

DOCUMENT 49 – COMMUNICATION FROM POLICEMEN REQUESTING A SALARY INCREASE

October 28, 1899

TRANSCRIPTION

To The Honorable Mayor of Chicago:

To the Honorable Board of Aldermen:

To the Honorable Chief of Police:

Gentlemen:—

We, the undersigned, have been designated by the members of the Police Department to lay before your Honorable Body a grievance that the said Police Department of this great City of Chicago is laboring under.

The annual reports herewith attached, submitted to your Honorable Body, of each of the cities shown, clearly establish the fact that the police force of Chicago performs more duty, makes more arrests, recovers more stolen property and apprehends more criminals than any other city in America, even relatively and comparatively more than the City of New York. Still, they receive the smallest compensation of any of the cities mentioned in the subjoined statement Hence it is that we unanimously petition your Honorable Body to grant us an increase of TWENTY PER CENT. on our present salaries, in each rank respectively.

The figures shown in the statement are for the year 1898.

New York, population 3,480,000; area 292 sq. miles; 7,540 officers; salary of Captains, \$2,750; sergeants, \$2,000; Detective Sergeants, \$2,000; Patrolmen, \$1,400; arrests, 141,000.

Philadelphia, population 1,250,000; area 129 1-2 sq. miles: 2,612 officers; salary of Sergeants, \$1,300; Patrolmen, \$1,003.75; arrests, 62,628; property recovered, \$166,482.

Boston, population 500,000; area 94 3-4 sq. miles: 1,134

officers: salary of Lieutenants, \$1,600; Patrol and Detective Sergeants, \$1,400; Patrolmen, \$1,200; arrests, 45,659; property recovered, \$112,246.

Cincinnati, population 400,000; area 35½ sq. miles: 531 officers; salary of Patrolmen \$1,020; arrests 14,301.

San Francisco, population 29,000; area 42 sq. miles; 559 officers. Salary of Lieutenants \$1,680, salary of Patrol and Detective Sergeants \$1,500, Patrolmen \$1,224, arrests 28,013.

Washington, population 280,000, area 73 sq. miles, 545 officers, salary of Lieutenants \$1,700, Patrolmen \$1,080, arrests 25,237.

St. Louis, population 700,000, area 62 sq. miles, 1,039 officers, salary of Chief of Detectives \$3,500, Captains \$2,400, Sergeants \$1,380, Patrolmen \$1,080, arrests 26,253, property recovered \$198,651.

Cleveland, population 392,498, area 32 sq. miles, 359 officers, salary of Patrolmen \$1,000, arrests 14,481.

CHICAGO, POPULATION OVER 2,000,000, area 192 SQ. MILES, 3,304 OFFICERS, SALARY OF CAPTAIN \$2,250, LIEUTENANT \$1,500, PATROL, DESK AND DETECTIVE SERGEANTS, \$1,200, PATROLMEN \$1,000, ARRESTS 77,441, STOLEN PROPERTY RECOVERED \$372,935

Respectfully submitted.

THE COMMITTEE.