



CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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During the past week, the City of Chicago suffered through a severe heat emergency. This period of extreme heat threatened the very lives of every citizen of this city. As usual, the combined and coordinated efforts of our dedicated public servants minimized the impact of this critical period. I know Chicagoans appreciate the efforts of everyone involved.

During this emergency period, members of the Chicago Police Department performed valiantly. As the temperatures rose, so did your efforts to ensure the safety of the citizens of this city. During one of the busiest weekends of the Summer, you not only handled calls for police service but also managed large crowds at such major events as Venetian Night, Fiesta del Sol, and the Chicago Fire soccer game. During the heat emergency period you transported 1,200 individuals to shelter from the oppressive heat, contacted 32,700 seniors by telephone and in person, and conducted 8,800 well-being checks. There is no doubt that this monumental effort saved many lives.

In addition to all of the above, you continued to perform your patrol-related duties, in many cases, placing your own lives in jeopardy. This is clearly evident in the details of a case from North Sheridan Road in the 024th District. Responding officers were viciously attacked by a knife-wielding offender who wounded several officers attempting to apprehend him. This offender had previously threatened residents at that location.

As a result of the extreme heat there were widespread power disruptions throughout the city. I am acutely aware that while you tended to the needs of others, the safety and welfare of your own families weighed heavily on your minds. Even so, you did your duty, caring for the most vulnerable people in our community, our senior citizens, and the chronically ill. Just like you do—day in—and day out.

I want you to know that despite those isolated negative voices that seek every opportunity to disparage your efforts, the overwhelming majority of Chicagoans appreciate your help and support. As your Superintendent, I am proud of you and thank you for your tremendous response.

Terry G. Hillard
Superintendent of Police