

Coalition of Veterans Organizations

**CVO**

*Leave No  
Veteran Behind*



PREPARED BY  
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**Q1  
2026**

**Coalition of Veterans Organizations (CVO)**  
**Public Safety-First Quarterly Report, March 2026**  
**Willie Mack, Ph.D., Vice Chair**

**Chicago Transit Authority (CTA)-Table Crime Locations**

| <i>January 1 to March 29 2026</i> |                                 |            |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Bus</b>                        |                                 | <b>59</b>  |
| <b>Bus Stop</b>                   |                                 | <b>26</b>  |
| <b>Garage Lot Property</b>        |                                 | <b>9</b>   |
| <b>Platform/Station Tracks</b>    |                                 | <b>67</b>  |
| <b>Train</b>                      |                                 | <b>155</b> |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                   |                                 | <b>316</b> |
|                                   |                                 |            |
| <b>01</b>                         | <b>Homicide</b>                 | <b>1</b>   |
| <b>Shot</b>                       | <b>Shooting Incidents</b>       | <b>4</b>   |
| <b>02</b>                         | <b>Criminal Sexual Assaults</b> | <b>12</b>  |
| <b>03</b>                         | <b>Robbery</b>                  | <b>78</b>  |
| <b>04A</b>                        | <b>Agg. Assault</b>             | <b>32</b>  |
| <b>04B</b>                        | <b>Agg. Battery</b>             | <b>69</b>  |
| <b>05</b>                         | <b>Burglary</b>                 | <b>0</b>   |
| <b>06</b>                         | <b>Larceny Theft</b>            | <b>122</b> |
| <b>07</b>                         | <b>Motor Vehicle Theft</b>      | <b>1</b>   |
| <b>09</b>                         | <b>Arson</b>                    | <b>1</b>   |

<https://www.chicagopolice.org/statistics-data/data-dashboards/cta-crimes/>

**Cook County State’s Attorney Office** – A Cook County judge will hear arguments next month over a petition to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate and charge alleged crimes committed by federal immigration agents during last fall’s “Operation Midway Blitz.” But in a new legal filing, Cook County State’s Attorney Eileen O’Neill Burke called the special prosecutor demand “baseless, frivolous and contrary to law.” For months, O’Neill Burke has maintained that her office only has limited ability to open investigations without a request from law enforcement and to charge federal agents. <https://capitolnewsillinois.com/news/legal-battle-intensifies-over-appointing-special-prosecutor-for-alleged-operation-midway-blitz-abuses/>

**Chicago** - Opposition to ICE: Many veterans, organized by groups like About Face and Veterans for Peace, argue that using military force for domestic immigration enforcement violates their oath to the Constitution.

**CWB NAACP**- Carlton T. Mayers II, Esq., an expert on public safety and policing reform, indicates that a national report card evaluates how states can prevent officers engaged in misconduct from continuing employment through stronger certification and decertification processes. The report card packet underscores that, while criminal and civil accountability are important, they are not sufficient on their own. Decertification offers a more permanent solution to prevent repeat misconduct by revoking a police officer’s license to serve.

**Chicago Police Department** –Chicago police responded to another large teen gathering in Hyde Park. Cars were vandalized and one teen was arrested.

**Department of Veteran Affairs** - The Department of Veterans Affairs announced in February 2026 that it will no longer report veterans to the FBI’s National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) solely because they participate in the VA fiduciary program. The decision reverses a decades-old practice and took effect immediately. <https://www.military.com/feature/2026/02/22/va-ends-fbi-reporting-policy-veterans-fiduciary-program.html#:~:text=M18%20pistols%20during%20a%20gun,practice%20and%20took%20effect%20immediately.>

***Illinois State Police (ISP)*** -ISP reports that human trafficking is one of the most under-reported and under-identified crimes and one where most victims generally do not reach out for help. Human trafficking victims are often forced into committing crimes such as prostitution, solicitation, or child pornography, which leads to interactions with law enforcement. ISP officers receive training, which enables them to recognize the depth of crimes surrounding human trafficking and assist in differentiating between victims and traffickers. Traffickers often use force, fraud, or coercion to bend the victim to their will.