



NEWS RELEASE

Chicago Police Department

Fred L. Waller
Interim Superintendent

For Immediate Release
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CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT: MAY 2023 IN REVIEW

CPD Announces Department Efforts, Citywide Crime Statistics for May 2023



The Chicago Police Department (CPD) suffered another tremendous loss this month, as for the second time in as many months, we lost one of our own in the line of duty and laid to rest a fallen hero Police Officer Aréannah M. Preston (E.O.W May 6, 2023).

The Department is honored by the outpouring of support from community members and law enforcement agencies all across the country. We are grateful for the continuous prayers as we all mourn the loss of this young, promising life. We will always remember Officer Preston's name, impact and duty to selflessness and service. We join Officer Preston's family and loved ones in mourning our fallen hero. Our hearts are heavy, but through our grief, we will carry on her legacy of service to Chicago and its people.

The loss of Officer Preston underscores the danger officers face as they serve and protect this city. This year has seen a 47.6% increase in officers being fired upon, as 31 Chicago Police officers have been shot or shot at in the line of duty.

In the face of this tragedy, officers continue to work diligently to make our city safer. Citywide, there were 62 murders this month, a 6% reduction compared to May 2022. Overall, homicides are down 9.48% year to date, and there's a 6.28% decline in shooting incidents. Half of the city's 22 police districts have recorded a decline in homicides. The Department's Bureau of Detectives' homicide clearance rate is 60.26%, the highest, year to date, since 2015.

Officer safety and building community trust remain top priorities as CPD welcomes a familiar face back to the Department. Interim Superintendent Eric M. Carter retired this month, after more than three decades of distinguished service to the city. The Department congratulates and celebrates Interim Superintendent Carter and his career, we also welcome back a familiar face, as Fred L. Waller rejoined the ranks and was sworn in as Interim Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department. Interim Supt. Waller, a highly respected law enforcement leader, brings more than 30 years of public safety service and experience.

"I am grateful to once again work with the brave men and women who have committed themselves to protecting all Chicagoans," said Interim Superintendent Waller. "As we head into summer, we will continue forging strong bonds in the communities we serve and working together to make our city safer for everyone."



This month, CPD, alongside the Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC) and the Chicago Fire Department (CFD) announced a citywide summer safety plan to keep every neighborhood safe as the warmer months approach. To enhance coordination and communication, the Summer Operations Center (SOC) has been activated at OEMC. The center is staffed by CPD and OEMC personnel who work collaboratively for overall violence reduction efforts.

CPD has also increased its presence across the city and on the lakefront to maintain public safety in areas of large-scale events, gatherings and car caravans. The Bureau of Patrol has hosted numerous tabletop exercises and drills to ensure appropriate police response to active situations. CPD is also working

closely with community organizations and leaders to provide safe spaces for youth and families to enjoy the city.

CPD also continues to work alongside the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) to provide safe experiences for all riders across the city's public transit system. Violent crime on the CTA is down 28% month to date and 10% year to date, while overall transit crime is down 10% year to date and 20% compared to May 2022.

The number of vehicular hijackings also continues to decline, while related arrests are on the rise. Compared to this time last year, vehicular hijackings are down 28.8%. Officers have made 860 motor vehicle-related arrests, a 49.8% increase year to date. Of the 98 arrests for vehicular hijacking, 65% have been juvenile offenders.

Over these first five months of the year, officers have recovered 5,057 firearms, up 7.7% over last year. That includes the recovery of 451 assault weapons, a 13.8% increase year to date. The Department maintained that momentum by teaming up with community partners for the first five gun turn-in events this year - one in each Area - where 450 firearms and 135 replicas were collected.

May is Law Enforcement Appreciation Month, with many ceremonies and events to remember fallen officers. Thousands of CPD members gathered for the 91st anniversary of the St. Jude Memorial March. Local, state and federal partners joined this esteemed tradition, gathering to pay homage to our dearly departed officers and to support their families.

Members of the Department also traveled to Washington D.C. for National Police Week, where three CPD officers who lost their lives in the line of duty to COVID complications were remembered. Officer Joey Huerta, Officer James R. Svec, Jr. and Detective Joseph A. Tripoli were honored in several ceremonies and their names were engraved on the wall of the National Law Enforcement Memorial. These officers and their families were also recognized at the Illinois Police Officer Memorial in Springfield. We will never forget these heroes and are eternally grateful for their ultimate sacrifice in service to the city of Chicago.





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Back here at home, dozens of officers were honored for their bravery and commitment to service at the 62nd Annual Recognition Ceremony. Officers received the Richard J. Daley Police Medal of Honor, Blue Shield Award, Blue Star Award, Superintendent's Award of Valor, Paul R. Bauer Leadership Award, Thomas Wortham IV Military and Community Service Award and Police Medal of Honor. The courageous acts that our officers perform day in and day out to protect the people of our great city do not go unnoticed.

As we commemorate and celebrate the officers of yesterday and today, the Department is also looking to the future generation of CPD officers. The fourth round of in-person exams was held this month at several City College locations, with 142 applicants taking the exam. Additional entrance exam opportunities will be available all year long, and more information is [available here](#).

May saw the continuation of the citywide [Conversations with a Commander](#) series and the annual Cop on a Rooftop, where officers raised more than \$47,000 for Special Olympics. Members also volunteered their time taking part in prom attire giveaways, animal wellness fairs, youth sports and planting community gardens. The Department also took part in events recognizing Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month, celebrated the important women in our lives this Mother's Day and honored Memorial Day by paying tribute to the men and women of the armed services who have died protecting our country.

SHOOTINGS – MAY

2023: 266
2022: 255
2021: 321
2020: 338

SHOOTINGS – JAN. 1 – MAY 31

2023: 909
2022: 970
2021: 1151
2020: 961

SHOOTING VICTIMS – MAY

2023: 325
2022: 331
2021: 386
2020: 406

SHOOTING VICTIMS – JAN. 1 – MAY 31

2023: 1049
2022: 1169
2021: 1382
2020: 1125

MURDERS – MAY

2023: 62
2022: 66
2021: 68
2020: 86

MURDERS – JAN. 1 – MAY 31

2023: 229
2022: 253
2021: 260
2020: 242

** All crime statistics are preliminary and subject to further analysis or change. **

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