



SHERIFFS NEWSLETTER

United in Justice

MARCH 2021

100 Club of Chicago Becomes 100 Club of Illinois



THANK YOU, FIRST RESPONDERS!



Now serving all first responders and families of the fallen across the State of Illinois

The 100 Club of Chicago announces the organization's expansion initiative to deliver support and resources to the first responder community throughout the state of Illinois. For the past 55 years, the Club has provided assistance for the families of first responders who have lost their lives in the line of duty and been strong advocates for the first responder community. As the organization proceeds with providing assistance throughout the state, the Club will continue to offer these services as well as many new programming initiatives.

The Club will now offer assistance to all families in the State of Illinois who lose a loved one in the line of duty, ensuring that all families have access to resources and the support of the 100 Club community. The organization will also offer assistance to active duty first responders through training and support services.

Beginning in March of 2021, the 100 Club will provide new programming opportunities for 100 Club families, student scholars, and active duty first responders including:

- Family assistance at the time of a line of duty death
- Family and First Responder financial assistance at any time
- Scholar mentorship & training
- 100 Club family events & resiliency programs
- First Responder wellness & resiliency programs
- First Responder Advisory Council for support services
- Statewide liaisons for community support

The Illinois Sheriffs' Association (ISA) is thrilled to see the expansion of these critical services to all of Illinois. The 100 Club of Illinois has been doing tremendous work and will now be able to reach that many more first responders across that State with these essential services. We stand ready to assist them in this effort.



"Progressive" Police-Reform

Although policing remains one of America's most trusted professions, we expect that reform efforts will continue to accelerate in the coming months.

Ordinarily, police professionals play a central role in efforts to improve public safety. Unfortunately, an increasing number of officers and senior leaders are reporting that their experience is discounted, their advice is ignored, or they are excluded from the discussions because "they are the problem."

If traditional public safety, officer safety, or crime reduction were the focus of current reform efforts, it

would be difficult to explain the exclusion of police experts. However, where civic leaders embrace “progressive reforms,” such as “equity,” “social justice,” and the “dismantling of systemic racism,” it is no longer obvious that the training, education, and experience of police officers will play a central role.

Still, if we hope to participate and influence police-reform efforts, we should recognize where “progressive reform” differs from traditional efforts to improve public safety. In this article, we hope to make sense of the “progressive” reform proposals by viewing them through the stated goals and priorities of their advocates.

Progressive Reform and Equity

Understanding the progressive reform agenda starts by understanding their language. The foundation of progressive reform is the demand for “equity” in the criminal justice system.

Equity is not equality of treatment or equality of opportunity. Equity is equality of outcome.

To progressive activists, equity envisions eliminating “racial disparities” in all aspects of the criminal justice system. To determine whether a racial disparity exists, researchers compare a racial group’s representation in the overall population with their representation in a specific aspect of the criminal justice system. If, for example, a racial group represents 6% of the population but makes up 40% of the arrests, a racial disparity exists.

“Equity” is not limited to incidents of racial discrimination. Even where racially diverse individuals are treated equally, if equal treatment results in unequal outcomes (“disparate outcomes”), then equity demands the system be reformed.

When you use population percentages as the benchmark, racial disparities exist in nearly every aspect of the criminal justice system. This reality enables proponents of “equity” to justify reform proposals without considering their impact on public safety, officer safety, or crime reduction—so long as the proposals are intended to eliminate a racial disparity.

From Disparity to Systemic Racism

Racial disparity throughout the criminal justice system is obvious. What isn’t obvious is how the disparity is created or what to do about it. Unfortunately, merely asking these questions in the context of progressive reform can be “problematic.”

This is because, for many progressive reform advocates, the cause of racial disparity is beyond debate. For them, disparities in stops, arrests, incarceration, and use-of-force are the natural consequence of “systemic racism.”

In this context, “systemic racism” is the result of overt acts of racists, implicit racial bias, a lack of privilege, and cultural insensitivity—including the failure to consider “disparate impacts” that otherwise equal treatment and neutral laws can have on racial groups.

Critics of the “systemic racism” theory might argue that criminal conduct, dysfunctional associations, or a myriad of other economic and criminological alternatives might better explain racial disparities. However, to many progressive reform activists, proposing alternatives to the “systemic racism” theory is itself evidence of systemic racism and privilege.

The Big Switch: Police as Oppressors

Flowing from the “systemic racism” theory is the belief that racial disparity is largely the result of undisciplined, untrained, and racist police. Through this lens, the police are viewed as the “oppressors,” against whom reform measures must be enacted if we are to hold them “accountable.”

To those who believe that the police are oppressors, and therefore illegitimate, any use-of-force may be characterized as “police brutality.” Even lawful force might be condemned as a result of officers too eager to resort to force, unwilling to respect the dignity of the individual, and unwilling to value the sanctity of life.

Recasting the police as oppressors transforms criminals into the “victims” of this oppression. As “victims,” criminals are more easily excused for their crimes. They have reduced “agency,” meaning they have little control over their thoughts, feelings, or actions.

Under this progressive view, criminals do not simply choose to commit crimes. Rather, the legacy of slavery, enduring systemic racism, and racist officers have trapped them in a cycle of oppression that impedes legitimate economic and educational opportunities.

Under these conditions, some believe that crime is inevitable. In response, it makes sense that progressive prosecutors, civic leaders, and judges might prioritize rehabilitation, education, and social services (e.g. financial assistance, housing assistance, counseling) over incarceration, restitution, and punishment.

How Progressive Reform Makes Sense

Once you understand that progressive reform advocates believe “systemic racism causes crime,” progressive reform proposals begin to make sense.

If your goal is to reduce the economic impact that an arrest will have on a suspect, then it makes sense to eliminate bail, eliminate fines, and limit the number of arrestable offenses.

If you believe that police are racist, abusive, and corrupt, then it makes sense to mandate body-cameras and enact policies that prevent pretext car stops, restrict consent searches, and limit investigatory stops.

If you believe that the police profession is illegitimate and untrustworthy, then it makes sense to construct and empower layers of civilian oversight.

If you believe that the police are shooting too many people during foot chases, it makes sense to prohibit foot chases.

If you believe that the police cause violence (or simply don't do enough to avoid it), then it makes sense to enact “elevated” use-of-force policies that restrict constitutional and otherwise reasonable use-of-force—shifting responsibility from the suspect to the officer.

For Next Time: Getting Officers to Stop Causing Suspects to Attack Them.

For those who have been struggling to imagine how progressive reform proposals will improve public safety or reduce crime, it may be helpful to realize that those traditional law enforcement priorities were never intended as the near-term goals of progressive reform activists.

In the next issue of Force Science News, we'll continue to look at progressive police-reform. We'll discuss officer “accountability” and consider how “elevated” use of force guidelines have left officers struggling to understand “necessary,” “proportional,” and “minimum” force standards.

Finally, we'll look at expanded “officer-created jeopardy” and other efforts to get officers to stop causing suspects to attack them.

Article link can be found [HERE](#).

BY: VON KLIEM, JD, LL.M.FORCE SCIENCE NEWS

The Pain Behind the Badge Resources

Thank you to Clarke Paris from The Pain Behind the Badge and all other speakers/presenters during the 2021 Winter Conference. Please click [HERE](#) for links mentioned during the presentation, including:

- **Safe Call Now** - help program & crisis referral services for public safety employees and their families
- **COP-2-COP** - 24 Hour Help Hotline
- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**
- **Cops Alive** - Information, strategies & tools to help cops plan happy, health and successful careers, relationships and lives
- **Substance Abuse** - Chemical Dependency



Businesses In Your Community

At the end of February we started sending out invitations to local businesses to partner with the ISA in our Sheriff Bear Comfort Kit Program.

If you know of a business that would like to participate, please email christan@ilsheriff.org or direct them to our website:

2021 Conference Dates:

Jail Medical Summit
August 26, Holiday Inn & Suites
Peoria

Sheriffs Summer Training Conference



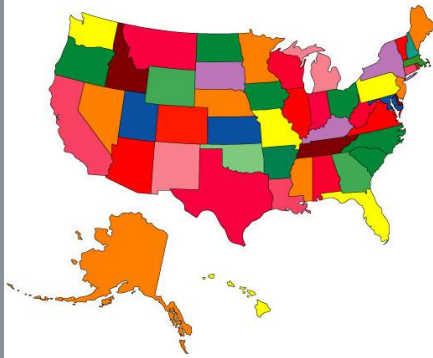
**Chief Deputy & Jail Administrators
Conference**

October 12-14, Embassy Suites
East Peoria

**Administrative Assistant's
Conference**

October 21-22
President Abraham Lincoln Hotel
Springfield

ISA: Reaching the Nation



From New York to Los Angeles

ISA Executive Director, Jim Kaitschuk, spent weeks before and after HB3653 was signed by Governor Pritzker doing interviews on behalf of the ISA and Law Enforcement in Illinois.

Here are a few of the locations across the country reached with our message:

- AM 560 The Answer - Chicago, IL
- WLS - AM Radio - Chicago, IL
- 89.9 WWNO - New Orleans, LA
- WBUR Radio - Boston, MA
- Vermont Public Radio - Burlington, VT
- 101.9 WDET Radio - Detroit, MI
- Connecticut Public Radio WNPR - New Haven, CT
- WLRN Radio - Miami, FL
- Hawaii Public Radio - Honolulu, HI
- WBFO FM Radio - Buffalo, NY

- WESA FM Radio - Pittsburgh, PA
- WHYY Radio - Pittsburgh, PA
- WUSF 89.7 FM - Tampa Bay, FL
- KNPR Radio - Las Vegas, NV
- KPCC FM Radio - Los Angeles, CA
- Mississippi Public Broadcasting - Columbus, MS
- WAMY FM Radio - Washington, D.C.
- WFLD Fox - Chicago, IL
- WBEZ FM Radio - Chicago
- FMOX AM Radio - St. Louis, MO
- NBC News - Champaign, IL
- CBS News - Peoria, IL
- NBC News - Chicago, IL

- Fox News - Peoria, IL
- Fox News - St. Louis, MO
- WRX TV - Rockford, IL
- WSIL TV - IL, MO, KY & TN
- NPR
- New York Times
- Rockford Register Star - Rockford, IL
- Crime Report - Illinois
- The Center Square - Illinois
- Lake and McHenry County Scanner - IL
- Chicago Tribune
- Alton Daily News - Alton, IL

ISA: BY THE NUMBERS



Letters From ISA Members



"I have always had great respect for all members of Law Enforcement. They do difficult work and are underpaid. I recently had to call 911 for help. The officer who responded was like dealing with an old friend. He was kind, helpful and gave me hope."



"We don't care what the legislators pass, we still support and want to give you our full respect. I am amazed that through all the recent events you officers look and act very professional and friendly. Keep up your courage."



"Every person and their jobs are important. We need you and your jobs protect all of us. We appreciate and respect the work you do for all people. Thank you."

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SECURUS Technologies™

Diamond Member

Powerful technology makes it possible. Securus Video Connect™, is a fully web-based visual communication system that allows friends, family members, attorneys, and public officials to schedule and participate in video sessions with an incarcerated individual – from anywhere with internet access using the free Securus app, computer or tablet!

<https://securustech.net/>



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Level: Platinum

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