



# Media Advisory

FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

**For Immediate Release:**

May 13, 2010

**For More Information:**

State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

(773) 378-5902

## **Ford Listens to Concerns on Community Safety**

**CHICAGO** – Roughly 300 community leaders, concerned citizens, and elected officials attended a town hall meeting hosted by state Representative La Shawn K. Ford (D-Chicago) on Monday night on the topic of crime and public safety.

“We need jobs, greater police protection, and access to quality resources like parks and schools,” Ford said. “Tonight’s meeting was about bringing the community together to call attention to the pressing concerns in our community.”

On April 25, state Representatives Ford and Fritchey requested that Governor Quinn bring the Illinois National Guard to the streets of Chicago to help address the escalating violence in 9% of the city. The town hall meeting provided constituents with an opportunity to voice concerns to representatives from several public departments. Christopher Mallette from Mayor Daley’s office, Michael D. Shields from the Chicago Public Schools, Mike Simpson from the Chicago Park District, Commander Walter Green from the Chicago Police Departments 15<sup>th</sup> District, Miguel Guzman from C.A.P.S and Tio Hardiman from CeaseFire Illinois all served as panelists.

“More attention must be paid to the safety of our communities, and I believe the first step is opening these lines of communication,” Ford said. “When area leaders, community members and advocates from all levels come together, concerns are addressed and problems can be solved.

Ford has also introduced a resolution asking for Congress to send money to Illinois to help municipalities pay for more police, a measure starting a “Scratch-out Crime” lottery ticket to raise funds for public safety and a measure to help lower the unemployment rate within the African-American community which passed both the House and Senate and currently awaits the signature of the Governor.

###