



**ILLINOIS SHERIFFS'
ASSOCIATION**

Protecting Our Communities,
HONOR • SAFETY • SERVICE



APRIL 2026

The inside stories for you!
**SHERIFFS, LAW ENFORCEMENT
& MEMBERS NEWS & UPDATES**



**— THANK YOU —
DISPATCHERS!**

**NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK**

APRIL 12-18, 2026

Each year during the second week of April, the Illinois Sheriffs' Association joins communities across the country in recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Established in 1981, this week honors the dedicated professionals who serve as the first point of contact during emergencies, providing calm, guidance, and critical support when it matters most.

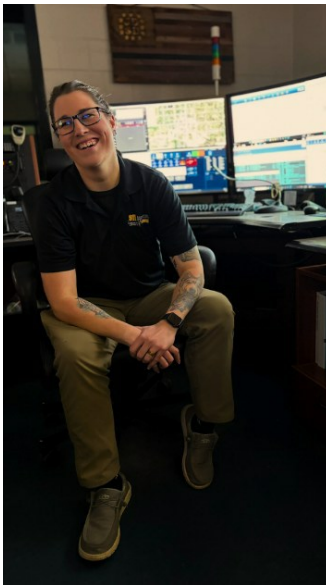
Public safety telecommunicators play an essential role in keeping our communities safe. While their work often happens behind the scenes, their ability to respond quickly, communicate clearly, and coordinate emergency services is vital to every call for help.

The ISA extends its sincere gratitude to all public safety telecommunicators for the important role they play each and every day. Your dedication to serving others makes a lasting difference in communities throughout Illinois!





DEPUTY LAURA FLINK
SGT ZACH OLTMANN'S DEPUTY JILL KNESS
DEPUTY KEVIN NOE



TC WEEK SPOTLIGHT

KIM

Kim is part of the Jo Daviess County Sheriff's Office team as a Dispatcher. Kim has a total of 10.5 years of Law Enforcement Experience. Kim is also a certified training officer!

"Favorite part of working in dispatch is the great group of coworkers we have. We all work well together and it is never a dull moment."

"Something I wish the public would know is we are all human and accidents happen. If you accidentally call 911, please stay on the phone so we can confirm that you have no emergency services needed. Even if you "hang up quickly" we are still notified you attempted to call 911 so we will call you back!"



THANK YOU, DISPATCHERS

National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

The calm voice in the chaos.
The first first responders.

We appreciate all that you do—
every call, every shift, every day.

Peoria County Sheriff's Office

LEGISLATIVE ALERT



Spring Legislative Update

The General Assembly has moved to another deadline where they have to pass bills out of their chamber of origin to the next chamber by Friday, April 17th.



A number of bills impacting public safety have passed as well, while a number of others remain in their original chamber.

As we send this, we are still moving through the process so some of this will be subject to change.

The ISA will get another bite of the apple in the opposite chamber to continue to make the case why pieces of legislation should or should not become law.

So what are some notable bills:



BILLS THAT WE SUPPORT:

HB 1329 (Ness) Co-responder funding extension to McHenry County.

HB 2705 (Kelly) Establishes pension reciprocity for those in SLEP retirement. ***Hasn't passed yet.***

HB 4138 (Windhorst) Requires a turn around of 7 business days for telecom companies to provide information from cell phones. ***Has not passed yet, but we are hoping!***

HB 4649 (Gong) Creates additional protections against financial exploitation of the elderly

HB 4676 (Deuter) Enhances penalties for Elder abuse

HB 4842 (Kelly) Provides protections for First responder involved in critical incidents.

SB 3020 (Johnson) Domestic violence protections

SB 3044 (Stadelman) Creates provision to allow for emergency Ops to extend while awaiting service of plenary. Passed out of committee.

SB 3048 (Morrison) Establishes parameters for lethality assessment tool. ***The bill passed out of committee, but more amendments are expected.***

SB 3076 (Edly-Allen) Establishes additional benefits for first responders hurt on duty.

BILLS THAT WE OPPOSE:

HB 1429 (Olickal) Creates the homelessness bill of rights. ***Has not passed yet.***

HB 1611 (Buckner) Creates new procedures for initiation and implementation of search warrants. ***Has not passed.***

HB 2929 (Ford) Establishes a pilot program for supervised overdose prevention sites (OPS) in Illinois. ***Has not passed.***

HB 3320 (Olickal) RIFLE Act that establishes a firearms manufacturer licensing program in the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, that includes that the sum of all fees for firearms manufacturer licenses shall be equal to the public health costs and financial burdens from firearm injuries and deaths. ***Has not passed.***

HB 3521 (Slaughter) Provides that unreliable statements to law enforcement made during a custodial interrogation conducted at a police station or other place of detention by a defendant are inadmissible at trial in any criminal court proceeding or juvenile court proceeding for the prosecution of a homicide. ***Has not passed.***

HB 4039 (LaPointe) Creates the Holistic Overdose Prevention and Equity (HOPE) Act, which would require county jails and hospitals to provide ongoing medically assisted treatment if directed to by a physician. ***Has not passed yet.***

HB 4075 (Cassidy) Would allow individuals required to register to certain databases (including sex offender and murder registry) to petition for name change under certain conditions. ***Has not passed yet.***

HB 4303 (Olickal) Would allow credit for MSR for those sentenced prior to 2/1/78. There are approximately 34 individuals and most are for murder. ***Has not passed yet.***

HB 4471 (Slaughter)/**SB 2801** (Villeneuve) Would ban certain triggers (glocks) from being sold in Illinois. ***The bill had a subject matter hearing but did not pass out of committee.***

HB 4645 (Hirschauer) Would allow the creation of a juvenile certification program by ILETSB with ongoing education. ***The bill has not passed.***

HB 4782 (Davis, L) Would eliminate the requirement for odorless container. ***This bill did not move.***

HB 5151 (Grasse) Establishes the Automated License Plate Recognition System Act, setting statewide standards and regulations for when and how law enforcement agencies and government

entities may use ALPRs, including retention of data for only 3 days. **Has not passed.**

HB 5256 (Slaughter) Additional Sentence credits for Mandatory Supervised Release. Has not passed yet.

HB 5302 (Slaughter) Mandates jail provide Narcan to those leaving custody. **Passed the House.**

HB 5434 (Davis) Creates an emerging adult task force. **This bill has been amended to include more law enforcement representation on the task force in recognition of the challenges we are facing with juveniles today.**

HB5468 (Cassidy) This bill stipulates additional provisions regarding CESSA implementation. **More amendments are anticipated.**

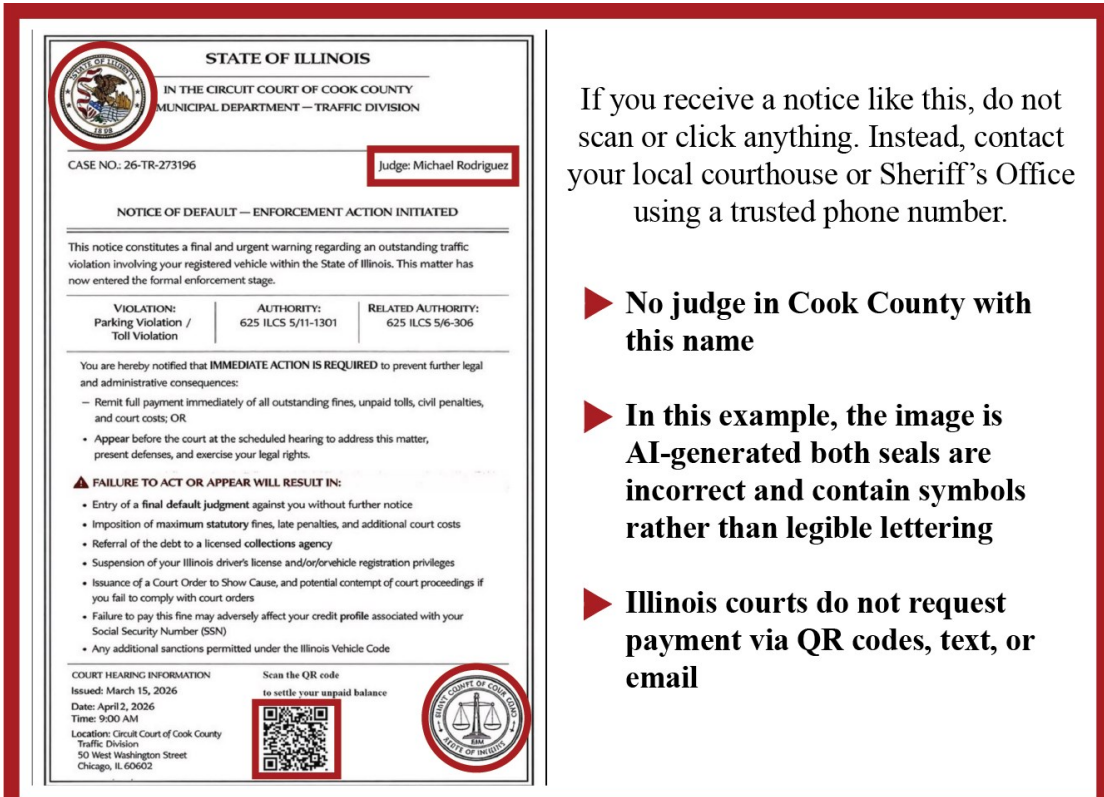
SB 2772 (Ventura) Creates a task force and establishes some parameters for implementation of Psilocibins. **Has not passed.**



SCAM ALERT!

helpful tips for how to protect yourself

Digital Fraud Scams: Scams are becoming more sophisticated and can affect anyone, not just one age group or demographic. Remain cautious of unsolicited messages, avoid clicking unknown links, and verify requests for money or personal information directly with the source.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY
MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT – TRAFFIC DIVISION

CASE NO.: 26-TR-273196 Judge: Michael Rodriguez

NOTICE OF DEFAULT – ENFORCEMENT ACTION INITIATED

This notice constitutes a final and urgent warning regarding an outstanding traffic violation involving your registered vehicle within the State of Illinois. This matter has now entered the formal enforcement stage.

VIOLATION: Parking Violation / Toll Violation	AUTHORITY: 625 ILCS 5/11-1301	RELATED AUTHORITY: 625 ILCS 5/6-306
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You are hereby notified that **IMMEDIATE ACTION IS REQUIRED** to prevent further legal and administrative consequences:

- Remit full payment immediately of all outstanding fines, unpaid tolls, civil penalties, and court costs; OR
- Appear before the court at the scheduled hearing to address this matter, present defenses, and exercise your legal rights.

▲ FAILURE TO ACT OR APPEAR WILL RESULT IN:

- Entry of a final default judgment against you without further notice
- Imposition of maximum statutory fines, late penalties, and additional court costs
- Referral of the debt to a licensed collections agency
- Suspension of your Illinois driver's license and/or/vehicle registration privileges
- Issuance of a Court Order to Show Cause, and potential contempt of court proceedings if you fail to comply with court orders
- Failure to pay this fine may adversely affect your credit profile associated with your Social Security Number (SSN)
- Any additional sanctions permitted under the Illinois Vehicle Code

COURT HEARING INFORMATION
Issued: March 15, 2026
Date: April 2, 2026
Time: 9:00 AM
Location: Circuit Court of Cook County
Traffic Division
50 West Washington Street
Chicago, IL 60602

Scan the QR code to settle your unpaid balance

Callouts:

- ▶ No judge in Cook County with this name
- ▶ In this example, the image is AI-generated both seals are incorrect and contain symbols rather than legible lettering
- ▶ Illinois courts do not request payment via QR codes, text, or email

Illinois residents are being targeted with fraudulent court notices claiming unpaid tolls or traffic violations - like the example shown above. These documents may appear official but are often digitally created or AI-generated to closely mimic legitimate government forms.

Watch for red flags:

- Urgent language like “*Immediate Action Required*”
- Requests to pay using a **QR code**
- Inaccurate or inconsistent **state seals, logos, or formatting**
- Vague violations (e.g., “Parking / Toll Violation”)
- Notices received unexpectedly without prior contact

The video below is from [IL State Triad Association](#) and highlights the dangers of scams and what someone goes through when they are a victim of a scam.

Featured Agencies: ECIAAA - Peoria County - Dewitt County - McLean County



Do These 9 Things to Feel Safer Now

Sheriffs' Offices across Illinois continue to see an increase in scam attempts targeting individuals and families in our communities. While tactics may vary, many scams can be prevented by taking a few proactive steps:

Update your passwords, including your home Wi-Fi network. Avoid using easily guessed names, such as those of pets or family members. Instead, create a strong passphrase and consider substituting symbols for added security.

Adjust your smartphone settings to send calls from unknown numbers directly to voicemail. This can help limit contact from scam callers.

Review your social media privacy settings. Ensure your posts and personal information are only visible to people you trust.

Consider freezing your credit to help prevent identity theft. This can stop criminals from opening new accounts in your name and can be lifted temporarily when needed.

Keep your Social Security card in a secure location rather than carrying it with you.

Monitor your financial accounts regularly for suspicious activity. Frequent review of bank and credit card statements can help detect fraud early.

Delete unused apps, particularly those that store personal or financial information.

Log out of apps when not in use to reduce the risk of unauthorized access.

2026 ISA Get to Know Your Sheriff Series
APRIL | Franklin County

Protecting Our Communities,
HONOR • SAFETY • SERVICE



Sheriff Kyle Bacon



GET TO KNOW YOUR SHERIFF | FRANKLIN COUNTY



Elected as
Sheriff 2022
26 Years in
Law Enforcement



Average
Household
Income
\$56,740



Population
Franklin County
36,916



1. What first made you get involved with law enforcement?

I chose to get involved in law enforcement because I wanted to serve my community, help keep people safe, and make a positive impact. It was important to me to specifically serve in the county where I live and have chosen to raise my children.

2. Describe your role as Sheriff in your Office and throughout your County:

My role as Sheriff is to set a high standard of leading by example, supporting sheriff's office staff, and working directly with municipal and other public safety agencies to fully support the communities that we serve.

3. What is your favorite part about being Franklin County Sheriff?

My favorite part of being the Franklin County Sheriff is having opportunities to work alongside civic groups, public safety agencies, and members of the public to identify and address issues that impact the safety and well-being of our residents. Building partnerships allows us to be proactive rather than reactive, fostering trust and open communication. The goal is to develop meaningful solutions that strengthen our communities.

4. Describe what drives you to get involved within the community:

I am driven by a sense of duty and service. I have also always had the goal of building community trust in the law enforcement professionals who serve.

» **IF YOU WEREN'T DOING WHAT YOU DO NOW, WHAT WOULD BE YOUR DREAM JOB?**

I think I would enjoy being a teacher. I had many teachers from grade school through college that helped shape and guide me on a path of discipline and knowledge.

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU AREN'T WORKING OR VOLUNTEERING?

As the father of five children, my wife and I stay very busy with their schedules and events.

» **WHAT MIGHT SOMEONE BE SURPRISED TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?**

Several years ago, I decided that I wanted to grow Christmas Trees. With the help of my family, we planted about 2000 trees. Growing Christmas Trees is not an easy task. I am no longer in the Christmas Tree business.



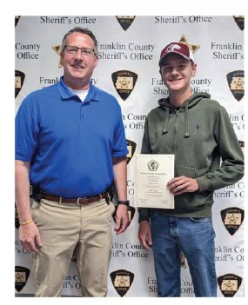
5. What's the best thing to happen to you because of your community or career in peace keeping service?

I have always believed that it is important to establish a high level of trust between the sheriff's office and the citizens we serve. It is very rewarding to have conversations with the public where that level of trust is conveyed in their conversation. I truly believe that the positive relationships that have been established are the best part of my job.



6. Tell us about someone or something that has influenced you:

There have been many people that have had a positive influence on my career. I have been blessed to have worked for three very good former sheriffs who led with integrity and professionalism. My family has also always been very supportive of my career and understood the demands of this profession. I have been fortunate and am very thankful to have their support and understanding.



7. What do you consider the biggest challenge in your community?

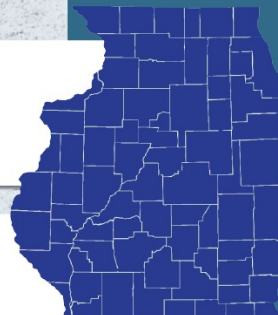
Addiction and mental health are at the forefront of the issues that we face. Because of our rural location, we lack many of the services that may exist in metropolitan areas. I am thankful for those who are here working each day to address these very complicated issues.

8. How do you think someone meeting you for the first time would describe you?

My hope is that they would recognize that I am approachable, professional, and have a genuine care and concern for the public that I serve.

9. What advice would you give young people?

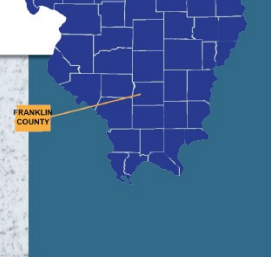
I would suggest that young people choose a career that brings them joy. Don't chase money! If you make great money but hate your job you will not be happy. Find a career that brings you joy and you will be successful.



struggle. I would also advise them to protect their integrity by keeping their word and making good decisions.



FOLLOW THEM:
Kyle Bacon - Franklin County Sheriff



Thanks to our Corporate ISA Membership Sponsors

Illinois retailers & communities are losing **billions of dollars** every year to organized retail crime.
It's time to change course, & law enforcement is key.

JOIN TODAY - MEMBERSHIP IS FREE!

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As a member, you'll receive:

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- Meetings, seminars & networking events
- News alerts & briefings
- Advocacy at the local, state & federal levels

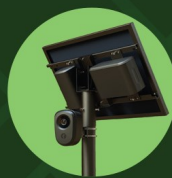
Scan the QR code or **CLICK HERE** to join!



↑ Flock Safety

Power Up Your Forces Without Adding Officers

A true force multiplier—solve more crime, improve lives, and strengthen community trust. Empower your agency with tools for actionable evidence, rapid response, and seamless collaboration. No extra staffing needed.



LPR Cameras

Infrastructure-free LPR that works 24/7 to capture license plates and vehicle details



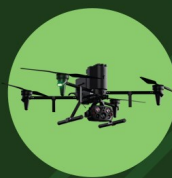
Video Cameras

Improve safety with live and recorded video for enhanced situational awareness and case clearance



Audio Detection

Get alerts from sensors that hear what cameras can't: cries for help, gunfire, or other threats.



Mobile Security Trailer

Deploy cameras where fixed infrastructure can't reach—ideal for events, lots, or remote areas

Flock Aerodome

Automated DFR (drone-as-first-responder) system providing faster, more efficient responses to enhance safety

FlockOS

Seamlessly integrate first and third-party data across video, audio, and LPR to deliver real-time intelligence

flocksafety.com



Scholarship Feature

As of today, April 16th, all ISA Scholarship applications have been submitted and reviewed by each county Sheriff.

In several counties, the number and quality of submissions were so outstanding that Sheriffs and their selection committees found it impossible to choose just one recipient. In these cases, they generously chose to contribute additional funds to support multiple scholarships in their counties!

We're excited to announce the winners of the Illinois Sheriffs' Association Scholarships on May 1st. Recipients will be notified in writing and recognized on our website and social media. We will also share the list in May's E-newsletter.

Thank you to our members who continue to make this scholarship opportunity possible for the youth in our state!



501(c)3 raising money for Illinois Law Enforcement Families & members of the Illinois Military.

The 2026-2027 Peacekeepers Scholarship Application is NOW OPEN!

Each year the Illinois Sheriffs' Association offers special scholarships to dependents of our military and law enforcement community. We believe these scholarships demonstrate honor to the families of those who serve our country and communities.

Those eligible to apply for the Peacekeepers Scholarship include dependents of Law Enforcement Officers who are either active duty, retired or those killed in the line of duty. Also eligible are dependents of active duty Military, Military Reserve, National Guard or of those killed in action.

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MONDAY JUNE 1, 2026.

Click the link to download a fillable PDF Application.

PEACEKEEPERS APPLICATION



CGTI 2026 Scholarship Opportunity

5-day youth leadership conference open to incoming 7th - 12th grade students (2026-2027 school year)



Register for CGTI 2026!

July 12-16, 2026 | Eastern Illinois University

WHAT IS CGTI? The Cebrin Goodman Teen Institute (CGTI) is a *youth leadership program* that empowers middle school and high school students to *use their voices for positive change, develop their skills, and strengthen their substance use prevention education*. Each July, CGTI welcomes 500+ youth and adults from across Illinois to a *week-long camp* to form connections, learn new things and come together with the shared purpose of bettering our communities!



The **Illinois' Sheriffs' Association** is sponsoring **50 attendee scholarships** for CGTI 2026!

Scholarships **eliminate financial barriers** for budding youth leaders eager to **make an impact in their school and across their community**, covering room and board for the entire event. At CGTI 2026, youth will see **expert speakers**, take part in **team building activities**, learn more about **goal setting and community advocacy** and more!

Interested in attending CGTI with an **ISA Scholarship**? Email natalie@ilabh.org for more information.

Learn more and apply:

ABOUT: <https://www.cg-ti.org/cgti-summer-conference>

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY: <https://iabh.wufoo.com/.../2026-cgti-isa-scholarship.../>

Please share if you know a student who would benefit from this incredible scholarship opportunity!

2026 ISA Conference & Training Schedule



Chief Deputy & Jail Administrators Conference

April 22-24, 2026
Embassy Suites, East Peoria

FOIA Training

June 23rd 9:00 a.m.- Noon, Zoom

Sheriffs Summer Training Conference

September 12-15, 2026
Embassy Suites, East Peoria

New Sheriffs Management Institute

November 15-19, 2026
President Abraham Lincoln Hotel,
Springfield

Visit Our Website

We would not be able to put our training and conferences on without our Preferred Vendors! The Illinois Sheriffs' Association would like to thank your vendors listed below!

LEVEL DIAMOND ELITE





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REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2026!



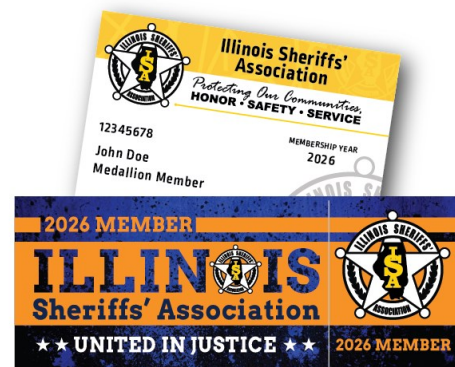
MEMBERSHIP YEAR -
January 1 - December 31, 2026

Renew... Upgrade Your Level and
Encourage Others to Do the Same!



WHY RENEW?

Membership dues support initiatives that help our IL Sheriffs keep your communities safe.



FASTEST WAY TO RENEW: ilsheriff.org/renew



Plan to LIKE, FOLLOW and SHARE posts from the ISA to help us spread



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& FOLLOW
WITH YOUR
FRIENDS**

 @illinoissheriffsassociation

the word about and educate others on public safety, policing and your rights that the ISA fights for!

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