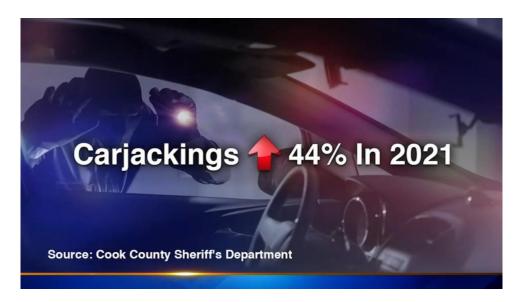


Together We Make A Difference.

Why Carjacking Is on the Rise Among Teens



By Campbell Robertson

March 1, 2022

The quiet alley behind his mother's house was where Tariq Majeed, a 45-year-old father of three, often came for some uninterrupted work. He ran a car-detailing business, and around midday on a chilly Tuesday in late January he was deep-cleaning the back seats of a client's BMW. He felt a nudge from behind and turned to find it was a gun.

The gunman — who was masked and, Mr. Majeed estimated, could not have been older than a teenager — demanded the keys. When Mr. Majeed fumbled to get them out of his work apron, the young man slammed the gun into the bridge of his nose. Mr. Majeed doubled over, the keys fell out of the apron, and seconds later the car was gone.

The police quickly found the BMW, which had been shut off remotely by an anti-theft system and left behind. They told Mr. Majeed that earlier that morning there had been another carjacking, of a Dodge Durango at a Shell station up the road. The Dodge, too, had been abandoned — not far from where Mr. Majeed was working. No one has been caught.

"I honestly believe it's a game," Mr. Majeed said. Stolen cars used to be stripped down, with the parts sold for cash, he said. Now people are carjacked, and the cars are often found afterward, crashed or just left on the street. "It's a game."

In the strange math of the past two pandemic years, as different kinds of crime have spiked and plummeted, carjacking has made an alarming resurgence. The number of reported incidents nearly quadrupled in Philadelphia from 2019 to 2021 and <u>is</u> on track to double this year; **Chicago had more than 1,900 carjackings last year, the highest number in decades.** Two months into 2022 the number of armed carjackings in New Orleans was already at two-thirds the whole year's tally in 2019. Washington, D.C., where 426 carjackings were reported last year, is not an exception.

There are reasons carjacking may have begun proliferating even<u>as robbery rates</u> dropped in 2020: Push-button ignitions have made it harder to operate cars without getting the keys from the driver; supply

chain problems boosted the price of used cars as millions found themselves in economic straits; and the pandemic ushered in an army of delivery workers, often stopping in unfamiliar neighborhoods. Rideshare drivers, the police said, have been summoned, then robbed on arrival.

But none of this fully explains what officials say is the most troubling part of the trend: the ages of so many who have been arrested. Fourteen-year-olds, 12-year-olds, even 11-year-olds have been charged with armed carjacking or in some cases murder.

"They are children," Robert J. Contee III, chief of Washington's Metropolitan Police Department, said at a news conference in early February about a carjacking task force formed with the police in a neighboring county. "The fact that between Prince George's County and D.C. we have over 200 young people that committed a carjacking is staggering to me."

Carjacking is a hard crime to analyze. In statistics, it is often mixed in with other auto theft and robbery crimes. Arrest rates are low — fewer than one in eight carjackings in Chicago resulted in arrest in 2020, according to a study by the University of Chicago's Crime Lab — making conclusions hard to draw. Young people are more likely to be caught, criminal justice experts say, and thus show up disproportionately in arrest numbers.

Still, something appears to be happening. Karl A. Racine, the attorney general of the District of Columbia, reported that from 2020 to 2021 his office saw a 60 percent drop in the number of juvenile cases in virtually every category of violent crime. Carjacking cases, however, nearly tripled.

More than half of those arrested on carjacking charges in Washington in the past year were under 18, including two girls in their early teens who pleaded guilty to charges of murdering a 66-year-old delivery driver; a pair of 15-year-olds charged last month with taking more than a dozen cars at gunpoint; and a 14-year-old girl arrested last weekend who was accused of taking part in four carjackings, three of them armed.

The mayor and the police chief say that there is too little accountability and that young people who are arrested on carjacking charges are often right back out in the community. Of the 151 carjacking arrests in 2021, police officials said, 85 involved juveniles with prior criminal records.

In January, Nate Fleming, a candidate for the District of Columbia Council, was at a gas station when a masked gunman stepped out of a burgundy S.U.V. and demanded his car keys.

During an interview at a downtown cafe, Mr. Fleming explained how young people who are disengaged can get involved in such a dangerous activity. He recalled his time coaching football at a city middle school, and how the students who did not make the team were far more likely to get into serious trouble. "Youth are in crisis," Mr. Fleming said.

Four days after his carjacking, the same burgundy S.U.V. was seen at two separate shootings, one of them fatal, the police said. A week and a half after that, a 17-year-old was arrested and charged with the armed robbery of Mr. Fleming.

But first, the teen "went on social media and took videos of driving around in my car," Mr. Fleming said. "So I mean, we're in a warped world."

Full Article HERE

Behind the Badge: Sheriff Kevin Turner

Jo Daviess County





Click on above images to view video

Spotlight on Illinois K9s



K9 Kano, McLean County Sheriff's Office

Kano works with Deputy Burns and is a Belgian Malinois/German Shephard mix originally from Slovakia. Rico is considered a fullservice K9 (area searches, narcotics detection & more).



K9 Rizzo, Kendall County Sheriff's Office

Rizzo works with Deputy Cady and is a 1 year old Bloodhound who is trained in tracking. He also participates in community events to raise awareness about K9 use and effectiveness.



K9 Dallas, DeKalb County Sheriff's Office

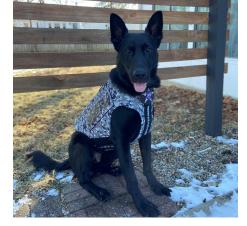
Dallas works with Deputy Justin Moede and is a German Shepherd. He is trained in patrol functions such as criminal apprehension, article searches and more.

Lake County Sheriff's Office K9s Ryker, Danno, Dax, and Duke Have Received Donations of Body Armor!

Lake County Sheriff's Office K9s Ryker, Danno, Dax, and Duke have received bullet and stab protective vests thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. The vests were embroidered with the sentiment "Honoring "Blue Paws Strong"".

Sheriff John D. Idleburg said, "We are so thankful for this generous donation of body armor for our canines, as we need to protect our four-legged

deputies just as we do our human deputies!"



K9 Montana Coming to Henderson County Sheriff's Office

For the first time in 30 years, sheriff's deputies in Henderson County, III. will work alongside a K-9.

In about two weeks, K-9 Deputy Montana will join her handler, Deputy Scott Albin, and begin her training. Chief Deputy Matthew Link is in charge of the new K-9 program at the Henderson County Sheriff's Department. He said Montana will be a great addition to the team.

"Everybody's excited to get the dog," Link said. They're excited to be able to work with the dog and see what the dog can do "The K-9 will assist with drug searches, tracking suspects or missing persons and protecting other deputies. Link said adding a K-9 changes everything.

"Just the just the mere presence of a K-9 ... is significant in itself," Link said. "I mean, you have a criminal ... who knows that there's a canine present ... their demeanor automatically changes."

Cedar Creek Kennels in Monmouth donated Montana to the department and will train her for about 10 weeks.

Owner Matt Greenlief said Albin, Montana's partner, is a great match.

"I think a lot of people think the police dogs are vicious [dogs]," Greenlief said. "Or dogs that just do nothing but like to bite things and people but ... they're very social, and they're ... very well acclimated into police departments."

Since 2020, Cedar Creek has trained about 15 other K-9s for law enforcement across west-central Illinois.

Greenlief said dogs are a great tool for any department, especially since many of them are currently short-staffed.

"Whether they're big or small, they're all hurting, they're all hurting for manpower. And it's just our way to kind of give back to them and help them out and in a city in a time of need."

Cedar Creek isn't the only organization giving back. Local businesses have donated supplies for Montana's food or for modifying the squad car to add a kennel. A local veterinary clinic will also donate its services. Community members have also donated money toward the program.

Article HERE

Putnam County Sheriff Kevin Doyle sworn in as 2022 President of the Illinois Sheriffs' Association



Putnam County Sheriff Kevin Doyle was sworn in to serve as 2022 President of the Illinois Sheriffs' Association at the Sheriffs Winter Training Conference in East Peoria.

The ISA was founded in 1928 to facilitate communication and cooperation between Sheriffs and encourage more professional training and growth. The association continues to foster that communication and has become a leader in offering innovative training programs for Illinois Sheriffs and their support teams.

Executive committee members are responsible for directing the association in the development of policy and legislation encompassing all areas of law enforcement, corrections and court security as well as developing programs that encourage professional growth.

Doyle was elected Putnam County Sheriff in 1998 and is currently serving his sixth term as Sheriff and in year 29 in law enforcement. After receiving his bachelor's degree in social justice from Sangamon State University, he began his career as a deputy for the Putnam County Sheriff's Office.

Doyle has served on multiple boards and organizations throughout his career and has held the position of Chairman of the 911 Emergency Telephone System Board since 2000.

He has served on the Executive Board for the ISA since 2015 and for 10 years as the Chairman of the Illinois Sheriffs' Association Training Committee.

Doyle has also served as Vice President of the TRIDENT Drug Task Force, CFO for the Illinois Valley Crime Prevention Commission and the Executive Board for Freedom House. He was also the 2008 recipient of the Governor's Award of Excellence for Individual Achievement.

Drive Safely in the Rain

As we await "Spring Showers" here in Illinois, please remember that rain can significantly reduce or impair your view of the road.

As tire traction is reduced on wet roadways, it's easy to see that driving in the rain needs to be treated with extra caution.

Only drive in heavy rain when necessary and always leave extra time to safely reach your destination.



In addition, be sure to dry the soles of your shoes after getting into your vehicle when it's raining, because they can slide from the pedals while you're driving.

Other recommendations include:

- Turn on your headlights to see and be seen.
- Be aware of and avoid flooded areas never attempt to cross running or flooded water.
- Reduce your speed. Speed limits are based on normal road and weather conditions, not rainy conditions.
- Defrost windows before and while driving, if necessary.
- Use your wipers. Many states require their use in rain or snow.
- Keep a safe distance from other vehicles, leaving more space on wet roads.
- Turn off your cruise control to reduce the risk of hydroplaning.
- Brake earlier and with less force than you would in normal driving conditions. Also, slow down when turning.

Finally, if you have difficulty seeing the roadway and/or other vehicles when it's raining, pull off the road to a safe location until conditions improve.

Meeting Grundy County Sheriff: Ken Briley

Tell us about yourself and your family:

I am married to my wife Wendy for the last 20 years. We have 4 children and 6 grandchildren.

Describe what you do professionally, as well as your roles within the community:

I serve as the Sheriff for Grundy County since 2018. I am also the policy board Chairman for the Joliet Metropolitan Area Narcotics Squad, I serve as an Emergency Telephone System board member, as well as many other boards associated with law enforcement.



What first made you get involved with your chosen field?

As a young man I always wanted to be a police officer. I started my career at age 18 with the Illinois Department of Corrections and worked there for 24 years, ending my career as the Warden of Stateville Prison in Cresthill.

Describe what drives you to get involved within the community:

I enjoy interacting with the community to ensure Grundy County is a safe place to work and call home.

What's the best thing to happen to you because of your community or career service?

Being elected Sheriff is an honor and privilege I take seriously as the community who elected me placed a great deal of trust in me.

What's your personal philosophy on life?

I believe things happen for a reason. Treat people as you wish to be treated. A man's word is his bond.

Tell us about someone or something that has influenced you:

My father who served in the US Army for 20 years. I have had the privilege of working with many great leaders over my 41 years in public service.

What changes would you like to see in your community in the next 10 years, and how can they be brought to fruition?

I would like to see crime victims get satisfaction through the judicial system. This is accomplished by electing officials who support law enforcement and ensuring victims of crimes are not re-victimized.

How do you think someone meeting you for the first time would describe you? Easy going, caring, willing to listen and help resolve problems.

What do you do when you aren't working or volunteering?

I love the outdoors. I hunt, fish, cut wood, anything associated outside.

What do you consider the biggest challenge about your community?

Overcoming the stereotype associated with addiction and providing services to those in need.

Tell us about your biggest strength:

My service to my community.

What are your goals for yourself?

To be the best Sheriff, Father, friend, mentor I can be.

What might someone be surprised to know about you?

I have a passion for hummingbirds and purple martins.

2022 Upcoming Events:

Chief Deputy & Jail Administrators April 13- 15, 2022 East Peoria

> Jail Medical Summit August 25, 2022 Peoria

Sheriff Summer Training Conference September 17 - 20, 2022 East Peoria

Administrative Assistants Training
October (TBA)
TBA

New Sheriff's Management Institute November 13 - 17, 2022 Springfield