

Written Testimony of Danielle Carter-Walter
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U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Immigration Integrity, Security, and Enforcement
Sanctuary Jurisdictions: Magnet for Migrants, Cover for Criminals
April 9, 2025

Good morning, Chairman McClintock and esteemed members of the Subcommittee.

Thank you to President Donald J. Trump—the people’s president—for giving Chicago Flips Red our first platform, and to this Subcommittee for the opportunity to speak truth in the people’s house. We proudly stand with our President to bring his message to the Black-American community and expose the lies pushed by the Democrat Party and their media allies.

We are here to confront the reality of sanctuary cities. Despite the word “sanctuary,” these cities are anything but safe. Chicago has claimed the title for years—and now we’re drowning in the consequences.

Lifelong residents are pushed aside. Schools are overcrowded, crime is out of control, and affordable housing is vanishing. These crises exploded under Biden—and were worsened by the reckless, agenda-driven leadership of Lori Lightfoot and Brandon Johnson. They didn’t just ignore the collapse—they fueled it.

In December 2023, a few aldermen tried to give us a voice. But the mayor and his allies used a procedural stunt to block the vote on a non-binding sanctuary city referendum—silencing Chicagoans and stripping us of our right to choose.

Every elected official swears an oath to serve their constituents and uphold the Constitution. Brandon Johnson hasn’t just failed—he’s trampled that oath in his obsession with keeping Chicago a sanctuary for illegal immigrants.

He’s driven our city into a \$1 billion deficit, handed out shady no-bid contracts, and funneled over \$600 million into services for illegal immigrants. That’s why we demand a full forensic audit focused on migrant-related spending. This isn’t mismanagement—it’s organized looting of taxpayer dollars.

ShotSpotter, a life-saving gunshot detection tool, is gone. Hyde Park now bears a permanent 720-bed shelter as illegal immigrant shelters multiply. Tax Increment Financing dollars—meant to revive struggling areas—are being embezzled. Our kids aren’t learning to read, while the city teachers cater to non-English-speakers.

These are deliberate acts of neglect—justified by Chicago’s sanctuary city status.

Lori Lightfoot lit the fuse with executive orders and DEI Johnson poured gasoline on the fire. Field houses were seized, police stations overrun with illegal immigrants in tents and on floors, leaving officers demoralized. My husband, a retired CPD officer, saw it all—violence, disease, prostitution, and bed bugs that reached our home and harmed our child.

Since 2022, over 51,000 illegal immigrants have flooded into Chicago. The city’s answer? Blend migrant and homeless shelters under the "One System Initiative" and hope no one notices. Homelessness has jumped by 207% as 2,100 beds go to illegal immigrants. When state funding ends in 2025, corrupt insiders will pass the contracts among themselves. This isn’t policy—it’s racketeering.

My husband and I—taxpaying business owners—did everything right. We invested in an Opportunity Zone (thank you, President Trump), applied for grants, and were denied. Yet 140,000 illegal alien-run businesses were funded without question. Law-abiding citizens are being replaced to serve a political machine.

MS-13 and Tren de Aragua are here. Their graffiti marks our neighborhoods. A new gang—the Venezuelan Disciples—is forming. One shelter gets 20–30 police calls daily. Drug use, harassment, loitering, and violence have turned parks, sidewalks, and porches into no-go zones.

This isn’t immigration. It’s an invasion.

Sanctuary cities don’t protect us. They abandon us.

Our citizens demand:

- A full forensic audit of every dollar tied to migrant shelters.
- A freeze on the \$91.5 million budget until full reviews are completed.
- Real, public accountability and community input.
- A federal investigation into corruption—and criminal prosecution where warranted.
- An end to sanctuary policies that sacrifice Americans for political gain.

We call on all federal leaders to dismantle this corrupt machine before it buries what’s left of our city.

And to the vocal Democrat Black representatives—cease and desist. You do not speak for us.

Thank you. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.