

CRIME IN ILLINOIS 2006



Presented by the

**Illinois State Police
Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting Program**

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This *Crime in Illinois 2006* publication is the 35th annual report on crime statistics in Illinois. The information contained in the publication is based upon crime statistics submitted by police departments, sheriffs' offices, and specialized law enforcement agencies to the Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting (I-UCR) Program in 2006.

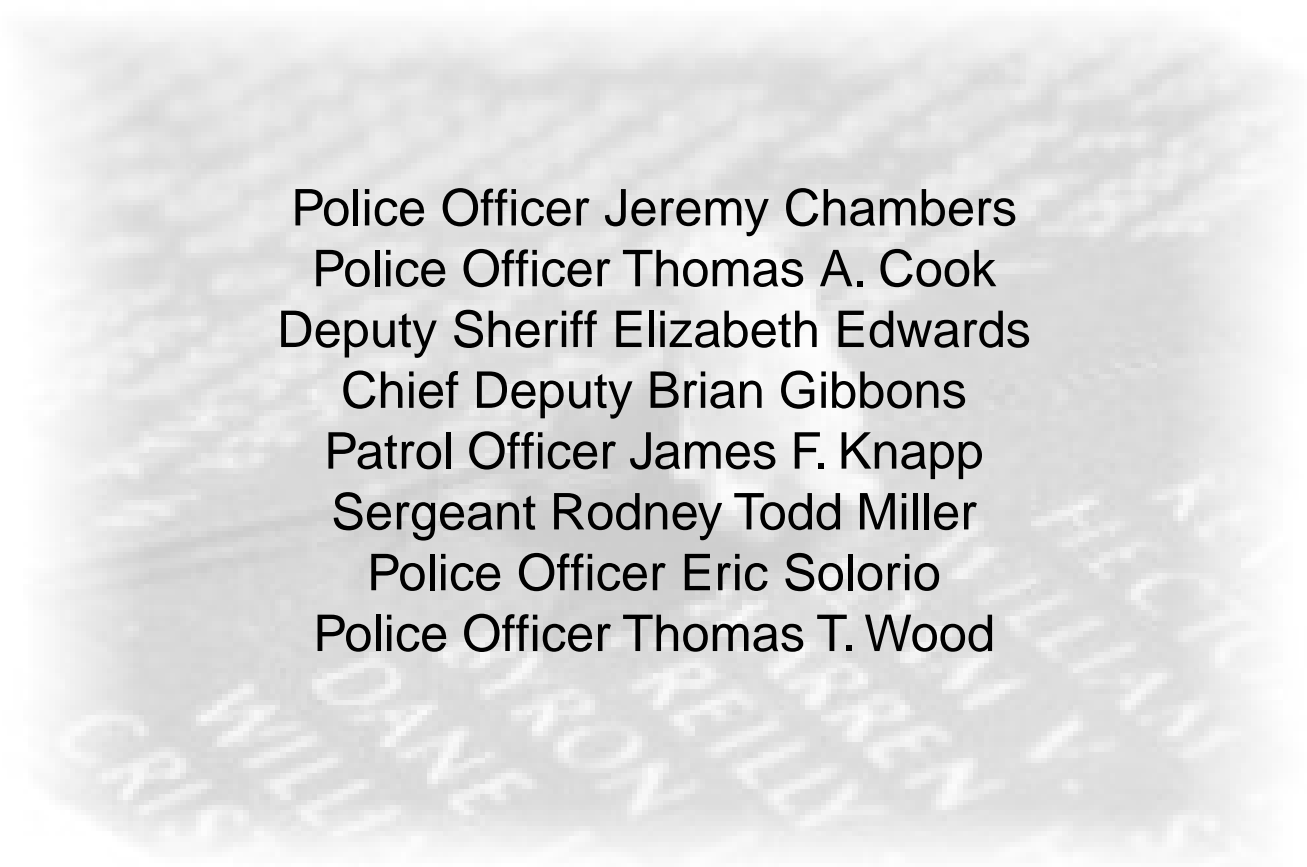
This 2006 Crime in Illinois Report presents a statewide overview of serious crimes that have occurred in our state. Information reported in this publication measures the nature and volume of crime within various jurisdictions in Illinois. *Crime in Illinois* remains a valuable tool for enhancing the public's awareness of the impact of crime on their communities.

With thanks to all who contributed to this publication, I present *Crime in Illinois 2006*.

Larry G. Trent
Director
Illinois State Police

DEDICATION

This publication is dedicated to all law enforcement officers, and in particular, to those police officers who lost their lives during the past year in the performance of duty while upholding the laws of the state of Illinois.



Police Officer Jeremy Chambers
Police Officer Thomas A. Cook
Deputy Sheriff Elizabeth Edwards
Chief Deputy Brian Gibbons
Patrol Officer James F. Knapp
Sergeant Rodney Todd Miller
Police Officer Eric Solorio
Police Officer Thomas T. Wood

***“Courage knows no bounds greater than that,
that a man or woman shall give his or her life in the
service of his or her community.”
(Source Unknown)***

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED

During 2006, eight Illinois law enforcement officers lost their lives in the performance of duty while upholding the laws of the State of Illinois. A brief narrative on the circumstances surrounding their death is presented below.

January 4, 2006 - COOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol Officer James Knapp, 50, was killed in a automobile accident while enroute to the sheriff's station when his squad car rear-ended a semi-tractor during foggy weather and slippery road conditions. Officer Knapp had served with the Cook County Sheriff's Police Department for 16 years and is survived by his wife and two sons.

February 12, 2006 - CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Officer Eric Solorio, 26, succumbed to injuries sustained in an automobile accident three weeks earlier. On January 17, 2006, Officer Solorio was involved in a pursuit when the squad car he was riding in was cut off by another driver and struck a tree and building. Officer Solorio had served with the Chicago Police Department for 3.5 years. He is survived by his mother, brother, and two sisters.

February 12, 2006 - HARDIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Deputy Sheriff Elizabeth Edwards, 26, was killed in an automobile accident while enroute to a call. Deputy Edwards was responding to a report of an automobile accident when icy conditions caused her patrol car to leave the roadway and strike a tree. Deputy Edwards had served the Hardin County Sheriff's Office for one year. She is survived by her parents and sisters.

APRIL 24, 2006 - CAHOKIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Officer Jeremy Chambers, 26, was killed when his patrol car was struck by a vehicle operated by an intoxicated driver. Officer Chambers was transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. Officer Chambers had served with the Cahokia Police Department for 2.5 years and also served as a volunteer firefighter. He is survived by his parents, sister, and brother.

MAY 12, 2006 - ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

Sergeant Rodney Todd Miller, 40, was killed in an automobile accident when his car was struck by another. Sergeant Miller was a 16-year veteran of the Illinois State Police. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

JUNE 11, 2006 - CALHOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY

Chief Deputy Brian Gibbons, 33, succumbed to injuries sustained two days earlier as a result of an automobile accident. Chief Deputy Gibbons was on patrol when his vehicle was struck head-on by an intoxicated driver. Chief Deputy Gibbons had served with the Calhoun County Sheriff's Office for four years. He is survived by his daughter and son.

SEPTEMBER 27, 2006 - METRA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Officer Thomas A. Cook, 43, was shot and killed while sitting in his patrol car while conducting surveillance on a Metra station, which had seen a recent surge in armed robberies. He had served with the Metra Transit Police Department for three years, had previously served with the Riverdale Police Department for nine years, and was also a US Army Veteran. He is survived by his wife, son, and daughter.

OCTOBER 23, 2006 - MAYWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Officer Thomas T. Wood, 37, succumbed to gunshot injuries sustained while sitting in his squad car. Officer Wood had served with the Maywood Police Department for nine years. He had previously served as a reserve officer with the Schiller Park Police Department for three years while also serving as a part-time officer with the Stone Park Police Department for two years. He is survived by his wife, two children, and three stepchildren.