



NEWS RELEASE

Chicago Police Department

David O. Brown
Superintendent

For Immediate Release
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CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT: AUGUST 2022 IN REVIEW

City of Chicago sees sixth consecutive month of decline in gun violence

In August, there was a 17.5% decline in homicides compared to the same time in 2021, and a 15.78% drop in homicides year to date. For the sixth consecutive month, the city of Chicago saw decreases in homicides, shooting incidents and shooting victims citywide. Shootings are down 18.59% while there was a 19.69% decline in shooting victims.

In the Top 55 police beats, which account for more than half of the city's violence, there has been a 24.77% reduction in homicides and a 31.31% reduction in shootings since the implementation of a strategic deployment plan to reduce violent crimes in these locations.

"The Chicago Police Department works every day and every night to serve and protect, and engage and inform residents in every part of our city," said Superintendent David O. Brown. "Building trust in our community and enhancing communication are essential to impacting public safety across Chicago."

The Chicago Police Department continued its work during August to ensure visibility, engagement and collaboration across the city as residents participated in annual end-of-summer activities and prepared students to go back to school. Thousands came together to enjoy Fiesta Del Sol – the largest Latino festival in the Midwest – as well as the returns of the historic Bud Billiken Parade and the Chicago Air and Water Show, the first since the pandemic began. These celebrations – and the return of many others – were a success thanks to efforts of countless people, including the hard work of Chicago's brave officers.

The Chicago Police Department never stops working to enhance public safety and is focused on that commitment as the new school year gets underway. Prior to the start of the CPS school year, the Department teamed up with other city agencies for the first of several school safety drills. Keeping students safe and making sure all personnel are equipped to respond in emergency situations are a top priority. This joint exercise in cross-collaboration offered an opportunity to combine resources and expertise, and run scenarios to ensure preparedness across agencies.

CPD also continues to coordinate efforts and increase presence across the CTA. While overall transit crime is up 40% year to date, there is a 41% decrease compared to this time in 2019. The Department recently convened a special employment program which adds officers to CTA 24 hours a day so that officers are always visible and engaged, and riders feel safe on public transit. CPD has also implemented a new Caravan Task Force whose primary purpose is to enforce city ordinances for illegal drifting and drag racing, impound offending vehicles and identify offending vehicles that were not immediately apprehended for future impound. Enforcement activity already includes nine arrests, seven impounds and 22 requests for impounds.

Of the 183 arrests for vehicular hijacking so far this year, 56% have been juvenile offenders. Overall, members of the Department and the Vehicular Hijacking Task Force have made 978 motor vehicle-related arrests, including 395 juvenile arrests. The city has recorded 1,146 vehicular hijackings this year. Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Part I crimes are 5% below 2019 levels. They are up 28% year to date. Since January 1, the Bureau of Detectives has cleared 227 murder cases.

In August alone, Chicago's police officers recovered 1,203 firearms – an average of more than 38 firearms each day this month. The Department maintained that momentum by teaming up with community partners for the second gun turn-in event this year, where 170 firearms and 40 replicas were collected. Over the last eight months, officers have taken 8,579 firearms off the streets, 3% more than this time last year. This includes the recovery of 721 assault weapons, a 60% increase year to date, as well as at least 540 ghost guns.

This month marked one year since the loss of Chicago Police Officer Ella Grace French (*E.O.W. August 7, 2021*) to senseless gun violence. Officer French's service and sacrifice were remembered on August 7 with a special ceremony enshrining her police star into the Superintendent's Honored Star Case. Chicago Police Star #15013 is now permanently retired and prominently displayed to ensure Office French's courage and dedication will never be forgotten. While we continue to mourn this loss, we also celebrate the impact she made on her team, in our Department and across this city.



The Department also held a graduation ceremony this month in recognition of the city's 38 newest police officers from Recruit Class 21-6. More than 70% of this class are people of color and 29% are women. Recently promoted command staff, detectives, evidence technicians, and field training officers were also honored during the ceremony. The Department continues to look for candidates to join this next generation of officers. Thanks to the recently expanded criteria, even more individuals qualify for the opportunity to serve and protect Chicago and its residents. Another round of entrance exams will be held September 22-24. More information is available [HERE](#).

On August 2, the Chicago Police Department took part in National Night Out, an annual event that promotes police-community partnerships all across the country. Here at home, each of the city's 22 police districts hosted events to bring residents together with officers who work tirelessly every single day to build bridges and grow community trust while getting to know community members.

CPD also launched Conversations with a Commander this month, an initiative to include community members in our public safety effort. These monthly events will be key opportunities for residents to engage with district leadership and collaborate to find solutions. This is about accountability, unity and working together to make real change. A schedule of upcoming Conversations with a Commander is [available online](#).

Department members continued to take part in Operation Clean events, raising money for Special Olympics through the *Cops on a Rooftop* fundraiser, plus Peace Walks, youth sports leagues, and baseball and soccer clinics. Officers also spent time taking Youth Explorers on the final field trips of the summer, as well as and back-to-school supply drives and health and wellness fairs.





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SHOOTINGS – AUGUST

2022: 305
2021: 370
2020: 380
2019: 214

SHOOTINGS – JAN. 1 – AUG. 31

2022: 1904
2021: 2339
2020: 2159
2019: 1424

SHOOTING VICTIMS – AUGUST

2022: 384
2021: 475
2020: 490
2019: 269

SHOOTING VICTIMS – JAN. 1 – AUG. 31

2022: 2352
2021: 2929
2020: 2707
2019: 1751

MURDERS – AUGUST

2022: 66
2021: 80
2020: 64
2019: 49

MURDERS – JAN. 1 – AUG. 31

2022: 448
2021: 532
2020: 512
2019: 341

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