

CRIME IN ILLINOIS 2009



Presented by the

**Illinois State Police
Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting Program**

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DEDICATION

This publication is dedicated to all law enforcement officers, and in particular, to those police officers who lost their lives during the past year in the performance of duty while upholding the laws of the state of Illinois.



Lieutenant Gregory Jonas
Officer Alejandro (Alex) Valadez
Corporal Cesar Velazquez

***“Courage knows no bounds greater than that,
that a man or woman shall give his or her life in the
service of his or her community.”
(Source Unknown)***

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED

During 2009, three Illinois law enforcement officers lost their lives in the performance of their duties while upholding the laws of the state of Illinois. A brief narrative of the circumstances surrounding their deaths is presented below.

May 15, 2009 - HAINESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Corporal Cesar Velaquez suffered a fatal heart attack shortly after assisting a motorist. A vehicle had become disabled placing the motorist in immediate danger. Corporal Velaquez pushed the vehicle from the roadway and out of harms way. Shortly afterwards Corporal Velaquez appeared in court, and suffered a heart attack afterwards when returning to his residence. Corporal Velaquez was serving the Hainesville Police Department after retiring from the Skokie Police Department where he had served for 20 years.

June 1, 2009 - CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Officer Alejandro (Alex) Valadez succumbed to wounds sustained while investigating reports of gunfire. As he and his partner were questioning residents, a vehicle drove up and an occupant opened fire. Police Officer Valadez was struck twice and transported to a local hospital where he died later that day. Police Officer Valadez had served with the Chicago Police Department for three years at the time of the incident.

June 2, 2009 - CENTREVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Lieutenant Gregory Jonas was shot and killed while patrolling an apartment complex. It is believed the shooting occurred as he was questioning an individual. Lieutenant Jonas had served with the Centreville Police Department for 15 years, with eight years of previous service to the Alorton Police Department.

