

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **THE CITY OF CHICAGO JOINS THE CITIES FOR FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT TO EXPAND FINANCIAL LITERACY AND EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVES**

The Cities for Financial Empowerment (CFE) Coalition today welcomed the City of Chicago as the seventh member of the nation's first coalition of city governments dedicated to financial empowerment initiatives.

Member cities in the CFE Coalition, co-chaired by New York City and San Francisco, use their leverage within city government to advance innovative financial empowerment initiatives that promote access to safe and affordable financial products and services, increase financial literacy and asset-building opportunities, and provide greater protections for city residents.

“My Office will proudly represent Chicago as one of the pioneering municipal governments. The resources and knowledge of seven great cities and their partners will empower our citizens with new financial opportunities and money management skills,” said Chicago Treasurer Stephanie D. Neely. “We are thrilled and look forward to our new collaboration with the other CFE member cities.”

Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley designated the City Treasurer's Office and Treasurer Neely to lead this initiative for the City of Chicago.

“Chicago's commitment to leveraging its powers and abilities to help citizens achieve greater financial stability is commendable,” said CFE co-chair Jonathan Mintz, who also serves as the Commissioner of the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs. “Their team makes a strong addition to the CFE Coalition.”

“It is inspiring to see this coalition grow and become a model for the rest of the country,” said San Francisco Treasurer José Cisneros. “I am proud to work side by side with the great City of Chicago and our other partners to increase access to the financial mainstream.”

The CFE Coalition is led by Mayor Michael Bloomberg's representative, Consumer Affairs Commissioner Jonathan Mintz, and Mayor Gavin Newsom's representative, Treasurer José Cisneros. The founding Coalition cities are New York City, New York; San Francisco, California; Miami, Florida; San Antonio, Texas; Savannah, Georgia; and Seattle, Washington. CFE cities represent the new wave of financial empowerment which capitalizes on local governments' unique power and position to advance financial empowerment, which has traditionally been left to the nonprofit sector.

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The Cities for Financial Empowerment Coalition (CFE) brings together pioneering municipal governments from across the country to utilize their power and positions to advance innovative financial empowerment initiatives. By working with key partners in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, CFE leverages its members' collective power to advance the financial empowerment agenda on a state and national level. For more information, please visit [www.cfecoalition.org](http://www.cfecoalition.org).

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