



A person watches as officers work the scene where five people were shot during a Father's Day gathering in Wendell Smith Park in the 9900 block of South Princeton Avenue in the Roseland neighborhood on June 18.

ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago police faced big challenges in '23

Crime fell in some categories, but CPD dealt with leadership turnover, officer deaths, robbery spike

By Sam Charles
Chicago Tribune

For Mayor Brandon Johnson and new leaders of the Chicago Police Department, the dust has started to settle.

After a year of sweeping changes and more controversy, the department enters 2024 with a new permanent boss facing a long to-do list: Foster stronger community relationships. Reduce violent crime and shootings. Raise the homicide clearance rate. Maintain officer wellness and morale.

And prepare for August, when the city will have an international spotlight as it hosts the 2024 Democratic National Convention.

That work will come after a year that saw a mix of highs and lows for the Police Department. Homicide and nonfatal shooting totals fell again, but the city was roiled by robbery and carjacking crews

Turn to CPD, Page 3

New laws set to go into effect in Illinois

Minimum wage hike, indoor vape ban among those beginning Jan. 1

By Jeremy Gorner and Dan Petrella
Chicago Tribune

More than 300 new state laws take effect on Jan. 1, affecting everything from education and criminal justice to employee benefits and indoor vaping, with most reflecting the priorities of Gov. J.B. Pritzker and his allies in the Democratic-controlled legislature.

Here's a look at some of the laws that kick in with the new year.

Gun registry

Illinois residents who owned now-prohibited high-powered guns prior to a sweeping firearms ban Pritzker signed into law last Jan. 10 are required to have the firearms registered with the Illinois State Police by New Year's Day.

The registration process began Oct. 1. People who owned those guns prior to the ban but don't register them by Jan. 1 can be charged with a misdemeanor for a first offense and felonies for subsequent violations.

The gun ban prohibits the delivery, sale, import and purchase of more than 100 so-called assault weapons, in the form of semi-automatic rifles, shotguns and handguns. Also banned are the delivery, sale and purchase of high-capacity magazines of more than 10 rounds for long guns and 15 rounds for handguns.

The ban has withstood several legal challenges, but gun rights groups are still fighting in court.

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Migrants follow officials after getting off a warming bus near West Polk and South Desplaines streets in Chicago on Sunday.

EILEEN T. MESLAR/TRIBUNE

Migrants reach Chicago after flight to Rockford

Mayor says Texas governor is continuing 'to sow seeds of chaos' after sending group

By A.D. Quig, Robert Channick and Joe Mahr
Chicago Tribune

A plane carrying migrants from Texas landed about 1 a.m. Sunday at the Rockford International Airport, and the migrants were "offloaded and immediately boarded buses" headed toward Chicago, according to officials.

By late Sunday afternoon, some passengers from the plane had arrived in Chicago's migrant landing zone in the West Loop, a city spokesperson said.

It was the second such private plane chartered by Texas officials, and Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson said that Texas Gov. Greg Abbott "is determined to continue to sow seeds of chaos" amid the migrant crisis.

Johnson called on Congress to provide the necessary resources to deal with the issue and better coordination between all levels of government.

In a social media post, Rockford officials said there were 355 migrants on the flight. The officials "were given limited notice" the migrants were arriving.

Chicago officials said the plane was a private Boeing 777 coming from San Antonio, and that after landing, migrants boarded eight buses chartered by Greg Abbott.

The city's statement suggested the flight was an escalation of Texas' response to a recent Chicago ordinance that allowed the city to sue "rogue" bus operators dropping off migrants outside of set approved hours and locations.

In recent weeks, Texas officials have opted to drop migrants off just outside Chicago limits as well.

A late Saturday joint statement from Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara, Winnebago County Board Chair Joe Ciarelli and other

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Israeli strikes kill at least 35 people in central Gaza

By Wafaa Shurafa, Bassem Mroue and Tia Goldenberg
Associated Press

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip — Israeli strikes in central Gaza killed at least 35 people Sunday, hospital officials said, as fighting raged across the tiny enclave a day after Israel's prime minister said the war will continue for "many more months," resisting international calls for a cease-fire.

The military said Israeli forces were operating in Gaza's second-largest city, Khan Younis, and residents reported strikes in the central region, the latest focus of the nearly three-month air and ground war that has raised fears of a regional conflagration.

The U.S. military said Sunday that its forces shot and killed several Iran-backed Houthi rebels when

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Israeli army vehicles arrive at a staging area after combat Saturday in the Gaza Strip.

TSAFIR ABAYOV/AP

TODAY'S WEATHER

High 36
Low 27



Complete Chicagoland forecast on Page 10

\$4.00 city and suburbs and elsewhere
176th year No. 1
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