



ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 5, 2024

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ILLINOIS STATE POLICE MARCH ANTI-VIOLENCE OPERATIONS SUCCESSSES IN CHICAGOLAND AREA

ISP arrests dozens for guns and stolen vehicles

CHICAGO – During March, the Illinois State Police (ISP) conducted four anti-violence enforcement operations in Cook County, targeting interstates most affected by criminal activity and violence, including Interstate 94 (Dan Ryan and Bishop Ford expressways), Interstate 57, and Interstate 290 (Eisenhower Expressway). These special operations are conducted in addition to daily patrols and investigations on the expressways. The operations are aimed at reducing weapon-related violence on the Chicagoland interstate system. ISP utilizes technology, including automated license plate readers, aerial support, data analysis, forensic services, and information sharing to combat crime. These high visibility saturation details have consistently resulted in positive outcomes.

March 2024 Operation Results	Operation SAVE the Day March 6-9	Operation Falcon March 14-17	Operation Condor March 22-23	Operation Eagle Eye March 27-30
Arrests	14	7	5	7
Criminal Charges	38	18	7	15
Felony Charges	22	8	3	11
Firearms Seized	11	3	2	6
Firearm Related Charges	16	5	1	5
Stolen Vehicles Recovered	4	4	1	2
Participating Officers	60	31	27	33

In addition to the four operations in March, ISP conducted an operation in February resulting in a total of 40 arrests, 26 firearms seized, and 18 vehicles recovered.

In 2023, ISP conducted seven similar anti-violence operations in the Chicago area resulting in 51 arrests, 113 criminal charges, 69 felony charges, 19 firearms seized, and 31 recovered stolen vehicles. ISP intends to continue these operations into the foreseeable future.

These enforcement operations included ISP officers from the Division of Patrol, notably the Special Operations Group – North Statewide Anti-Violence Enforcement team, as well as ISP Air Operations, ISP Division of Criminal Investigation special agents, and the ISP Firearm Investigation Unit. The Chicago Police Department and numerous suburban police departments also provided support during arrests and investigations.

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In addition to technological advances and increased resources, ISP's most successful tool to combat crime is its personnel. Highly trained ISP officers have shown continued dedication to these operations, including many troopers who have volunteered. Without the personnel to staff these operations, the goal to create safer communities and remove violent criminals from the interstates would not be possible.

As ISP continues to modernize and adapt its enforcement efforts with the rapidly evolving environment, the need for highly motivated troopers who exemplify ISP's core beliefs of integrity, service, and pride cannot be overlooked. Starting July 1, 2024, a significant pay increase for new troopers will go into effect to attract more qualified applicants. New troopers will now earn approximately \$90,000 in compensation upon graduation from the Illinois State Police Academy.

To allow more people the opportunity to apply and earn this increased pay, ISP extended the deadline for the next round of applications to May 1, 2024. For more information about being an Illinois State Trooper, application requirements, and to complete an application, visit the ISP Merit Board website at <https://www.illinoistrooper.com/>, or email ISP.Recruitment@illinois.gov.

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