

# Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

## Ruling hits at Illinois' concealed carry law

Not allowing possession on public transportation deemed unconstitutional

By **Jeremy Gorner**  
Chicago Tribune

A federal judge in Rockford ruled it unconstitutional for Illinois residents with concealed carry permits to be prohibited from carrying guns on public transportation, a decision with uncertain implications for a decade-old state law.

The decision was a result of a 2022 lawsuit filed by four people who alleged the section of Illinois' concealed carry law that bars holders of concealed carry licenses, or CCLs, from carrying the guns on public buses or trains violated their Second Amendment right to self-defense under the U.S. Constitution.

At issue in U.S. District Judge Iain Johnston's ruling was a constitutional test requiring gun laws to be "historically" consistent with laws on the books in the 18th century, when the Second Amendment's right to bear arms was written, or before that.

This arose from the landmark 2022 case of New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen, in which the U.S. Supreme Court's conservative 6-3 majority established the new constitutional standard, which will also take center stage later this month when a federal judge representing southern Illinois hears arguments over the constitutionality of the state's ban on so-called assault weapons.

In 2013, Illinois became the last state to adopt a concealed carry law. The measure included a number of places where permit holders were not allowed to carry guns such as government buildings, stadiums where sporting events are taking place, hospitals and public buses or trains.

In his ruling Friday, Johnston wrote that the defendants,

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A passenger boards as a train car prepares to depart the CTA Blue Line station at Forest Park on Tuesday. Four people were shot and killed on a Blue Line train in Forest Park early Monday. **BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

## 1 charged in deadly Blue Line shootings

State's Attorney Foxx calls slayings 'horrific, heinous, inexplicable act of violence'

By **Sam Charles, Madeline Buckley, Jeremy Gorner and Caroline Kubzansky**  
Chicago Tribune

Cook County prosecutors have charged one person with murder after four people were shot to death Monday on a train at the Forest Park Blue Line station, an early morning attack that ranks among the worst acts of violence in memory on the CTA system.

According to Forest Park police, Cook County prosecutors approved charges of four counts of first-degree murder against

Rhianni Davis, 30.

At a press briefing late Tuesday, Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx called the shootings a "horrific, heinous, inexplicable act of violence."

Foxx and other authorities did not immediately offer evidence of a motive in the case. In response to repeated questions from reporters about a potential motive, Foxx said she feared "the question of why may never be answered."

"Allegedly, (Davis) came onto a train while people were sleeping ... and pumped bullets into their

bodies," Foxx said.

At the media briefing Tuesday night, Forest Park officials, Foxx and CTA President Dorval Carter offered few additional details about the deaths. Davis was arrested on the platform at the California Pink Line stop, they said.

The weapon used was a 9 mm Glock .43. Forest Park police representatives said they had reached family for three of the four victims and had not previously had contact with Davis.

Carter said he couldn't confirm whether the victims were home-

less, but said he thought the agency was doing "everything we can to support" people who stay on trains or buses. The CTA pays the Department of Family Support Services \$2 million a year for outreach services to the homeless.

"You're not going to solve homelessness, drug addiction or mental health on CTA," he said. "You need to solve it in the communities where it exists."

He also sought to emphasize the randomness of the shooting:

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Officers respond to a call for service after a group of migrants with weapons and motorcycles were reported Monday in a residential building's courtyard in the 6100 block of South King Drive in Chicago. No police report was generated from the call. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

## Allegation of migrant takeover of South Side building decried

Experts say rhetoric results in misleading social media chatter

By **Nell Salzman and Armando L. Sanchez**  
Chicago Tribune

Experts say that anti-immigrant rhetoric that has intensified in the last several weeks ahead of the presidential election in November led to viral — and incorrect — allegations by right-wing social media accounts that migrants took over a South Side building Monday night.

Indeed, authorities said

migrants did not trespass with weapons and motorcycles, despite rumors circulated by X owner Elon Musk and others.

While a 911 dispatch call came in about 7:45 p.m. Monday that 32 Venezuelans were "trespassing" and "showing guns in the courtyard" of a building in the Washington Park neighborhood, Chicago police said it was a call of service and that no police report was generated.

Residents in the area and migrants living at the building said the call was unfounded.

"There weren't 32 armed people here last night. That's a lie," said Anderson Gutierrez, 20, in Spanish on Tuesday morning.

Gutierrez, who is from Venezuela, said he and his siblings moved into the building a couple of weeks ago.

"Look, there's no one outside," he said. "We all know each other. No one is hurting anyone."

Immigration experts — who pointed to similar incidents that have unfolded across the country in recent days — said some people are spreading misleading content about migrants on social media to sway voters for

Turn to Migrants, Page 5

### ELECTION 2024

## Harris, Trump campaigns pick up pace of long race

Focus on key states marks shift to sprint toward Election Day

By **Steve Peoples and Thomas Beaumont**  
Associated Press

LA CROSSE, Wis. — After a summer of historic tumult, the path to the presidency for both Kamala Harris and Donald Trump this fall is becoming much clearer.

The Democratic vice president and the Republican former president are expected to devote almost all of their remaining time and resources to just seven states. They will spend hundreds of millions of dollars targeting voters who, in many cases, have just begun to pay attention to the election. And their campaigns will try to focus their messages on three familiar issues — the economy, immigration and abortion — even amid heated debates over character, culture and democracy.

The candidates will debate in six days in what will be their first meeting ever. The nation's premier swing state, Pennsylvania, begins in-person absentee voting the week after. By the end of the month, early voting will be underway in at least four states with a dozen more to follow by mid-October.

In just 62 days, the final votes will be cast to decide which one of them will lead the world's most powerful nation.

Privately, at least, both camps

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### INSIDE



EILEEN T. MESLAR/TRIBUNE

## Drama as Cubs head toward home stretch

The fate of pitcher Justin Steele's sore left elbow could determine whether the Cubs can remain in the wild-card race. **Paul Sullivan in Chicago Sports**

## Food with love, from Chicago to Mexico

Cariño, a Latin-inspired restaurant, blasts beautiful culinary love ballads by a chef whose hands work in Chicago while his heart beats in Mexico. **Food & Health**

### TODAY'S WEATHER

High **84**  
Low **65**



Complete Chicagoland forecast on Page 16

\$4.00 city and suburbs and elsewhere  
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