



# Fact Sheet

City of Chicago / Department of Police • Richard M. Daley, Mayor • Matt L. Rodriguez, Superintendent

## Chicago Mosaic: Community Policing on the Internet

In April 1995, the Chicago Police Department became one of the first police departments in the nation to establish a presence on the World Wide Web (Internet).

As part of the City of Chicago's *Chicago Mosaic* project, the Police Department has created an extensive and highly graphical "home page" that provides Internet users with up-to-date information on Chicago's Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS) and how they can get involved in this innovative strategy of community-oriented policing.

### Chicago Mosaic



The National Center for Supercomputing Applications at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is a partner with the City of Chicago in the Chicago Mosaic project.

Chicago Mosaic is a joint project of the City of Chicago and the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The mission of Chicago Mosaic is to create an accessible, interactive, and intelligent information infrastructure throughout the City of Chicago to improve communication among individual citizens, community groups, and City government.

As part of the Chicago Mosaic project, the City and NCSA have established a server on the World Wide Web. The Chicago Mosaic server includes:

- A multimedia electronic tour guide to Chicago.
- A home page describing CAPS—community policing in Chicago.
- A directory of all City programs and services.
- The capacity to send e-mail to Mayor Richard M. Daley and feedback to the Chicago Mosaic project team.

The City's Internet address is "<http://www.ci.chi.il.us>".

Public access to Chicago Mosaic (and the Internet in general) is being provided at seven branches of the Chicago Public Library located throughout the City. The City and NCSA are currently developing a grant proposal to make the Internet more accessible to people with limited computer experience and people with disabilities. The ultimate goal is to provide public access to the Internet in every branch of the Chicago Public Library.

Other partners in the Chicago Mosaic project include the University of Illinois at Chicago, Ameritech, Compaq Computer Corporation, Motorola Inc., SPRY (the CompuServe Internet Division), Sun Microsystems, and Tele-Communication Inc.

## The CAPS Home Page

The CAPS home page provides both general information about Chicago's strategy of community policing, as well as specific information on how individual residents can get involved in CAPS.



*The Chicago Mosaic can be accessed through the World Wide Web at the electronic address—<http://www.ci.chi.il.us>.*

The CAPS home page is designed to be easy-to-use and highly graphical. It includes:

- Messages from both Mayor Daley and Superintendent Matt Rodriguez on the importance of community involvement and technology to policing in Chicago.
- A “What’s New” feature that provides up-to-date news on the Police Department and CAPS.
- “What Is CAPS?”—a description of how CAPS works and how community members can get involved.
- “Know Your District, Know Your Beat”—a link that allows users to pull up a map showing what police district, and what specific police beat, they live in. From this map, users can find out when and where the next “beat community meeting” will be held on their beat, as well as recent CAPS success stories from their district.
- “Make the Right Call”—a primer for community members on the how and when to use 9-1-1, the Police Department’s non-emergency number (746-6000), and other mechanisms for contacting the police.
- General descriptive information about the organization and operations of the Chicago Police Department. This link also includes general crime prevention information.

Future enhancements under consideration include the addition of up-to-date, monthly crime information by police beat. This crime data would then be linked with specific tips on how residents can prevent the crimes that are occurring most frequently on their beats.

## For More Information

The CAPS home page was created and is maintained by the Police Department’s Research and Development Division, with assistance from the City of Chicago’s Graphics and Reproduction Center and the NCSA.

For more information, contact:

Chicago Police Department  
Research and Development Division  
1121 South State Street, Room 401  
Chicago, IL 60605  
312-747-6207

Or send feedback through Chicago Mosaic (<http://www.ci.chi.il.us>).