



NEWS RELEASE

Chicago Police Department

Eric M. Carter
Interim Superintendent

For Immediate Release
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Contact: Office of News Affairs
312-745-6110

CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT: MARCH 2023 IN REVIEW



This month started on a somber note for the Chicago Police Department (CPD), as we lost one of our own in the line of duty and laid to rest a fallen hero – Police Officer Andrés Mauricio Vásquez Lasso (E.O.W March 1, 2023).

The Department is humbled and grateful for the outpouring of support here at home, from community members near and far, and from law enforcement agencies across the country. We will be forever impacted by the loss of such a courageous, young life and will continue to support Officer Vásquez Lasso's family and loved ones through this difficult time. As the entire Department and members who worked alongside this hero continue to grieve, we are inspired by the legacy of Officer Vásquez Lasso and all who he touched. His sacrifice will never be forgotten.

The loss of Officer Vásquez Lasso underscores the danger officers face as they serve and protect this city. So far this year, 24 Chicago Police officers have been shot or shot at in the line of duty.

In the face of this tragedy, and despite the extreme risk, officers continue to work diligently to make our city safer. March marked the 13th consecutive month of a decline in gun violence. Citywide, there were 33 murders this month. That's a 21.4% reduction compared to March 2022. Overall, homicides are down 15.6% year to date, and there's a 12.8% decline in shooting incidents. More than half of the city's 22 police districts have recorded a decline in homicides. The Department's Bureau of Detectives' homicide clearance rate is 68.14%, the highest, year to date, since 2015.

Officer safety and building community trust remain top priorities as the Department undergoes a change in leadership. Former Superintendent David O. Brown, who led the Chicago Police Department for nearly three years, stepped down this month, and First Deputy Superintendent Eric M. Carter was appointed Interim Superintendent. As a 30-year member of the Department, Interim Superintendent Carter has served in many areas of CPD, most recently as second-in-command, overseeing all Department deployment operations which include the Bureaus of Patrol, Detectives, Counterterrorism and Special Operations.

"The Chicago Police Department is a nonstop operation and our officers work to protect the city, its residents, and its businesses 24 hours a day, seven days a week," said Interim Superintendent Carter. "Changes in leadership

happen in every organization but each Department member's unwavering commitment to public safety and community engagement through this transition makes me proud to lead and serve alongside them."

Officers continue to take guns off the streets. In these first three months of the year, officers have recovered 2,547 weapons. This also includes the recovery of 261 assault weapons, a 26% increase over this time last year.

This month, the Chicago Police Department joined Illinois State Police for the Illinois Secretary of State's announcement of grant funding that will help combat vehicular hijackings and motor vehicle thefts. CPD will receive \$1.4 million to expand on our already existing efforts to strengthen investigations and provide anti-theft resources to our community members. Vehicular hijackings are down 28.6% compared to this time last year. Officers have made 525 motor vehicle-related arrests, a 44.2% increase year to date. Of the 67 arrests for vehicular hijacking, 73% have been juvenile offenders.

CPD also continues to coordinate efforts on CTA, which includes expanded police presence and increased visibility to help improve safety for all riders. Violent crime on the CTA is down 25% month to date and 4% year to date, while overall transit crime is down 7% year to date and 11% compared to March 2022.

In honor of Women's History Month, the Chicago Police Department joined the 30x30 initiative to advance the support and success of women in policing across the country. The Department pledges to advocate for women in policing and increase the representation of women in police recruit classes to 30% by 2030. Nationwide, women make up 12% of sworn officers and just 3% of police leadership. Within CPD, women represent 25% of sworn officers and 27% of command staff leadership.

The Department also launched new programs to rehire former CPD officers and offer lateral hires for currently employed sworn officers from other law enforcement agencies. The [rehire program](#) will allow for sworn officers who have previously worked at CPD to come back under an expedited process. The [lateral hire program](#) establishes a process for sworn officers from other law enforcement agencies to join CPD while receiving credit for their law enforcement experience.



This March, the Department hosted the first graduation and promotion ceremony of the year, recognizing the city's newest officers as well as 99 promoted Detectives, 29 promoted Lieutenants, and multiple recently promoted members of the Command Staff. Recruit Classes 22-2, 22-3, 22-4, 22-5 were made up of 275 graduates, more than a third of whom are women and more than 80% are people of color.

The make-up of this latest group of graduates is part of CPD's efforts to build a more diverse department reflective of the City of Chicago. Recruitment efforts continue, both here at home and across the country, to find the next generation of Chicago Police officers. This year's third round of in-person exams were held this month at several City College locations, with 234 applicants taking the exam. Additional entrance

exams opportunities will be available all year long, and more information is [available here](#).

March saw the continuation of the citywide [Conversations with a Commander](#) series, as well as programming at the District level, including "Hip Hop Tuesday" and youth sports leagues. The Department hosted the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony to celebrate the dedication of hundreds of CAPS volunteers. In addition, members also dedicated their time and took part in the 7th Annual U.S. Marshals Fallen Heroes Honor Run and the 23rd Annual Polar Plunge benefitting Special Olympics Chicago, as well as St. Patrick's Day festivities, Cyber Safety seminars for students, and preparing and delivering hot meals for those in need.



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SHOOTINGS – MARCH

2023: 140
2022: 177
2021: 230
2020: 146

SHOOTINGS – JAN. 1 – MAR. 31

2023: 442
2022: 507
2021: 582
2020: 419

SHOOTING VICTIMS – MARCH

2023: 158
2022: 212
2021: 291
2020: 175

SHOOTING VICTIMS – JAN. 1 – MAR. 31

2023: 493
2022: 594
2021: 701
2020: 493

MURDERS – MARCH

2023: 33
2022: 42
2021: 47
2020: 28

MURDERS – JAN. 1 – MAR. 31

2023: 113
2022: 134
2021: 138
2020: 98

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