**Coalition of Veterans Organizations** 





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## Coalition of Veterans Organizations

## Public Safety Quarterly Report, December 2024

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Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) – It plans to spend \$65.2 millions in 2024. Much would go to pay for salaries of police officers of the city, suburbs, and private firms. The CTA provides 33,000 cameras on buses and trains. Although other deterrents to crime have been proposed, the rate of serious crime has not been reduced.

Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center (JTDC)- Since 2015, Superintendent Leonard B. Dixon has been responsible for the services to provide custody, medical, mental health, fiscal, social, maintenance, etc. His working budget is \$70 million. A minimum of 3,500 young people, aged 10 to 18, enter and exit the facility on an annual basis. His staff of 600 evaluates the educational, dental, and vision needs of the residents. Their alleged crimes include carjacking, murder, and other serious violations.

Cook County State's Attorney Office- Eileen O/Neill Burke announced that prosecutors must now seek pre-trial detention for anyone accused of violent offenses, domestic violence, sex offenses, crimes against children and offenses committed on public transportation. The benefits of cash bail are still debated.

The Crime Lab of the University of Chicago- It designs and tests data-driven innovations to improve the public sector's response to gun violence and an impaired criminal justice system. However, gun violence is the leading cause of death among young people.

The Criminal Justice Committee of the Westside Branch of the NAACP- Reported that the Coalition for Police Accountability and Transparency is tracking and coordinating a response to the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP's) appeal to the City's decision to **not** comply with the Arbitrator's decision to allow CPD officers accused of serious misconduct to go to arbitration instead of the Police Board. It also reported that the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability, based on complaints against COPA, has requested that the Office of the Inspector General audit COPA and how it conducts investigations of complaints.

The Chicago Sun Times – Maintains a list of details about each of the 500 + homicides committed in Chicago in 2024.

Veterans Assistance Commission of Cook County (VACCC)- Reported that Senate Bill 3479 Consumer Fraud-Veterans amends the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. It adds a veteran's services disclosure to be made by any person providing veteran or military benefits services. Makes it an unlawful practice for any person providing veteran or military benefits services to fail at the outset of the business relationship to clearly provide veterans services disclosures when veteran benefits services are provided in exchange for any financial compensation, benefit, or item of value.

Veterans Against Violence- It was a committee of CVO. The committee was dedicated to helping end the urban violence in Cook County. If properly staffed, it may be reactivated.