), 2011. Let
20	me finish now, just before you go. The question was
21	about transferring money and would that be spending.
22	And here is the legal opinion:
23	Barbara, I just wanted to be clear on the use
24	of the lump-sum funds. We believe that shifting the
25	money to funds would be, quote, spending, unquote, the

	Page 465
1	money for the purposes of C2 of the IGA, the
2	intergovernmental agreement. However, to move the money
3	beyond those funds, additional spending authority would
4	be needed after fiscal year '11 unless the funds somehow
5	do not need approp authority. Many thanks.
6	Well, they drove a truck through that little
7	opinion. That's the one that's the two-sentence
8	opinion. Then they put that money then into the 318
9	Fund, and they called that transfer "spending." They
10	called the transfer of funds spending.
11	And this is the conversation we had with
12	Barbara Shaw earlier today where not one not one
13	recipient received any of that money, not one not one
14	provider, not one lead agency, not not one not
15	anybody. It was just moved from one fund. I called it
16	a transfer. They called it spending. That's That's
17	the discussion that we've had earlier today and we had
18	at the last meeting. But that was 2011, not 2010.
19	THE WITNESS: I Then I Then I I apologize
20	because I believe I'm lost then. I Do we all
21	Well, again, I I don't want to argue.
22	AUDITOR GENERAL HOLLAND: You may take the opinion
23	of Mr Mr. David Hall, but we would take it
24	THE WITNESS: Well, no, no. I think we all agree
25	that you how we how we handled it. I'm sure of

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1	that. Oh, yeah, that part I'm sure of. I'm just
2	talking about getting the you know, the chronological
3	order of how we started how we believe we started
4	what I remember us starting in terms of making sure
5	funding was available. Again, the bottom line: There
6	was no program at that time.
7	BY SENATOR BARICKMAN:
8	Q. Okay. So here's the other troubling aspect
9	of Here's the other troubling aspect of, you know,
10	what what you see in this audit. You know,
11	there's there's And we've heard about this all
12	day. And I know you haven't been here all day, but we
13	have and we've had a number of witnesses before us. And
14	we've heard this this recurring theme, some of which
15	I think we've heard some from you, that there were these
16	meetings in the fall, a series of meetings with
17	stakeholders, with administration officials, yourself
18	being involved in at least some of those, all these
19	meetings that occurred, but no one today has been able
20	to tell us with any sort of definitive answer as to how
21	the decision was made to choose the communities, the
22	neighborhoods that received the funds. There's been
23	a There's been a lot of suggestions that it kind of
24	came from within. Do you know who I mean, who who
25	made that decision? Somebody said

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1	A. I don't know of any one person that
2	made the I don't know of that. What I My
3	understanding what I thought was that there was data
4	that was used by IVPA and that's how that was done. I
5	did not know of a person coming in, sitting down, and
6	looking over, you know, anyone's shoulders, saying, This
7	is who we should pay or who we shouldn't pay.
8	Q. Well, there's there's been discussions that
9	there might have been data, but no one has been able to
10	produce it. And, in fact, the auditor spent a year or
11	more on this and and produced nothing. Nobody here
12	today has produced anything other than general
13	assertions that there was some data. But there is
14	suggestion after suggestion in the audit the decisions
15	were made by the Governor's Office.
16	This community needs to be The south
17	suburbs need to be added. That came from I don't
18	know. Billy Ocasio told us earlier he suggested it, it
19	went in, and it came out, and it was approved. Barb
20	Shaw told us the south suburbs weren't in, but she was
21	told they were to be included later. Can you give
22	Hermosa, Hermosa got added to the mix.
23	A. This is the programmatic aspect. I did not
24	have any
25	Q. But you were in the meetings.

Page 468 I was in -- I was in meetings but no meeting 1 Α. 2 where that was discussed, where someone said pick these, 3 you know, no. 4 Q. Okay. And then the same thing, right, for the 5 agencies, the providers that provided these services ultimate- -- that were chosen to provide the services in 6 7 the community? We've had a whole day of testimony, and 8 I cannot tell you with a straight face that I have a 9 clear understanding of who made the decision to approve 10 the providers. What's clear -- Barb Shaw told us this 11 morning that there were these meetings with aldermen; 12 the alderman suggested providers; they came back to her; 13 her staff did things. And then there were these 14 meetings that were had with the Governor's senior staff. 15 Maybe the Governor himself is suggested in here. But --16 And then the Governor's Office was involved in approving 17 these providers. Were you in any of those meetings? No. So -- In most -- And at times I did hear 18 Α. about after they were -- after they were decided -- I 19 20 mean, I looked at the list of the people that -- you 21 know, where they were going to be, but I wasn't there to 22 hear anyone and I definitely was not in any meeting where the Governor said, Hey, this is who we're going to 23 24 pick. 25 But this is the problem, you know. Q. And,

	Page 469
1	again, to the audit, the audit says that these decisions
2	that were made on which providers to choose was flawed
3	throughout. And what it appears is that that decision
4	was coming out of the Governor's Office. And that
5	But no one who's been here today can tell us that they
6	were the ones making those decisions, and they can't
7	tell us who was.
8	A. But, again, I And, I mean, you can get
9	other people to ask, but I don't I don't know who
10	any one person that made that any of those decisions
11	like that.
12	Q. So And it's troubling, though, because
13	for And I've heard the testimony from a lot of people
14	today that have said that this is personal to them, that
15	this program has a personal importance to them. But for
16	all the people that were involved, it seems like given
17	the priority this program was designed is was
18	meant to have, wouldn't someone that was making
19	decisions on which communities to fund would make sure
20	that we were funding the most violent communities?
21	Wouldn't Wouldn't the person making the decision on
22	which providers to administer the services Wouldn't
23	someone care that we were choosing the most qualified
24	provider? How come in all of these meetings that were
25	had that no one can say who made decisions, no one has

	Page 470
1	suggested that there was any thought put into making
2	sure the money went into the most violent communities
3	and that it was administered by the most qualified
4	provider? Why don't I walk away from this today
5	A. Because I think you just said two different
6	things. We We were told that there was data, and
7	that's how the communities were chosen.
8	You're talking about now about the choosing
9	of who's actually going to participate, those providers.
10	I'll be honest with you. I don't care what providers it
11	is. The point is the program and and affecting those
12	communities.
13	I I didn't I never cared about who the
14	providers were, really. That That That would
15	be Again, I was Director of CMS. We did contracts,
16	huge contracts all the time. I never sat down and found
17	out who was on the evaluation team. They just announced
18	the winners. And so Because that's inconsequential
19	to to most of us, who ends up winning. The issue for
20	the budget person is making sure there's funding
21	available and we're making an investment. That was my
22	role.
23	Q. But this was an important factor to some
24	people in the communities, first of all, that weren't
25	selected, and that is that has been well-known, that

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Page 471 1 there were --2 Α. Oh, sure. 3 Ο. -- there were communities who were excluded 4 from this program who felt slighted. That's evidence. 5 Democrats from Chicago, legislators and aldermen, community members, have all made public statements 6 7 saying that this program was flawed because their 8 violent community was excluded. And nowhere do I see 9 where anyone making the decision on which communities to 10 select said, Are we targeting the most violent communities? 11 12 Α. Again, other than them saying we're using data to arrive at the communities that we are going to 13 include, there was nobody saying, Here are the 14 15 communities we're going to exclude. That's not how that worked, again, at least to my knowledge. And so 16 17 I'm not -- I wasn't really interested in who the providers at the end were. The communities, as we were 18 told, were based on data. I -- Now, I have not seen 19 20 that data as well. If that's your point, I -- Again, I 21 haven't seen it either. I haven't seen it either. 22 Q. There were communities where the decision to 23 go with one provider over another resulted in 24 significant backlash locally in those communities 25 because people in that community felt that there was a

	Page 472
1	decision made to go with a certain provider who might
2	have had political ties to the Governor's Office rather
3	than a more qualified provider in the community.
4	That's Again, that is evidence in this
5	A. I think that's some opinion, that people have
6	said that, but I don't know that to be true. I don't
7	know that there was a lot of other more qualified
8	providers out there than the ones we I don't know
9	that for a fact. But people have their opinions about
10	different organizations. That part is definitely true.
11	Q. Right. And the concern here is that the
12	people making the decision who I still have not
13	clearly drawn the line as to who that was. But whomever
14	it was, evidently there's no evidence. There's no
15	suggestion today that the person making that decision
16	cared about that. That's my point.
17	A. Again, I don't know if that's true or not. I
18	don't.
19	SENATOR BARICKMAN: Jerry Stermer You know, I
20	mean, again, the frustration that comes from here is
21	that there's been a lot of suggestions of the importance
22	of violence prevention initiatives. But what you see
23	when you go to the facts of what happened, what you see
24	is maybe there was planning in June to find money for a
25	program that didn't exist. Definitely in August there

	Page 473
1	were these rushed efforts hastily implemented is what
2	the audit says rushed efforts to put together a
3	program for which Again, what I'm hearing is no
4	one no one made a priority in those rushed meetings
5	to figure out whether we were spending money in the most
6	violent neighborhoods or whether the providers were the
7	most qualified.
8	And here's what on top of that, you have
9	these statements like Jerry Jerry Stermer makes in
10	January of 2011, where he says:
11	They and many others will also start talking
12	immediately about the Neighborhood Recovery as being
13	funded by dramatic reductions in existing programs that
14	are clearly accountable and successful. As you know, I
15	am not at all persuaded that any of the ideas in
16	Neighborhood Recovery had any solid evidence to show
17	they achieve their goals.
18	For us, reading this information, the rushed
19	nature of the program, the fact that you were at these
20	IVPA board meetings suggesting that they would you
21	were trying to get money out, the fact that Barb Shaw
22	signed vouchers in October trying to get money out, the
23	fact that someone Jerry Stermer doesn't think the
24	program works I think the fact that we don't know if
25	we put money in the most violent communities, the fact

	Page 474
1	that we don't know whether the most qualified providers
2	were picked, and that no one making the decisions seemed
3	to For as much as they wanted to make a meaningful
4	impact on violence, they didn't seem to prioritize those
5	important decisions that you would think would be a
6	priority for what was a \$55 million program. Are we
7	putting it in the right spot, and are we giving it to
8	someone who has demonstrated an ability to make a
9	meaningful impact with those dollars in this community?
10	And the troubling part of this audit is to
11	read all of this evidence and draw that conclusion and
12	have people like Jerry Stermer say, I don't even believe
13	them, and try to make sense of all of this and
14	understand who was ultimately, at the end of the day,
15	who was You know, how many hours of testimony have we
16	had?
17	So who made these decisions, and why were they
18	made? This many hours in today, and I still don't know.
19	And I don't really think you're able to answer them for
20	me. And that's frustrating as a as a as a
21	lawmaker.
22	Thank you.
23	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Further questions?
24	Representative Reboletti.
25	Thank you.

Page 475 THE WITNESS: May I -- If I may, may I please use 1 2 the bathroom. It's been -- I'm serious. 3 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Actually let's -- why don't we take a five-minute break. 4 5 THE WITNESS: Please. Thank you. REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: We'll be at ease for 6 7 five minutes. 8 (A short break was had.) (WHEREUPON, intervening business was 9 10 had which was not recorded 11 stenographically.) 12 REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And for the record, the 13 court reporter can go ahead and begin. 14 We are going to go back for our final round of questioning. 15 Representative Reboletti. 16 17 REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure the court reporter appreciates the breaks. 18 Every so often I watch her over there very diligently 19 for the last 12 hours. 20 21 So thank you for your hard work. 22 Mr. Weems, thank you for being here. 23 Again, as I have told other witnesses, that I 24 share the same passion you do for stemming the violence, 25 having served in -- as an Assistant State's Attorney in

	Page 476
1	Will County, watching violence in Joliet, Lockport, and
2	Bolingbrook, definitely communities that would have some
3	of those needs that you talked about. So I can
4	appreciate that from a different perspective but in the
5	same that same universe.
6	EXAMINATION
7	BY REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI:
8	Q. So in 2010, you said that there was
9	obviously there was a spike in violence. And a couple
10	of my colleagues then asked for the National Guard to
11	come out. That's how bad it was. That was in April
12	of 2010. And I know that the Governor had said that
13	that would not be an appropriate avenue to do that. I
14	know other members had talked about bringing the
15	Illinois State Police in to help out. And so obviously
16	there was a desire to bring some relief in many
17	different capacities.
18	So when was it, do you think, that the that
19	the tipping point had been reached, that something had
20	to happen right away? Is there a certain date or a time
21	frame in which you said, you know, enough is enough,
22	we've got to get this some programming, something out
23	to the community to stem the tide?
24	A. Honestly, for me that that And, again, I
25	want to answer your question as as realistically as

	Page 477
1	had possible. I mean, that's being going on forever for
2	me. That year wasn't particularly the year for me, but
3	I do think that what was happening was the that the
4	community was coming in to the Governor's Office, you
5	know, coming into, you know, State government, talking
6	to aldermen, taking to ministers. And everybody
7	Again, the media was following it very closely. You
8	know, the minute you start talking It must have been
9	bad to have people talking about having the National
10	Guard.
11	So, again, I don't for the I can't speak
12	for the Governor, you know. I can only speak for
13	myself. And And, really, for myself it was about
14	time, not one thing happened. It was This has always
15	been there. Again, you know, for many of us, this is
16	not something that happened all of a sudden in in the
17	new millennium. This has been going on for a long time.
18	So there I can't pick one event that was the tipping
19	point myself.
20	Q. Sure. And I I agree with you because the
21	year before was bad, the year after was bad.
22	A. Yeah. I mean Yeah.
23	Q. It's not that somehow we had a hundred murders
24	one year and then we went to 400. We had been at
25	300-plus and and we eclipsed New York and LA, who

1 have three times our population. And it's an 2 unfortunate --3 Α. And they're concentrated in -- really in certain areas. So while it looks like the State is 4 5 going down, but in those communities, you know, the numbers can actually be up, right, in particular 6 7 communities. So it's very hard to pick out one point. 8 Q. And so some of my concerns about some of this 9 programming and the expenditures are such that if you 10 take \$50 million and you say that we have a short time 11 to inject it into those communities -- you have been 12 doing this for a long time -- wouldn't you -- in your 13 professional opinion, wouldn't you have a short-term 14 goal and a long-term goal as to how much -- short-term 15 money and short-term programming, long-term goals, 16 long-term planning, long-term dollars? Was that 17 achieved in -- in NRI? So -- Again, so you're asking should we have 18 Α. had a long-term goal versus, like, let's hurry up and 19 20 get started but also having kind of a -- Again, for me, 21 as a budget person and as an advocate, I would say that, 22 you know, I would want it to be -- to continue definitely. Usually, in my experience, again, and never 23 24 having started a program this big before, never being involved in anything this big before, you know, the idea 25

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	Page 479
1	would be to get something like this started and then
2	hopefully have there be more investment in coming years.
3	You know, again, you just from where I sat in the
4	Budget Office, you look at these budget lines and
5	there are thousands of them. And you kind of figure out
6	what what we all care about when you look at these
7	lines.
8	And so what happens is things tend to And
9	what had happened even with Barbara You know, this
10	agency started It's fairly It was a fairly new
11	agency, and there started being more investment and $$
12	whether it was domestic violence or other things. And
13	so for me it was just the investment, saying that this
14	is what we care about, this is what we want to do. So I
15	assumed, I think And, again, I'm just speculating on
16	what my thought process was at that time, but I would
17	have assumed that it was going to continue.
18	Q. Right. And But I I think that in the
19	programs you may have seen, personally and
20	professionally, previous it takes time
21	A. Yes.
22	Q to get a program implemented with people
23	that are prepared and professionally able to implement
24	it and, you know, get results, right?
25	A. Right.

	Page 480
1	Q. It's not something that we can just go out and
2	find people that have a big heart and said, I can do
3	this. It takes time, right?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. So, in your opinion, in your professional
6	opinion both in the violence arena as well as in your
7	accounting background, how long would a program of the
8	magnitude of \$50 million take to implement?
9	A. It could all depend, right? Some programs are
10	kind of what you would consider kind of pay-as-you-go,
11	right? There's There's something that's needed,
12	something that's done, and then you pay. There are
13	other programs that are, depending on how widespread it
14	is, have a lot of moving parts. Again, I I I
15	didn't build the programs. I funded them, right? And
16	so I would I would think We've done fast programs
17	before maybe not at that same dollar amount, but it
18	could have been at a lower dollar amount but with a lot
19	more moving parts. All right? There are There's
20	other programs that exist where there's a lot more
21	activity, in which you would see more checks being
22	written than what you would have seen for NRI, but they
23	just might have a very small dollar amount attached to
24	them.
25	So, again, I because I don't create the

 programs, I didn't know how many transactions were necessary in NRI versus, let's just say, the you know, the program where we pay for people that can't pay for their own funerals when people die. I mean, so we do a lot of that that has a lot of moving parts. So I really wasn't in a in a position to say, Well, you know, yes, it was fast, but I also viewed it as an emergency versus viewing it as just rolling out a normal program. Q. And are there any other programs that compare to NRI previously or after that you're aware of, that checks had to be cut fast, there was an emergency? A. Summer job programs. Summer jobs programs are always programs that you have to coordinate with the Comptroller, you have to worry about fiscal years, you have to I mean, that's I think that's every year you have to be fairly quick. Q. Obviously finding work for for the youth of the community is important. I don't know if that's an emergency. I know these A. Right. Q. I'n saying where there's an emergent 		Page 481
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24 Q. I'm saying where there's an emergent	22	emergency. I know these
	23	A. Right.
25 situation.	24	Q. I'm saying where there's an emergent
	25	situation.

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1	A. Oh, whenever there's an emergency? No. The
2	only emergency I would I would compare it to I
3	apologize. I misunderstood you. The only emergencies
4	that I would compare to the shootings, the death of
5	children to is, you know, again, when we would respond
6	to emergencies like tornados where families were, you
7	know, completely wiped out and they weren't ready for
8	it, they weren't you know, they weren't expecting it.
9	And we didn't even have a pro we don't have a
10	program for that. We just deal with it as it happens.
11	And usually in this State we're not saying: Well, wait
12	a minute. How much does it cost to help these families?
13	We say: Let's help these families first.
14	Q. So you made a comment earlier in your dialogue
15	with Representative Crespo regarding gross mismanagement
16	versus mismanagement?
17	A. Yes, sir. Yes.
18	Q. And as I look at the Auditor General's
19	analysis, when I look at the fact that I believe it's
20	40 percent of the dollars that were reviewed or
21	40 percent of the expenses of the 23 providers reviewed,
22	there were questions. So what would gross mismanagement
23	be? If it would be 45 percent or 50 percent were
24	questionable expenses? You see, because part of the
25	outrage from me is that is you talk about the the

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1	urgency of getting resources in the community. Look at
2	how much of these resources were squandered. Look how
3	many more people we could have helped if the program was
4	effectively implemented. And when we see that there's
5	question marks over 10 percent of the providers, think
6	about extrapolating that out and how many lost
7	opportunities we had.
8	So, again, do you think it's just
9	mismanagement, or do you you don't believe it rises
10	to a level of gross mismanagement?
11	A. I I believe that there are things that
12	could have been better. I didn't perform the audit. I
13	think when you do an audit, you take a sample, which is
14	normal. And I think that sometimes that depending on
15	the nature of what it is you're auditing, you might
16	if you if you want to start making these, you know,
17	kind of statements about something, you might go past
18	the sample, is what I'm saying.
19	So I don't I'm not saying that their
20	opinion is wrong or invalid. I'm just saying that
21	because I know, at least me personally, how I feel about
22	what it takes to kind of do some of this, I think that
23	it's you have to get your feet on the ground first
24	and you have to start working. And then I think, like
25	in any other crisis situation, you evaluate much later,

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1	and with without necessarily placing blame, you are
2	looking at ways to do things better. Because the the
3	most important part to me was that at least and,
4	again, since you're asking me, is that we're responding.
5	Q. And I agree that responding is important. But
6	the taxpayer demands accountability, that the money
7	they're investing is having a result. So when we send
8	resources down to Central Illinois because of a tornado,
9	we expect that over time, short term and long term, that
10	there's gains, that roads are cleared, that water
11	hookups and and utilities are put back in place, and
12	that all first responders are operational. People want
13	to see short term and long term. And I don't know if I
14	saw that here. So help me with that.
15	A. In comparing those, what I think what we
16	saw was we we set up what I what it looked like
17	to me was an infrastructure of these providers to get
18	services out to these communities that let's just
19	face it most people are scared to go anyway.
20	So when we talk about comparing first
21	responders, if we're talking about a tornado, I would
22	say that those people are treated those are taxpayers
23	but there's taxpayers up here where the tornado didn't
24	hit that have other issues. So while we're We're
25	talking about taxpayers as if the communities being

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1	affected aren't taxpayers as well. And, quite honestly,
2	if we looked at where we're putting our dollars as a
3	State, there are going there are going to people in
4	those communities that are going to say, This
5	\$54 million, "chhhh," this is nothing compared to
6	to to for them. So when we talk about
7	Q. Sir, when I talk about taxpayers, I'm not
8	A. Okay.
9	Q leaving any person out and I'm not singling
10	out a State Rep district or an aldermanic district. I'm
11	just talking about taxpayers overall. So
12	A. I'm I'm just saying that taxpayers,
13	taxpayers have different interests in different in
14	different communities, is what I'm saying. And so I
15	don't think that the people in those commun in
16	the in the communities that were being served view
17	this program as a failure. I don't I don't believe
18	that. Now, again, if there it would it would take
19	more time for us to even know that, right?
20	But to your to your question, yes, I think
21	there should be things that you can you should try to
22	measure. But in this particular situation, again And
23	I I was equating it earlier to how many terrorist
24	attacks did we prevent, how many did not happen. It's
25	very hard to do that. But what we do know is that

Page 486 there -- if -- if a child is not in a high-risk 1 2 situation, they have less chance of being hurt. That's 3 what we do know. Yes, we should account for all State dollars 4 5 and all tax dollars. I believe that. I -- And I wholeheartedly agree with that. And that's why I said I 6 7 do believe things could have been done better. 8 But be clear. I -- When you ask me these 9 questions, I personally think we are late to the game. 10 And everyone is trying to act like we still care about these communities, but, again, when I looked at the 11 12 budget -- and I've looked at the budget going back 13 30 years, which I was -- you know, I was not involved at all. But an issue like this has not been receiving the 14 15 kind of funding until Governor Quinn did that. And I've never seen the kind of funding that could make a serious 16 17 impact. 18 I would say the same thing about domestic violence, you know. It's important right now. It's on 19 20 the news because the NFL has all these problems. But 21 let's be clear. We could put more money into that too. 22 And we wouldn't know how many, you know, women or 23 children we prevented from being --24 Q. Sure. And I have no doubt. Because having 25 worked in a domestic violence courtroom where I was the

Page 487 1 only prosecutor and I had one victim/witness advocate to 2 take care of a multitude of victims, I hear you --3 Α. Right. -- loud and clear. 4 Q. 5 But -- And I understand it's hard to quantify the value --6 7 Α. That's all I'm saying. -- when we outreach to a 14-year-old or 8 Q. 9 16-year-old who now finds his ways, who's at a 10 crossroads, and then we intervene. And we don't know 11 for a fact that that intervention was the one that set 12 him straight or the individual went and took a wrong 13 turn. I understand that. 14 But there are some metrics that we can all 15 agree upon should be followed. Like, if we give a 16 grant, that money should be used for appropriate 17 expenditures, not ending up in people's pockets, not -ending up in the community. So to me, that's where some 18 19 of the frustration comes from. 20 And I -- I understand that in the world of the 21 social sciences that we can't -- that doesn't -- there 22 isn't some type of formula that we can plug in and say 23 if we spend \$50 million, then we know that 80 children 24 will be saved and, therefore, there's a dollar. Because 25 we cannot attach a dollar value to somebody's life,

Page 488 1 right? I hear you. 2 So -- And, again, I agree with you. We're 3 late to the game. This is not some new problem. But 4 time and time again, because of a rush job, I think that 5 because there was so much money leaving, that there wasn't anybody being able to monitor all of it. 6 So to 7 that, in your understanding of the NRI, who was 8 accountable for the oversight of the program? 9 Α. Oh, again, for oversight of the program? The program was housed in IVPA. So they -- again, they --10 11 they actually managed the program. And that's, again, 12 how programs are when they're in -- they're in a 13 particular agency. 14 Sure. And you -- you referenced youth work 0. programs, summer -- summer jobs programs, and the influx 15 16 of money. Obviously, it's the difficulty of arranging 17 all those -- the programs and the people and the dollars. How many -- In your experience, do you believe 18 19 that the Illinois Violence Prevention group had enough 20 employees in the office to monitor and to distribute 21 those funds that they could keep a watchful eye on them? 22 Α. I think everyone in State government, all of the employees in the State government, are doing a hell 23 24 of a job with not -- without there being enough of them. So I would -- I would say, in general, in State 25

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1	government we could use they could use more staff.
2	And it's just kind of hard to do that. I think You
3	know, I heard Barbara's testimony that she wished she
4	had more you know, had said something about having
5	more people. And that is unfortunate. Again, I I
6	could just my general opinion almost in every aspect
7	of State government, almost: They need more help. And
8	so I would I would say that that would be IVPA
9	would not be any different.
10	REPRESENTATIVE REBOLETTI: Thank you very much.
11	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: I have a question from
12	Representative Rita.
13	REPRESENTATIVE RITA: You know, we've been here
14	over 12 hours. I'm just going to We'll continue
15	tomorrow.
16	A lot of it has been said, what I was going to
17	talk about, was on the neighborhoods and how close they
18	are and what the neighborhoods mean. We keep hearing
19	about the south suburbs and how close they are to some
20	of these neighborhoods here. And then you touched upon
21	the lump-sum budget versus and the authority, but
22	then when we drafted that lump-sum budget, which put it
23	in the hands of the agencies and the Governor's Office
24	to go spend that and if that is true, then it really
25	isn't an audit finding, I guess, is what I'm we'll

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1	we'll talk with the staff on that, so.
2	Thanks for coming today.
3	THE WITNESS: Okay.
4	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: And with that, seeing no
5	further questions, thank you for joining with us.
6	THE WITNESS: Thank you all for your questions and
7	your time.
8	REPRESENTATIVE MAUTINO: Folks, we'll be back here
9	tomorrow at 9:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. sharp.
10	(The meeting of the above-entitled
11	cause was adjourned at 10:18 p.m.,
12	October 8, 2014, until 9:00 a.m.,
13	October 9, 2014.)
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1	STATE OF ILLINOIS)
2) SS.
3	COUNTY OF COOK)
4	
5	Cheryl A. Goetsch, being first duly sworn, on
6	oath says that she is a Certified Shorthand Reporter and
7	Registered Professional Reporter, doing business in the
8	City of Chicago, County of Cook and the State of
9	Illinois;
10	That she reported in shorthand the proceedings
11	had at the foregoing Meeting;
12	And that the foregoing is a true and correct
13	transcript of her shorthand notes so taken as aforesaid
14	and contains all the proceedings had at the said
15	Meeting.
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	CHERYL A. GOETSCH, CSR, RPR
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