



NEWS RELEASE

Chicago Police Department

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CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES 10-YEAR LOW IN JANUARY HOMICIDES

Crime reductions also include 20-year lows in robberies, burglaries and motor vehicle thefts

Last year's crime reduction efforts carried over into the first month of 2019, with Chicago setting record low figures for murders, shootings, robberies, burglaries and motor vehicle thefts. Overall, crime was down nine percent citywide in January, compared to the same period the year prior. Highlights include:

There were 20 murders in Chicago in January 2019. That's the lowest figure for that same period in nine years. Chicago's lowest number of January homicides was 19 in 2010.

There were 100 shootings in Chicago in January 2019, the lowest figure for this same month in the past five years. This is the third straight year of declines from the peak of 206 shootings in January 2016

There were 664 robberies in Chicago in January 2019. That's the lowest of that same period in 20 years since computer case reporting started. This is a cumulative 58 percent decline from the peak of 1,565 robberies in January 2000.

There were 811 burglaries in Chicago in January 2019. Again, that's the lowest of that same period in 20 years since computer case reporting started.

There were 651 motor vehicle thefts in Chicago in January 2019. That's also the lowest of that same period in 20 years since computer case reporting started.

Chicago Police also seized 750 guns already this year, 42 more than last year during this same period. This equates to one gun seized every hour in Chicago over the last 31 days. Gun seizures in January 2019 included 38 assault weapons. That's one more assault weapon than what was seized last year during the same period.

Gun arrests have also risen. Officers arrested 272 people for possession of illegal guns in January 2019. By comparison, 262 people were arrested on these same charges during this same period last year.

"Our officers have stood at the forefront of these ongoing reductions in murders, shootings, robberies, burglaries and motor vehicle thefts," said CPD Superintendent Eddie Johnson. "Are we where we want to be? No. However these figures prove that community policing has considerable merit. CPD continues to invest in ways to incorporate the invaluable knowledge of those living within our neighborhoods into our public safety strategy."

CRIMEFIGHTERS CONFERENCE SHOWCASES EFFORTS TO REDUCE VIOLENCE

The University of Chicago Crime Lab, the Chicago Police Foundation and CPD convened an international summit Jan. 24-25 focused on violence reduction strategies. The Chicago Police Department Crimefighters Conference brought more than 200 high-ranking police officers from as far as Ireland, London (UK), New York City, Los Angeles, Baltimore, Washington, D.C., Las Vegas, Memphis, St. Louis and Milwaukee to Chicago.

Law enforcement experts from across the U.S. and U.K. shared best practices in data science, community policing and collaborative problem solving. Many of the attendees were curious about Chicago's strategic approach to policing, which has led to dramatic decreases in crime over the past two years. Part of this strategy relies upon predictive, data-driven technology, as well as increased manpower and a renewed commitment to community collaboration.

Included in the conference were site tours of CPD's Strategic Decision Support Centers. The city debuted these digital nerve centers in 2017, providing officers and district supervisors a suite of technology that includes precise gunshot detection systems, high-definition digital cameras and advanced mobile technology deployed to officers in the field.

CPD UNVEILS STRATEGIC PLAN, LAYING OUT A ROADMAP TO REFORM

The Chicago Police Department unveiled its Strategic Plan on Jan. 8. The plan outlines the Department's roadmap through 2021. The plan focuses on improving performance in four key areas: (1) public safety; (2) community trust; (3) professional development; and (4) operational excellence. The plan lays out over a dozen strategies and projects to make progress in each of the areas.

The 52-page document does not replace or undermine the work that has already been done to develop community partnerships, reduce violence and build community trust. Rather, it serves as a roadmap to continue transforming CPD into a department that everyone can be proud of, and a department to be emulated across the country.

The process to establish the Strategic Plan dates back to October 2017, and includes input from more than 900 individuals. This list includes department chiefs, frontline officers, residents, city leaders and national experts in policing.

DEPLOYMENTS CONTINUE, BRINGING MANPOWER TO PROMISED LEVELS

Nearly 200 new officers were deployed throughout Chicago in January 2019, building on Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Superintendent Johnson's pledge to add 970 new officers to CPD's ranks in 2016. The city has already outpaced that goal, adding 1,161 men and women in just two years. Two rounds of deployments were announced in January, totaling 197 officers being added to the streets.

These officers have been deployed to the North, South and West sides of Chicago based on operational need and CPD's citywide public safety strategy. The increased manpower comes on top of replacing officers who have retired or moved on from the department. Thus, total hiring over this two-year period is actually 2,352 new officers.

THE FIRST OF 200 NEW LICENSE PLATE READER (LPR) VEHICLES DEPLOYED

The first of 200 new patrol vehicles equipped with License Plate Reader (LPR) technology were unveiled Jan. 8 at the Chicago Police Department's 019th (Town Hall) District. LPR technology allows officers to match license plates against the list of stolen and wanted vehicles compiled daily by the Office of Emergency Management and Communications.

The first of 50 new LPR-equipped vehicles have been deployed to the 008, 011, and 025th districts to quickly identify stolen cars, reduce incidents of carjacking and recover stolen vehicles. Additional vehicles will roll out throughout the first quarter of the year, with all 200 cars anticipated to be deployed by early March 2019. The citywide roll out will ensure that every police district has at least six LPR-equipped vehicles in their fleet.

SHOOTINGS 1 JAN – 31 Jan 19

2016: 242
2017: 231
2018: 161
2019: 100

SHOOTING VICTIMS 1 JAN - 31 Jan 19

2016: 293
2017: 293
2018: 202
2019: 120

MURDERS 1 JAN – 31 Jan 19

2016: 53
2017: 52
2018: 40
2019: 20

SHOOTINGS – Jan 2019

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