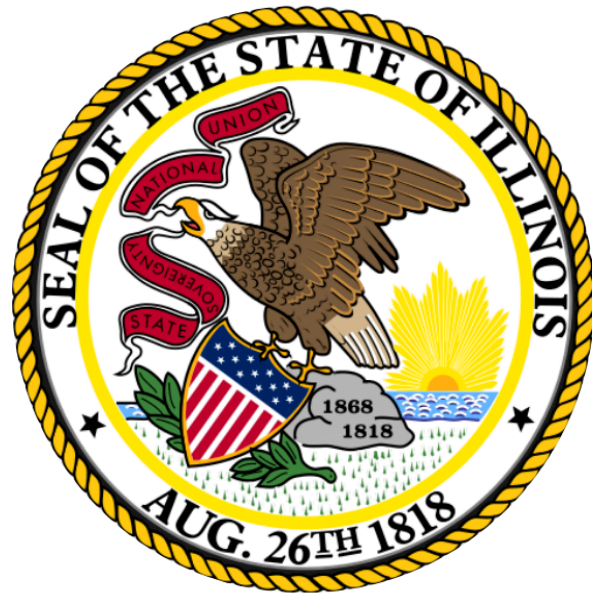




2023

ANNUAL REPORT

Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council



ILLINOIS SECRETARY of STATE
ALEXI GIANNOULIAS

*A private and public partnership effectively combating motor
vehicle theft and related crimes in Illinois since 1991.*



**Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft
Prevention and Insurance Verification Council**

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Illinois Secretary of State

Brendan F. Kelly
Director, Illinois State Police

Larry Snelling
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Honorable Kimberly M. Foxx
Cook County State's Attorney

Honorable Jodi Hoos
Peoria County State's Attorney

Phillip Arnold
Chief, Village of Shorewood Police Department

Todd Feltman
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Jason Smith
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Chuck Dougherty
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Matt Gall
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Table of Contents

History of the Council.....	2
IVHMTPIV Council Members	3
Grant Review Committee Members	9
IVHMTPIV Council Staff	9
Motor Vehicle Theft Trends	
Statewide	10
Hyundai and Kia Models	11
Cook County	12
Most Affected Counties Outside of Cook	13
Chicago Vehicle Hijackings/Carjackings	14
Catalytic Converter Thefts	
The Price of Precious Metals.....	15
Tracking Catalytic Converter Thefts	16
Overview of Council Programs and Activity	
Program Activity 1992-2017	17
Program Activity 2018-2022.....	17
Council Activity 2023	18
Council Funded Programs 2023	
Task Forces	19
Infrastructure Supporting Law Enforcement	22
Mandatory Insurance Verification	23
Recoveries by Insurance Company	24
Financial Statement 2023	26
Participating Agencies 2023	28
Council Pictures through the Year	29
Insurance Company Contributors to the Trust Fund	35
The IVHMTVP Act (P.A. 102-0904)	36

History of the Council

In 1991, the General Assembly established the Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, an 11-member coalition of representatives from the insurance industry, state's attorneys and law enforcement officers, which was overseen by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

The mission of the Council was to reduce motor vehicle theft, related crimes and insurance fraud in Illinois. This was accomplished through a \$1 fee that is assessed to each private passenger automobile that is insured for physical damage coverage in the state. Each year, the trust fund would generate several million dollars that could then be granted by the Council to support law enforcement programs that increase investigation and prosecution of vehicle theft-related crimes.

A five-member Grant Review Committee is charged with reviewing grant proposals, budgets, and other information, which is then referred to the full Council in order to award grants that align with their mission.

Since 1991, the annual number of motor vehicle theft offenses in Illinois dropped dramatically from what was then 75,214. However, in March 2015, by executive order, the Governor suspended state grants for that fiscal year and led to the suspension of grant contracts issued by the Council. The ensuing state budget impasse, which lasted through August 2017, did not provide an appropriation for the Council to use monies deposited into the trust fund.

In 2017, the General Assembly passed House Bill 2610, which became Public Act 100-0373. PA 100-0373 restructured the Council, changed administrative oversight from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority to the Illinois Secretary of State's office and expanded the scope of the Council.

The new Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council included an emphasis on the deterrence, investigation and prosecution of recyclable metal theft. Additionally, funding was allocated for updates to the Secretary of State's Mandatory Insurance Verification Program, which electronically verifies the status of motor vehicle liability insurance policies and prevents uninsured motorists from renewing their vehicle registrations.

In 2022, the General Assembly passed House Bill 3699, which became Public Act 102-0904. PA 102-0904 placed an additional emphasis on combating vehicle hijackings/carjackings, which had increased in Illinois and across the nation in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The legislative changes also included an infusion of \$30 million into the trust fund to assist these efforts.

Today, the IVHMTPIV Council remains committed to their core mission of combating motor vehicle theft but has expanded exponentially to include reduction efforts for vehicle hijackings/carjackings, recyclable metal theft and embraces the use of technology to assist these efforts. The Mandatory Insurance Verification Program is actively reducing the number of uninsured motorists in Illinois roadways and related insurance fraud.

IVHMTPIV Council Members

The following members serve on the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council:



Alexi Giannoulias

Illinois Secretary of State

The 38th Secretary of State of Illinois has been involved in Illinois politics for over 15 years. He served as Illinois Treasurer from 2007 to 2011, Chairman of the Illinois Community College Board from 2011 to 2015 and was on the board of the Chicago Public Library from 2018 to 2021.

Secretary Giannoulias ran for Secretary of State to restore the public's trust in government and its elected leaders. On his first day in office, he issued a comprehensive Executive Ethics Order that set the bar for the highest ethical standards in government. During his first several months in office, Secretary Giannoulias successfully initiated an aggressive agenda. He introduced first-in-the-nation legislation to prevent book bans -- protecting freedom of speech and supporting libraries and librarians.

Other measures include modernizing the office, combating distracted driving, protecting motorists' privacy, stopping pretextual traffic stops, and improving library access. He has also provided tens of millions of dollars in grants to combat vehicle theft and crimes, and to fund school and public libraries. Recently, the Secretary has implemented the Skip-the-Line Program, which launched September 1, to eliminate the unpredictability of wait times at DMVs.

Earlier in his career, as the youngest State Treasurer ever elected in Illinois, Giannoulias pursued a progressive, reform agenda focused on innovative initiatives and policies designed to curb ethical abuses, create jobs, safely invest taxpayer dollars, and improve the financial futures of all Illinoisans.

The Secretary graduated from the Latin School of Chicago and received a bachelor's degree in economics from Boston University before earning a J.D. from Tulane University Law School. He played Division I basketball at Boston University, and later played professionally in Greece for Panionios B.C. Secretary Giannoulias and his wife, Josephine, have three daughters.

Elmer Garza, Director of the Secretary of State Police Department, is Secretary Giannoulias' designee and serves as Chairman of the Council.



Brendan F. Kelly
Director, Illinois State Police

Brendan Kelly was nominated by Governor JB Pritzker as the Director of the Illinois State Police in January 2019. Kelly is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and Saint Louis University School of Law, served as an officer in the United States Navy, and comes from a family of law enforcement and military service.

Kelly served as the elected State's Attorney of St. Clair County from 2010-2019 and previously as an Assistant State's Attorney. As chief prosecutor, Kelly established a violent crimes unit, a special victims unit for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, and a Children's Justice Division. During his tenure, violent crime was reduced by 41% in his jurisdiction.

As Director of ISP, Kelly has advocated for more graduating classes of State Police officers, expansion of state police public integrity units and better law enforcement training standards. He has also initiated changes to the firearms background process and enforcement of firearms safety. Kelly has also established separate divisions for the Illinois State Police Academy to improve training and recruitment.

Kelly is past-president of the Illinois State's Attorneys Association, served as chairman of the St. Clair County Child Advocacy Center and on the executive committee of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Illinois. In 2018, Kelly was named State's Attorney of the Year by the Illinois State Crime Commission and has received an Illinois Mothers Against Drunk Driving Hero Award. He was also named Prosecutor of the Year by the Southern Illinois Law Enforcement Commission and Southern Illinois Police Chief's Association.

Lieutenant Colonel Chris Trame, Assistant Deputy Director for Illinois State Police, is Director Kelly's designee to the Council.



Larry B. Snelling
Superintendent, Chicago Police Department

Larry Snelling was sworn in as the 64th Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department in September 2023.

Prior to being appointed Superintendent, Snelling served in multiple areas of the Chicago Police Department. He was Chief of the Bureau of Counterterrorism and served as the Deputy Chief of Area 2. Before this, he served as Commander of the 7th (Englewood) District, where he was also a Watch Operations Lieutenant. Prior to his time in the 7th District, he was a Sergeant in the Physical Skills Section and the Operations Section Sergeant for recruit training at the Police Academy. Snelling also served as a Sergeant in the 22nd (Morgan Park) District.

Snelling redesigned the Department's current force training model around national best practices and constitutional policing and has testified as an expert in federal use of force cases. Additionally, Superintendent Snelling was a lead trainer for field force training for the 2012 Chicago NATO Summit.

He holds a bachelor's degree in adult education from DePaul University.

Commander Andrew Costello, Central Investigations Division of the Bureau of Detectives for the Chicago Police Department, serves as Superintendent Snelling's designee to the Council.



Honorable Kimberly M. Foxx
Cook County State's Attorney

Kimberly M. Foxx was elected Cook County State's Attorney in 2016 and is the first African-American woman to lead the office. Prior to being elected state's attorney, Foxx served as chief of staff for Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle.

As President Preckwinkle's senior advisor and lead strategist, she oversaw a \$4 billion annual budget. She also was the lead architect of the county's criminal justice reform agenda to address racial disparities in the criminal and juvenile justice systems. Her efforts contributed to a significant drop in the Cook County jail population while promoting public safety.

A veteran prosecutor, Foxx served as an assistant state's attorney in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office for 12 years and also served as a guardian ad litem in the Cook County Public Guardian's Office.

Foxx is a board member at Adler University and Free Spirit Media, where she also served as board president. Foxx is a former board chair of Planned Parenthood of Illinois and a past president of the National Black Prosecutors Association – Chicago Chapter. She is a member of Leadership Greater Chicago and the Chicago Council of Lawyers.

Born and raised on Chicago's Near North Side in Cabrini Green, Foxx earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Southern Illinois University (SIU) and a juris doctorate from the SIU School of Law.

David Williams, with the Special Prosecutions Bureau, currently serves as State's Attorney Foxx's designee to the Council.



Honorable Jodi Hoos
Peoria County State's Attorney

Jodi Hoos was sworn in as the first woman to ever hold the position of Peoria County State's Attorney on September 1, 2019, after a unanimous appointment vote from the Peoria County Board. She went on to win election in November 2020.

Prior to her appointment, Hoos was the Peoria County Resident Circuit Judge for five years. During her time on the bench she handled a variety of civil cases ranging from personal injury to multi-million dollar medical malpractice claims.

Prosecuting was always Hoos's passion. She first started in the Peoria County State's Attorney's office as an Assistant State's Attorney in 2000. A trial lawyer in its truest sense, Hoos's work involved every criminal courtroom in the Peoria County courthouse. She tried more than 150 jury trials and prosecuted more than 40 murder cases. When Peoria County provided televised broadcast of its courtrooms for the first time in 2014, Hoos was in the courtroom.

Hoos was born and raised in the small farm community of Amherst, Nebraska, population 231. She was a three-sport athlete in high school and went on to play softball at the collegiate level. Hoos was a four-year starter at the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

Hoos graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Nebraska at Kearney in 1997 with a bachelor's degree in political science. She went to law school at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and received her juris doctor in 2000.



Phillip Arnold
Chief, Village of Shorewood Police Department

Phillip Arnold has served in law enforcement for over 37 years and has been the Chief of Police for the Village of Shorewood since December 2021.

He has been recognized and awarded for his initiative and ingenuity in developing and improving program practices and procedures with significant successes in coordination, comprehension, cost savings, streamlining and leading teams to consistently meet or exceed expected outcomes and deadlines.

He has managed high profile programs for nationwide law enforcement operations and emergency services and has a proven ability to translate goals into action.

He is a member of the Police Chief's Association of Will County and Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee. He is also Chairman of the Chief's Operating Committee for the Western Will County

Communications Center and Chairman of the Personnel Committee for the Tri-River Police Training Region (Mobile Training Unit 16).

Chief Arnold serviced as an Executive Board Member for the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force from 2008-2012 and again from 2016-2019. He has served on the Executive Board of the South Suburban Emergency Response Team for six years. He is also an Active Life Member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.



Todd Feltman
State Farm Insurance Company

Todd Feltman has worked at State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company for 30 years. His current responsibilities include countrywide responsibilities for reporting automobile liability insurance to various states as well as overseeing non-voluntary insurance markets.

Feltman received his B.A. in Business Management from Western Michigan University and is an insurance industry representative for 26 Governing Committees for auto non-voluntary plans across the country. He obtained his Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter and Chartered Financial Consultant designations.

He is also a member of the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, the Insurance Industry Committee on Motor Vehicle Administration, ACORD and X12 organizations.



Jason Smith
Farmers Insurance Group

Jason Smith is a supervisor in the Special Investigations Unit and is responsible for SIU field operations in four states. He began his insurance career in 2001 as a multi-line claims representative in Southern Indiana.

He has held multiple positions in claims including field claims representative senior special investigator. Smith has a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern Indiana and holds the insurance designations of INS and FCLS. He is a member of the International Association of Special Investigators.



Molly Hart

The Auto Club Group

Molly Hart handles public and government relations for AAA – The Auto Club Group primarily in Illinois. She previously worked for a presidential administration, served as a federal lobbyist and worked in non-profit agencies including Feeding America.

Hart holds a B.A. from the University of Dayton and a Master of Science from Northwestern University-Medill School of Journalism.



Chuck Dougherty

Pekin Insurance

Chuck Dougherty is the Special Investigations Unit and Business Analysis Manager for Pekin Insurance. Prior to joining Pekin he held SIU and Compliance leadership positions at Lemonade Insurance, Chubb, and American National.

Dougherty holds a B.S. degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice from Niagara University. His designations include Associate in Claims (AIC), Fraud Claims Law Specialist (FCLS), Associate, Life Management Institution (ALMI) and Associate, Insurance Regulatory Compliance (AIRC).



Matt Gall

COUNTRY Financial Insurance Company

Matt Gall is the Special Investigation Unit Manager for COUNTRY Financial and is responsible for the SIU operations for all the states in which COUNTRY Financial operates. He started working in the insurance industry in 1989 as a claims representative in Northern Illinois and has worked in the special investigations area of insurance since 1994.

Gall holds degrees in Criminal Justice and Business Management. He achieved the designations of Certified Insurance Fraud Investigator (CIFI) through the International Association of Special Investigation Units, Certified Fire Investigator (CFI) through the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), and Fraud Claims Law Specialist (FCLS) through the American Education Institute. Gall is a Firefighter/EMT and he is a member of the National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators.

Grant Review Committee Members

Elmer Garza, Chairman
Director, Secretary of State Police

Jodi Hoos
State's Attorney, Peoria County

Todd Feltman
State Farm Insurance Group

Matt Gall
COUNTRY Financial Insurance Company

Molly Hart
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Monica Melton
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Program Assistant



Motor Vehicle Theft Trends

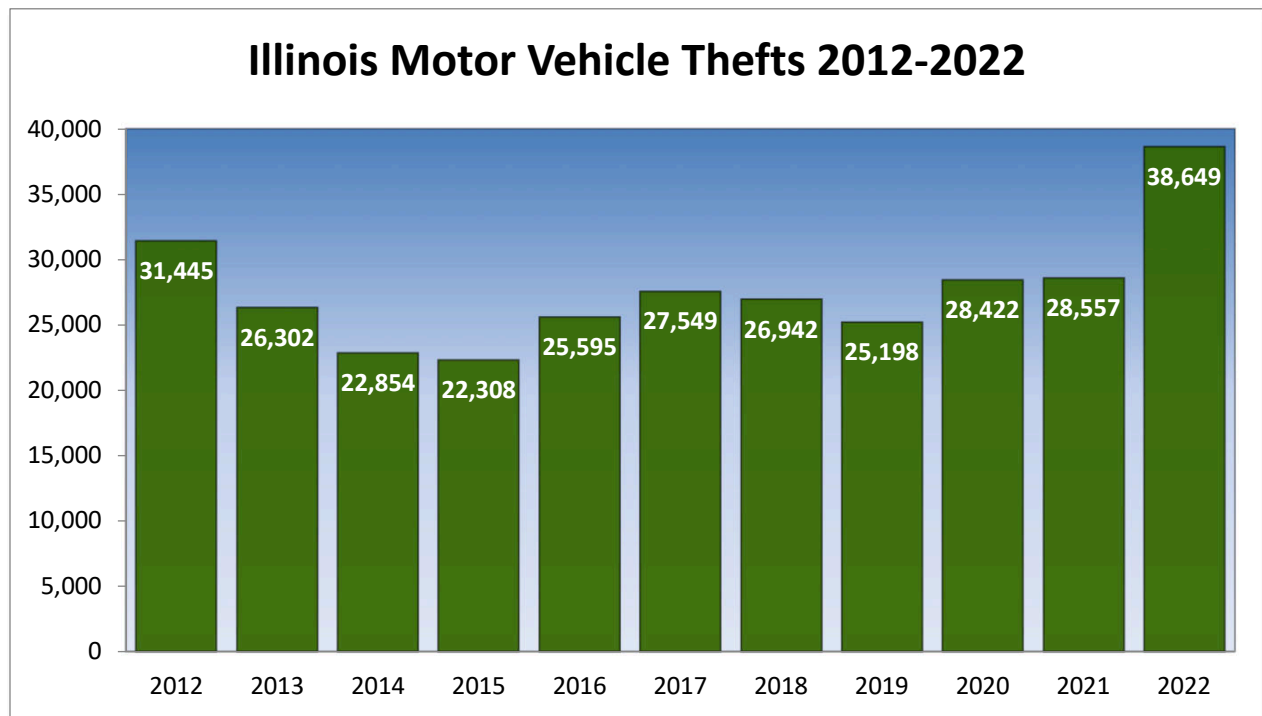
Statewide

In 1991, when the General Assembly first established the Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, Illinois recorded 75,214 stolen vehicles that year. Since then, theft prevention efforts have produced significant reductions in the rate of annual thefts. In 2022, however, the number of motor vehicle theft offenses in Illinois rose to 38,649 from the previous year. This increase of 35% may be ascribed to a few contributing factors:

- The COVID-19 pandemic brought a dramatic shift in the economy and our general way of life. High unemployment and tragic public health outcomes fueled by the pandemic saw an overall increase in all types of crimes, including motor vehicle thefts.
- In the summer of 2022, there was a drastic increase in Hyundai/Kia vehicle thefts, which were linked to social media videos that demonstrated how easily certain models could be stolen.

As citizens in Illinois and throughout the country adjust to post-pandemic life, there is a clear recognition that job shortages have significantly impacted a variety of job sectors. The nationwide shortage of police officers means that individual law enforcement agencies typically are not staffed with the resources to devote to sustained investigations into motor vehicle theft cases. Even when adequately staffed, many agencies lack the technology or ability to organize multi-jurisdictional motor vehicle theft efforts.

The most effective tool for combating motor vehicle theft involves sustained, organized, and coordinated law enforcement efforts. Reductions are further solidified when prosecutions are achieved through strong partnerships with local State's Attorneys.

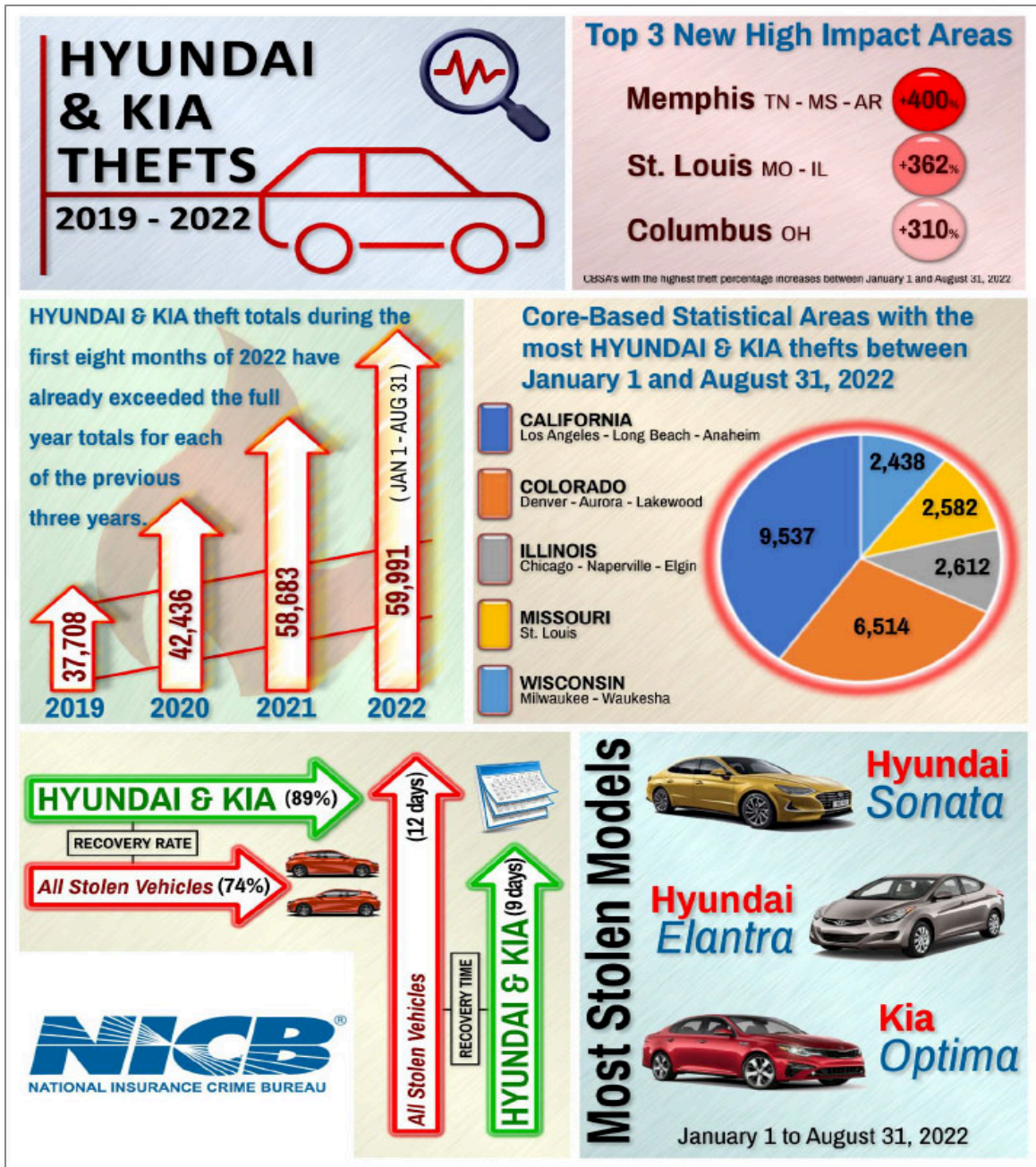


Annual Vehicle Thefts, NICB Statistics

Hyundai and Kia Models

In 2022, law enforcement officials throughout the nation had detected a drastic increase in Hyundai/Kia vehicle thefts. This increase was linked to several viral social media videos uploaded in May of 2022, which exposed a vulnerability in certain models and described in detail how to rapidly steal these vehicles.

Illinois was not immune to this trend, having measured a 35% increase in vehicle thefts in Illinois for 2022. According to Chicago Police data, overall vehicle thefts in the city rose from 10,603 in 2021 to 21,449 in 2022. Hyundai was top stolen vehicle and Kia was the second most stolen.



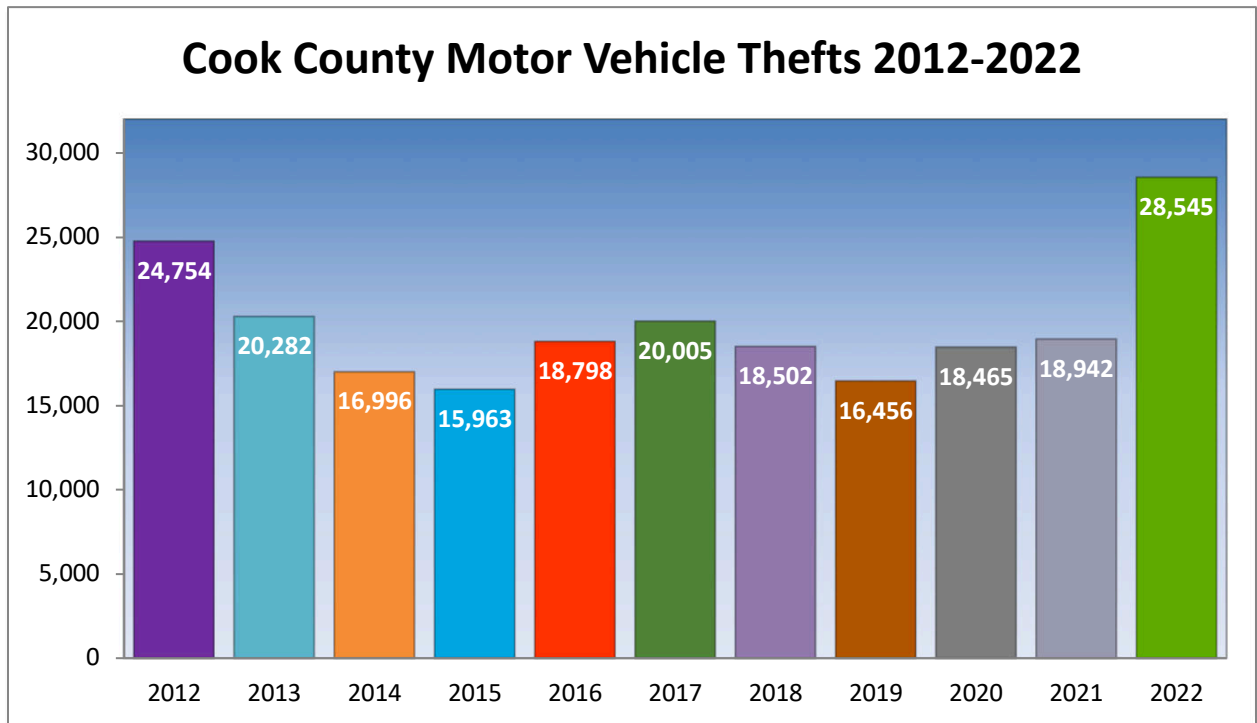
NICB Forecast Report, 2019-2022 Hyundai and Kia Vehicle Thefts, October 14, 2022

Cook County

As the nation’s second largest county, Cook County consistently holds the lion’s share of motor vehicle thefts for the state of Illinois. In 2022, there were 28,545 thefts, which represented nearly 74% of all thefts throughout Illinois. This is the highest number of motor vehicle thefts since 2008, when Cook County recorded 30,383.

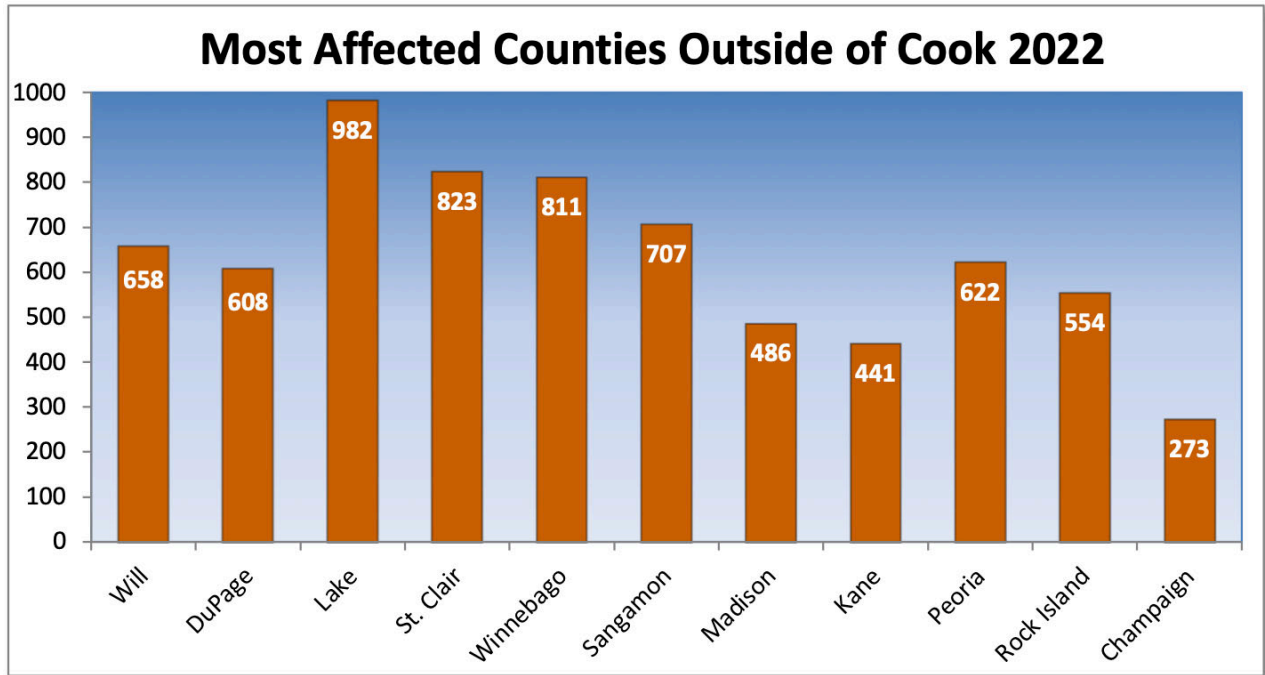
As noted in the “Statewide Motor Vehicle Theft Trends” and “Hyundai and Kia Thefts” section of this report, overall increases in crime have had a significant impact on motor vehicle theft and the ease in which certain Hyundai and Kia models can be stolen has further compounded this issue.

Despite this recent increase, a multi-faceted approach to combating motor vehicle theft that involves coordinated law enforcement efforts coupled with the resources to bring about successful prosecutions is still the most effective way to reduce motor vehicle theft. Decades of sustained programming have produced statistics that prove this, having driven the number of thefts down from over 75,000 in 1991.

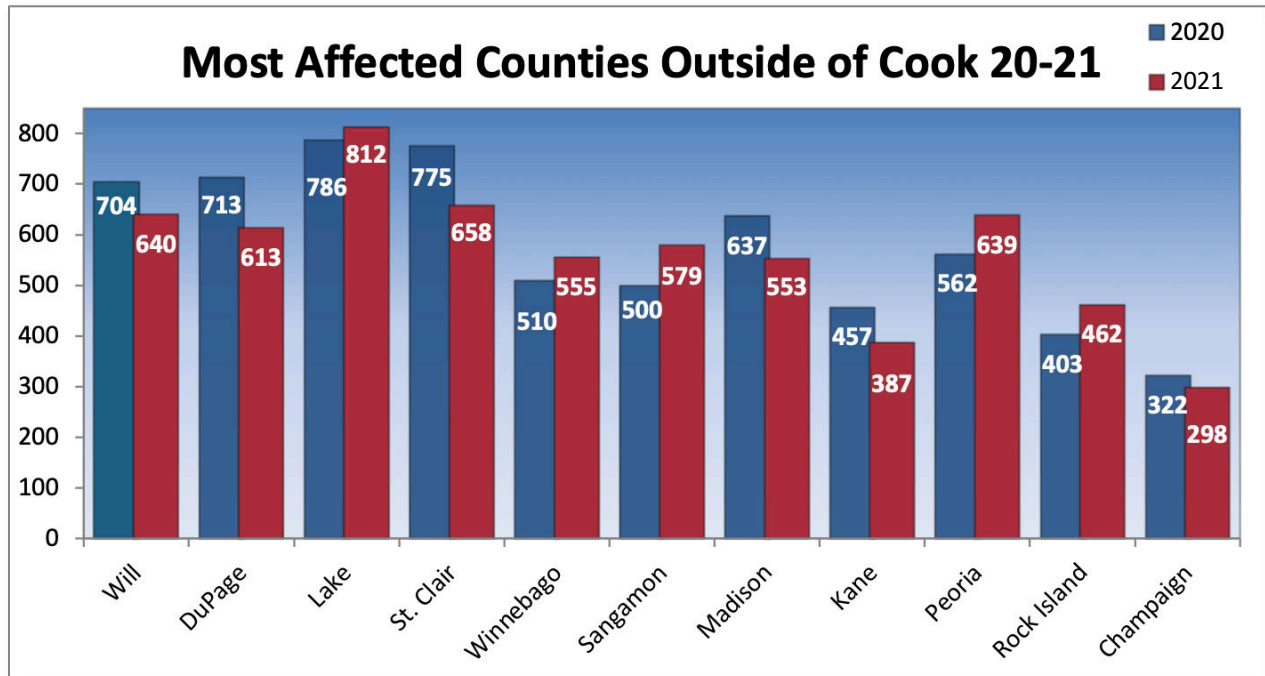


Cook County Vehicle Thefts, NICB Statistics

Most Affected Counties Outside of Cook



County Vehicle Thefts 2022, NICB Statistics



County Vehicle Thefts 2020-2021, NICB Statistics

Chicago Vehicle Hijackings/Carjackings

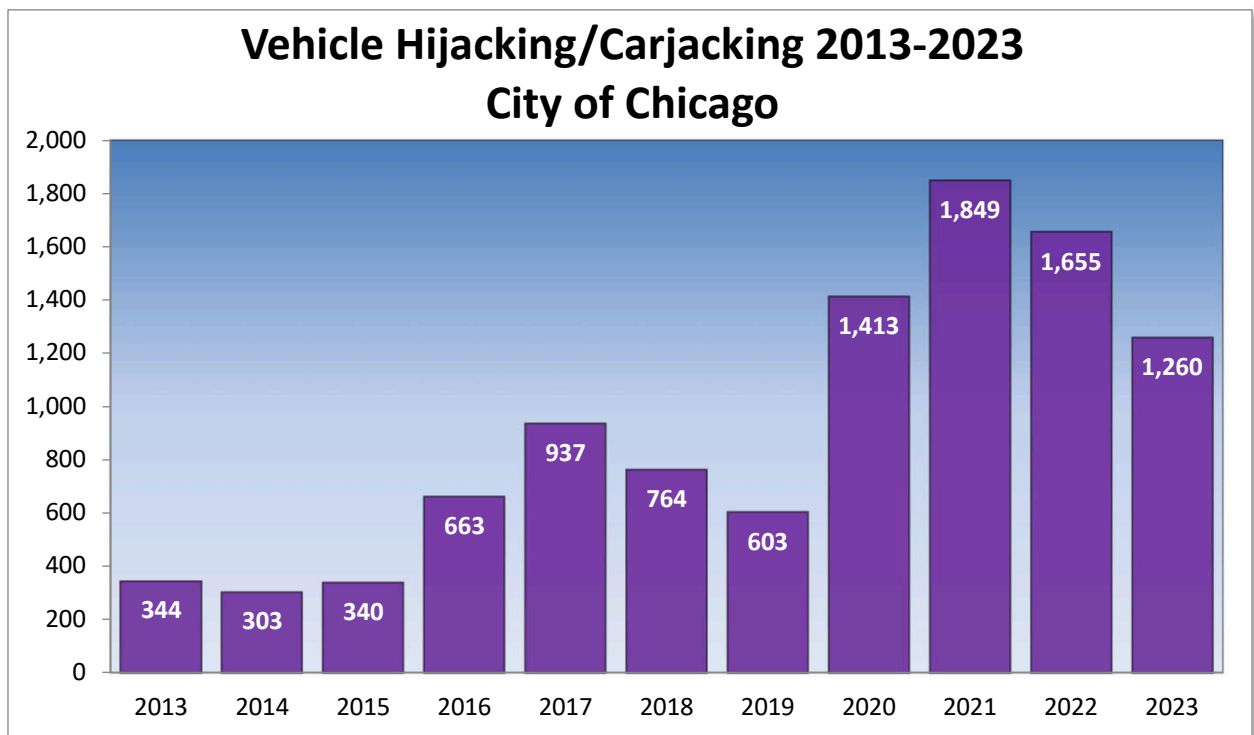
In 2022, House Bill 3699 was signed into law and became Public Act 102-0904. With an effective date of January 1, 2023, the new law amended the Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Act to place an additional emphasis on combating vehicle hijackings/carjackings.

The legislation officially changed the name to the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Act. It also came with a transfer of \$30 million from the General Revenue Fund into the trust fund to assist these efforts.

Vehicle hijackings/carjackings can affect residents throughout the entire state, yet they are not always consistently reported. Additionally, the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) reporting system transitioned to a National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) on January 1, 2021, and poses some challenges for certain jurisdictions when reporting crimes.

Chicago leads the state with the highest rates and for consistency, those numbers are provided below. Classification of this crime may fall under several categories, but for reporting purposes the numbers listed include "vehicle hijacking" and "aggravated vehicle hijacking" only. The following chart illustrates how this crime has trended over the past 10 years.

With additional funding for 2023, the data shows a reduction in vehicle hijackings/carjacking to a number that is lower than when this crime skyrocketed during the pandemic. Continued targeted efforts should further reduce that number.



Vehicle Hijackings and Aggravated Vehicle Hijackings 2013-2023 - City of Chicago Data Portal

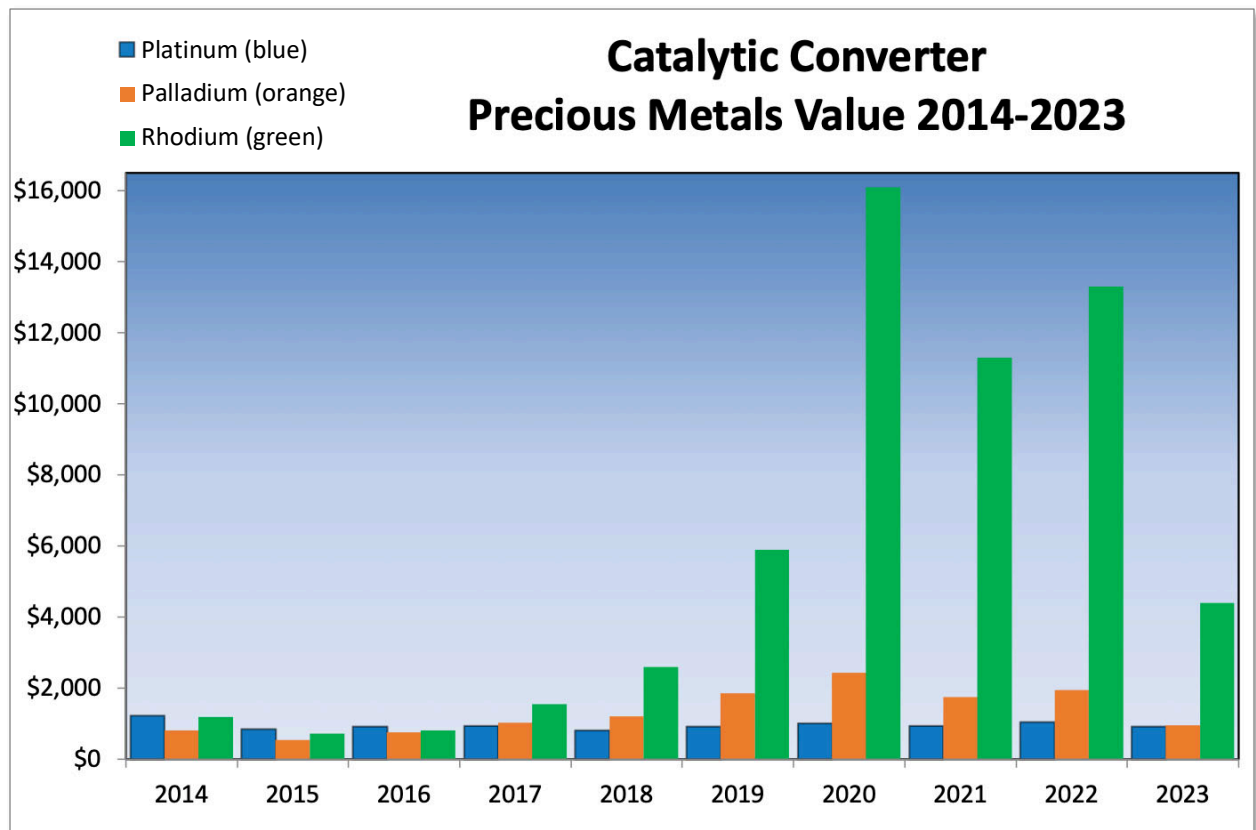
Catalytic Converter Thefts

The Price of Precious Metals

Catalytic converter theft is a crime that leaves victims facing hundreds to thousands of dollars in unexpected vehicle repairs. A catalytic converter is a device that looks like a small muffler along the exhaust system. It is designed to convert the environmentally hazardous exhaust emitted by the engine into less harmful gasses. To do this, catalytic converters use platinum, palladium, and rhodium.

In recent years, the values of these precious metals have skyrocketed, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. As of December 2022, rhodium was valued at \$13,300 per ounce, palladium at \$1,954 per ounce, and platinum was going for \$1,046 per ounce. Typically, recyclers will pay between \$100 and \$300 per catalytic converter. Rhodium briefly hit an all-time high of nearly \$30,000 per ounce in March 2021. Prior to that it reached almost \$10,000 per ounce in July 2008.

These crimes of convenience often follow the price of precious metals – when the value is high, crime is typically high. In 2023, the prices of all three of these metals have retreated: platinum having dropped by \$123 per ounce, palladium \$1,005 per ounce and rhodium fell by a staggering \$8,900 per ounce.



Precious Metals Average Closing Price, Money Metals Exchange - December

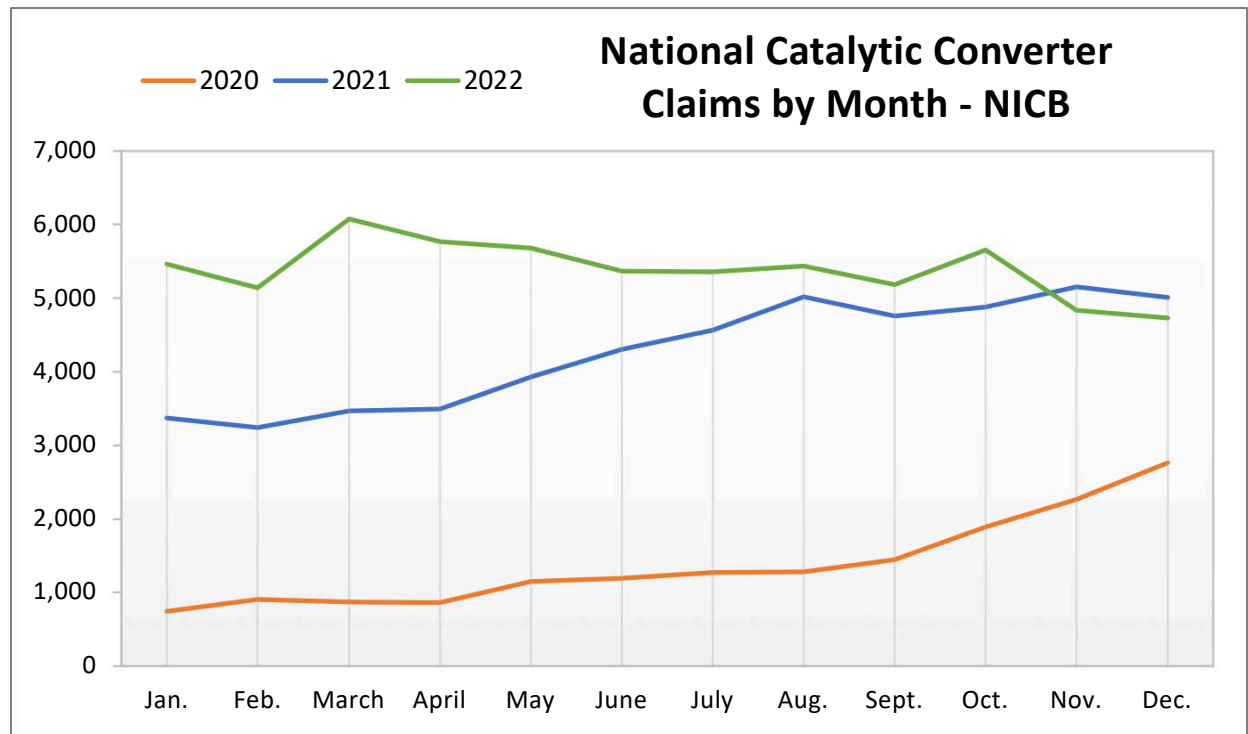
Tracking Catalytic Converter Thefts

Incidents of catalytic converter theft can be difficult to track. NICB reports that the national figure on insurance claims for these types of thefts have jumped from 16,660 in 2020, to 51,209 in 2021 and finally 64,701 in 2022.

According to Carfax, the actual number of thefts throughout the nation may have been more than 150,000, which is three times the reported amount in recent years. This data came from a report, which tracked catalytic converter replacements from millions of service records. It also accounted for catalytic converters that were defective, recalled by manufacturers or replaced due to the end of their service life.¹

Another challenge for reporting is that not all catalytic converter thefts result in a police report being issued. In many other cases, insurance companies may not be involved in the replacement due to either the lack of insurance or high deductibles being cost prohibitive for the owner, which results in settling the matter out-of-pocket.

There is good news for 2023, however. NICB noticed fewer claims at the end of 2022. Also, State Farm Insurance, who is one of the largest insurance carriers of private passenger policies in Illinois has noticed a considerable reduction in claims for the first half of 2023. In the first six months, there were substantially fewer claims filed with only 1,300. The previous year saw nearly 3,900 claims.² This trend would be in line with the reduction in precious metal value.



Catalytic Converter Thefts 2020-2022, NICB Trend Report, May 2023

¹ Carfax, [Catalytic Converter Theft: 10 Most Targeted Vehicles](#), March 2023

² State Farm Insurance, [State Farm Data Reveals Drop in Catalytic Converter Theft](#), October 2023

Overview of Council Programs and Activity

Program Activity 1992 -2017

The Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council expended approximately \$133 million in grants awards in a 24-year period. Those grants supported a variety of law enforcement programs that enhanced investigations and prosecutions of vehicle theft-related crimes.

Most funds paid the salaries and benefits of personnel assigned to task forces and special investigative teams in the state. Remaining funds were utilized for equipment, commodities, travel, contractual agreements, and costs not covered by the other categories.

Program Activity 2018-2022

The Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council expended approximately \$24 million in grant awards in a 4-year period. These grants not only supported vehicle theft prevention efforts, but also targeted vehicle hijackings/carjackings, recycled metal theft crimes and involved considerable support from participating law enforcement agencies.

In 2018, the Council worked diligently to review and offer revisions to the [2019-2022 Statewide Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Strategy](#), which is the document that serves as a guide to the Council in order to establish priorities of program funding for a 4-year cycle. A Request for Grant Proposal (RFGP) was issued in 2019 and the following grants were awarded beginning in Fiscal Year 2020:

- Tri-County Auto Theft Task Force (TCAT), City of Joliet
- Metro East Auto Theft Task Force (MEATTF), St. Clair County
- Illinois Statewide Auto Theft Task Force (ISATT), Village of Thornton
- Chicago Major Auto Theft Investigations Unit (CMATI), Chicago Police Department, which is funding through a Memorandum of Understanding with ISATT.

As in the past, funds were utilized to pay the salaries and benefits of personnel assigned to task forces so that dedicated officers and prosecutors can work cases from start to finish. Funding was also used for equipment, much of which has become specialized including drone technology, automated license plate readers and sophisticated surveillance systems.

Pursuant to Public Act 100-0373, an electronic verification system was established for the Mandatory Insurance Division of the Secretary of State's office and went live in 2021. This system relies upon incoming data from the insurance companies to electronically match vehicle registrations.

In 2022, the Council again reviewed and revised the [2023-2026 Statewide Funding Strategy](#) and prepared for the upcoming 4-year grant cycle.

Council Activity 2023

Due to Public Act 102-0904, which had an effective date of January 1, 2023, the Council adjusted their regular schedule of meetings in order to prepare for the implementation of this new law. The public act came with a transfer of \$30 million from the General Revenue Fund into the trust fund to aid in the prevention of vehicle hijackings/carjackings, motor vehicle theft and recyclable metal theft.

The Grant Review Committee met on February 23 and the full Council met three additional times: March 16, October 12, and November 30.

Activity was centered upon the issuance of a Request for Grant Proposal (RFGP), task force updates, reviews of quarterly financial and performance reports and the consideration of grant applications for new and returning grantees. New grant agreements were approved in March and efforts were made to award funding as expeditiously as possible.

Secretary Giannoulis announced a record \$21 million in grant funding at several press conferences throughout the year. Council Staff were able to conduct site visits in July and September to Tri-County Auto Theft, Illinois Statewide Auto Theft and the Metro East Auto Theft units. Staff were provided tours of each facility along with situational briefings of local activity.



Secretary Giannoulis holds a press conference announcing grants totaling more than \$21 million to police organizations. Also pictured from left to right: Illinois State Police Director Brendan Kelly, Secretary of State Police Director Elmer Garza, ISATT Director Adam Broshous, March 23, 2023



Illinois State Library, Grant Review Committee Meeting, February 2023

Council Funded Programs 2023

A variety of theft prevention efforts have been supported with Council funding since 1992. In 2023, the Council funded four task forces, which included 89 personnel supported by, or assigned to, Council-funded programs for the year. These programs also rely upon considerable support from participating agencies who share in the common mission of crime reduction.

Task Forces

Tri-County Auto Theft Task Force

Grantee: City of Joliet

Amount awarded in 2023 (FY 24): \$1,841,000

The Tri-County Auto Theft (TCAT) Task Force serves the Joliet metropolitan area, including Will, Kankakee, Grundy, Kendall and Iroquois counties. Within its boundaries there are three of the nation's largest interstate systems – I-55, I-80 and I-57. Joliet/Elwood is also home to the Centerpoint Intermodal Center, which is the largest auto/train/truck transfer center in North America, covering over 6500 acres of property.

The task force works with the police departments of Joliet, Bradley, Manteno, and Kankakee; the sheriff's offices of Will, Grundy and Kankakee County; and the Will and Kankakee County State's Attorney's offices. This grant allows the unit to reduce auto theft and fraud related cases in the region, identify and recover stolen vehicles, investigate incidents of insurance and title fraud, and investigate scrap and recycling yards and pursue cases of vehicle hijacking/carjacking.

TCAT places a priority on fraud involving counterfeit titles/out-of-state titles, VIN switching, identity theft, vehicle cloning and insurance fraud. The task force routinely works with multi-jurisdictional details, assists local officers with specialized theft cases and offers presentations to police departments, educating officers on all aspects of auto theft. Director Grizzle is also a board member for the Midwest Security Council, which serves to combat cargo theft and improving transportation security.

In Fiscal Year 2023, TCAT opened 516 cases, which resulted in 97 arrests. The task force recovered 362 vehicles and cargo with an estimated value of \$8.5 million dollars.

Illinois Statewide Auto Theft Task Force

Grantee: Village of Thornton

Amount awarded for 2023 (FY 24): \$4,832,770

(\$3,381,759 to ISATT and \$1,451,011 to CMATI)

The Illinois Statewide Auto Theft (ISATT) Task Force is a partnership between the Village of Thornton and the Secretary of State Police to combat auto thefts through collaboration with sworn staff from state, county and local law enforcement agencies. The task force operates with statewide jurisdiction, but focuses its efforts on the Northeastern Illinois region.

ISATT is located at the center of the I-294/80 corridor, which is a "hot spot" of auto theft crime in Illinois. Crimes involving auto theft, insurance fraud, rogue towing operators and recyclable metal theft are just some of the capabilities of this unit. Partnerships with State's Attorney's offices, the National Insurance Crime Bureau and trained audit staff allow the task force to conduct cradle-to-grave investigations and prosecutions.

For Fiscal Year 2024, ISATT continues to partner with the Chicago Police Department's Major Auto Theft Investigations Unit (CMATI) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU establishes a formal working relationship where additional resources for overtime and equipment may be provided in an effort to work collaboratively regarding auto theft and vehicle hijacking/carjacking in the region.

In Fiscal Year 2023, ISATT opened 2,274 investigations and recovered 1,424 vehicles with an estimated value of \$33.8 million. ISATT assisted area agencies with another 196 vehicle recoveries with an estimated value of \$4.7 million. Additionally, their audit team conducted 196 audits of businesses in the auto industry including scrap processors and body shops, resulting in 783 violations and 85 referrals to the Secretary of State Police for further investigation.

In Fiscal Year 2023, CMATI opened 76 investigations and recovered 872 vehicles with an estimated value of \$20 million. Additionally, they made 53 auto theft related arrests.

Metro East Auto Theft Task Force

Grantee: St. Clair Sheriff's Department
Amount awarded for 2023 (FY 24): \$2,456,527

The Metro East Auto Theft (MEATTF) Task Force combats auto theft that is unique to southern Illinois and the Illinois-Missouri border. The task force is comprised of investigators from agencies located in St. Clair, Madison and Monroe Counties and works closely with the police departments of St. Louis and St. Louis County.

The Metro East is the largest urban area in Illinois outside of Chicago and is known for its sporting events, hotels, restaurants and shopping venues. MEATTF partners with multiple jurisdictions to reduce vehicle theft for individuals who reside within the region or are simply visiting. The task force also provides multiple classes throughout the year to educate patrol officers on auto theft trends and investigative tactics.

In Fiscal Year 2023, MEATTF made 188 arrests, which resulted in 153 criminal charges. They recovered 574 vehicles with an estimated value of \$8 million.

Greater Peoria Auto Crimes Task Force

Grantee: Peoria Police Department
Amount awarded for 2023 (FY 24): \$2,150,700

The Greater Peoria Auto Crimes Task Force (GPACT) Task Force is new for 2023. Located in the City of Peoria, this unit brings together the resources of the Peoria Police Department, Peoria County Sheriff's Office, Peoria County State's Attorney's Office, National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) and the Illinois Secretary of State Police.

The Illinois River intersects the Peoria area along with several major interstates systems and highways including I-74, I-155, I-474 and RT-29. Peoria County is consistently among the top ten counties in Illinois for auto theft crimes and was in the top five for 2022. In addition to combatting auto theft, vehicular hijacking and recyclable metal theft, GPACT will develop an updated training program aimed at the public, relevant industries, and law enforcement patrol and investigations.

As a new unit for Fiscal Year 2024, there is no prior activity. However, GPACT has hit the ground running and opened 146 investigations, which produced 161 auto theft related criminal charges. They also recovered 99 vehicles with an estimated value of \$1.6 million. These results were made possible by a handful of staff as they continue to build this unit.

Infrastructure Supporting Law Enforcement

Expressway Safety Enforcement Group

Grantee: Illinois State Police

Amount awarded for 2023 (FY 24): \$10,264,503

The Expressway Safety Enforcement Group (ESEG) is a statewide enforcement group comprised of several divisions within the Illinois State Police (ISP) including the Division of Patrol (DOP), Division of Forensic Science (DFS), and Division of Criminal Investigations (DCI).

ISP provides patrol officers, investigators, crime scene investigators, and forensic services to support local agency partners in combating vehicle theft, hijackings, and all related crime. ESEG utilizes air operations, canines, and specialized equipment, to apprehend offenders for thefts of motor vehicles.

With a priority on Chicago Expressway safety, ESEG is designed to use targeted overt uniform policing, technological advancements, investigative follow-up, crime scene processing, and forensic science examination to reduce these crimes and related criminal activity. ESEG also advances strategic planning and bolsters the mission of sworn resources in Cook County and other identified Illinois counties.

From April 1 – November 30, 2023, ESEG recovered 675 vehicles, seized 34 firearms, made 71 arrests and deployed K9s 49 times to assist in stolen or hijacked vehicle recoveries. Additionally, they used air operations 127 times to target stolen or hijacked vehicles and related crimes and assisted other agencies in these efforts 110 times.

Pekin Police Department - ALPR and Drone Program

Grantee: Pekin Police Department

Amount awarded for 2023 (FY 24): \$220,549

The Pekin Police Department has implemented a two-pronged approach to addressing motor vehicle theft and recyclable metal thefts in Pekin and surrounding jurisdictions. The project involves the implementation of 52 stationary and 2 portable, solar-powered ALPR cameras, strategically placed throughout the city to aid in locating stolen vehicles. The implementation of a drone program assists law enforcement in recyclable metal theft investigations that occur at every extreme of the city including tow yards, large and small car dealerships, corporation parking lots, and bus parking lots.

LeRoy Police Department – ALPR Program

Grantee: LeRoy Police Department

Amount awarded for 2023 (FY 24): \$26,000

The City of LeRoy is split by I-74, which had limited ALPR coverage. This program expands coverage with eight additional ALPRs to capture both North and Southbound traffic in anticipation of identifying stolen vehicles and apprehending those who are committing these crimes.

Mandatory Insurance Verification

Prior to the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Act, Illinois would select a small random sample of eligible vehicle registrations each month and send a mailing to the vehicle owners, requiring that the owners provide insurance information valid on the date of selection. That information was then verified with the insurance company.

In 2018, Public Act 100-0373 designated that no more than 10% of each dollar collected for every year may be utilized for the creation, implementation, and maintenance of an electronic motor vehicle liability insurance policy verification program.

In 2020, funds were utilized to create and implement an electronic verification system, which was tested and verified for proper operation that year. This system relies upon incoming data from the insurance companies that must match vehicle registrations. If a match is not made, a letter is sent to the vehicle owner outlining how to verify insurance in case of error and notifying them that the vehicle registration may be suspended.

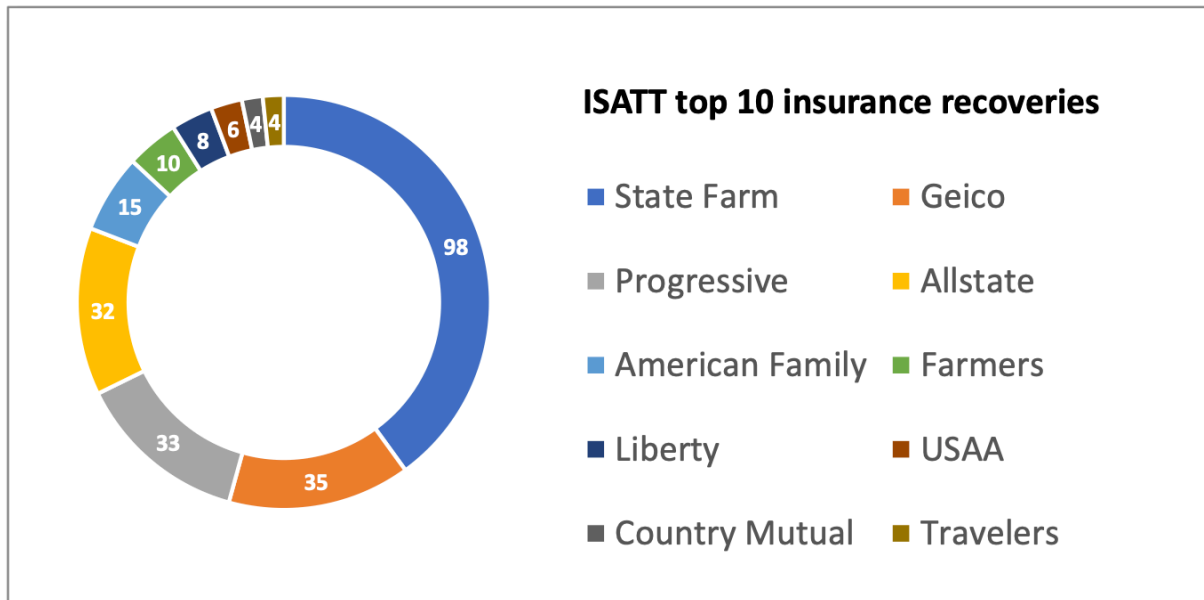
Since 2021, when the system went live, the percentage of registered vehicles without verified insurance has dropped from 12.7% to 5.4%. This translates into more than 700,000 vehicle owners having either obtained insurance or received license plate suspensions.

The Mandatory Insurance Division is currently staffed by 9 employees who electronically verify the insurance status of approximately 10 million vehicle registrations, twice per year.

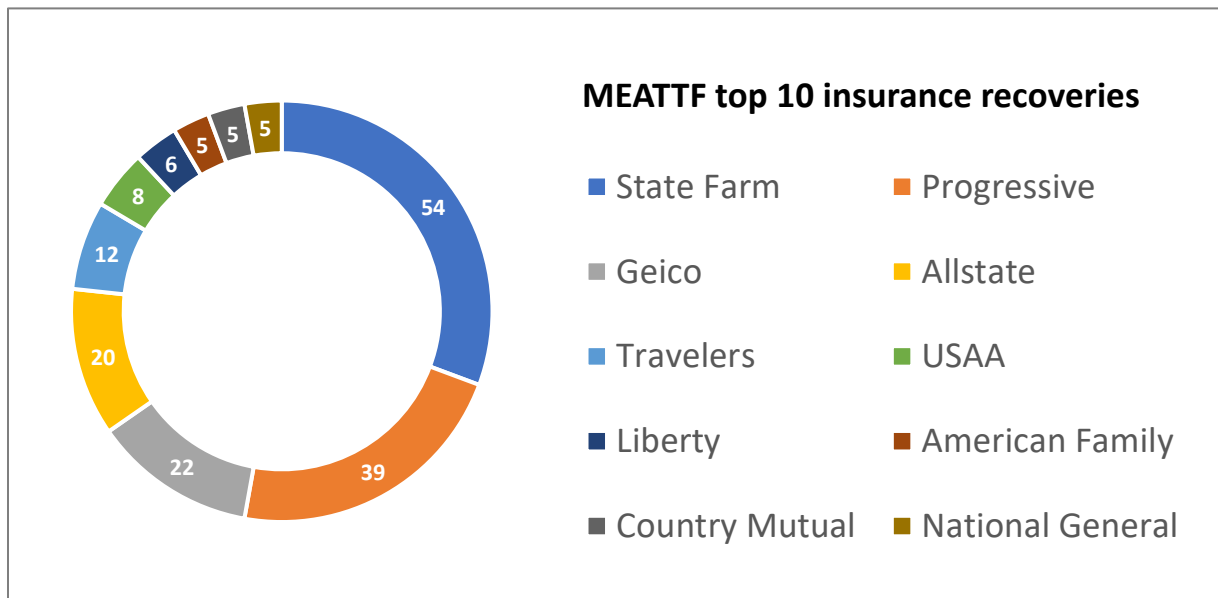


Recoveries by Insurance Company

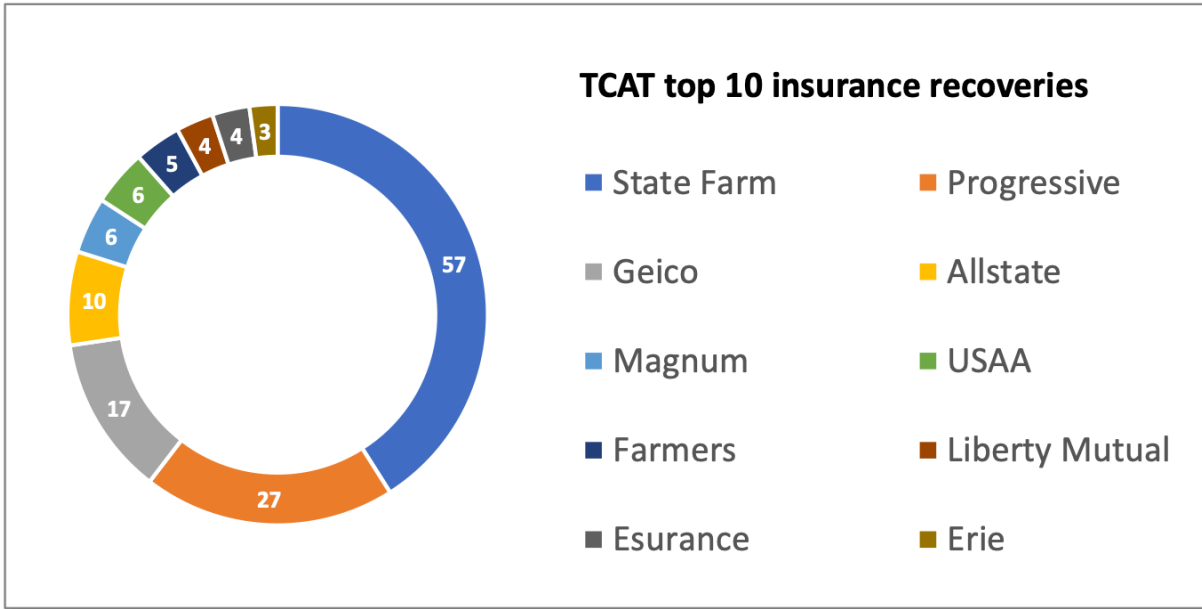
For Fiscal Year 2023, the combined recovery value for all task forces totaled an astounding \$70 million. With an average annual investment of \$6 million, that is a rate of return of nearly \$12 for every \$1 spent. In an effort to better assist the insurance industry, task forces have been compiling data based upon the number of vehicle recoveries attributed to each insurance company. The charts listed below illustrate the insurance companies who have been impacted the most according to regional activity.



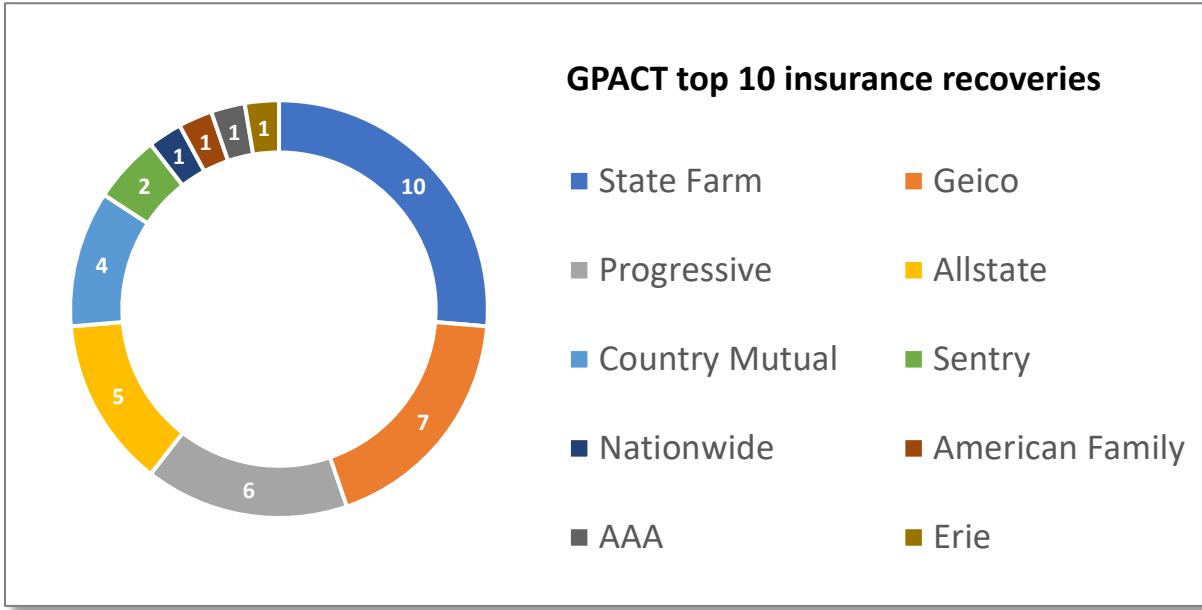
ISATT recoveries by insurance company, FY 2023



MEATTF recoveries by insurance company based on \$25,000 average recovery value, FY 2023



TCAT recoveries by insurance company, FY 2023



GPACT recoveries by insurance company, FY 2024 (activity from August-November 2023)

Financial Statement 2023

Prior financial statements have shown fiscal year snapshots. Moving forward, financial statements will provide calendar year information. Additionally, this financial information will show how funds are being utilized for the Mandatory Insurance Verification system, pursuant to Public Act 102-0904, which designates, “no more than 10% of each dollar collected,” to be for used for “the creation, implementation, and maintenance of an electronic motor vehicle liability insurance policy verification program.”

Revenues, expenditures and fund balance for Calendar Year 2023

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE:	MANDATORY INS.	COUNCIL	TOTAL
Beginning Balance	\$6,796,032.80	\$8,160,453.72	\$14,956,486.52
REVENUES:			
	MANDATORY INS.	COUNCIL	TOTAL
Amount Collected 10% to Mandatory Ins. 90% to Council	\$656,735.23	\$5,910,617.14	\$6,567,735.38
Interest income		\$1,095,029.82	\$1,095,029.82
Intergovernmental Transfer from GRF		\$30,000,000.00	\$30,000,000.00
Unspent Grant Funds Returned to Council *		\$1,546,858.81	\$1,546,858.81
Total Revenues	\$656,735.23	\$38,552,505.77	\$39,209,241.01
EXPENDITURES:			
	MANDATORY INS.	COUNCIL	TOTAL
Administrative **	\$1,578,209.94	\$309,545.38	\$1,887,755.32
Grants		\$21,792,049.00	\$21,792,049.00
Audit Transfers Out ***		\$10,970.00	\$10,970.00
Refunds ****		\$42,486.00	\$42,486.00
Total Expenditures	\$1,578,209.94	\$22,155,050.38	\$23,733,260.32
ENDING FUND BALANCE:			
Ending Balance	\$5,874,558.09	\$24,557,909.12	\$30,432,467.21

* This amount is the remaining balance of unspent grant funding at close of the 2019-2023 grant cycle.

** Payroll expenditures for the final pay period in December were unavailable at the time of the issuance of this report. Those expenses have been estimated.

*** Statutory audit transfer

**** Refund to COUNTRY Financial and All America Insurance for overpayment to the Trust Fund.

Program Grant Awards

AWARDS:	2023
Tri-County Auto Theft Task Force	\$1,841,000
Illinois Statewide Auto Theft Task Force	\$4,832,770
Metro East Auto Theft Task Force	\$2,456,527
Greater Peoria Auto Crimes Task Force *	\$2,150,700
Expressway Safety Enforcement Group *	\$10,264,503
Pekin Police Department – ALPR and Drone Program *	\$220,549
LeRoy Police Department – ALPR Program *	\$26,000
Total	\$21,792,049

* Program grant awards issued in Fiscal Year 2023 (March 2023). All others were awarded in Fiscal Year 2024

Historical Trust Fund Activity for Calendar Year 2020 to 2022

	2020	2021	2022
Insurance company payments	\$6,955,927	\$7,126,732	\$7,273,887
Transfers out			\$18,893 *
Sub Total	\$6,955,927	\$7,126,732	\$7,254,994
Admin. Expenditures Mandatory Ins.	\$1,918,269	\$1,689,242	1,229,256
Admin. Expenditures Council	\$252,288	\$264,459	\$298,502
Grants	\$4,413,780	\$7,329,325	\$6,339,911
Sub Total	\$6,584,337	\$9,283,026	\$7,867,669

* Refund to Amica Mutual Insurance and Amica P&C Insurance for overpayment to the Trust Fund.

Participating Agencies

Tri-County Auto Theft Task Force



2 Joliet Officers
1 Bradley Officer
1 Kankakee City Officer
3 Kankakee County Deputies
1 Grundy County Deputy
1 Will County Deputy
1 Iroquois County Deputy
2 Manteno Officers
1 Will County Assistant State's Attorney
1 Will County State's Attorney Investigator
1 Kankakee County Assistant State's Attorney
1 Part-time Frankfort Officer *
1 Part-time Administrative Director
1 Part-time Administrative Assistant
1 NICB Agent

Metro East Auto Theft Task Force



3 St. Clair County Deputies
1 Madison County Deputy
1 Monroe County Deputy
1 Alton Officer
1 Shiloh Officer
1 Belleville Officer
1 Millstadt Officer
1 Columbia Officer
1 Caseyville Officer
1 Fairview Heights Officer
1 St. Clair County Assistant State's Attorney
1 Madison County Assistant State's Attorney
1 Office Manager

Illinois Statewide Auto Theft Task Force



1 Secretary of State Police Lieutenant *
4 Secretary of State Sergeants *
4 Secretary of State Investigators *
1 Oakbrook Officer
1 Bolingbrook Officer
1 Cook County Deputy
1 Matteson Officer
1 Beecher Officer
1 Chicago Officer
1 Park Forest Officer
1 Thornton Officer
1 Blue Island Officer
1 Burbank Officer
1 Attorney General Investigator
2 Cook County State's Attorney Investigators



- 2 Cook County Assistant State’s Attorneys
- 1 National Insurance Crime Bureau Agent *
- 2 Auditors
- 1 Clerical
- 1 Crime Analyst
- 1 Cook County Assistant State’s Attorney
- 1 Attorney General Prosecutor
- 1 Thornton Financial Officer
- 1 Chicago Police Department Sergeant
- 6 Chicago Police Department Detectives
- 3 Chicago Police Officers

Greater Peoria Auto Theft Task Force



- 1 Secretary of State Police Lieutenant *
- 1 Secretary of State Sergeants *
- 1 Secretary of State Investigators *
- 2 Peoria Officers
- 2 Peoria County Deputies
- 1 Other Agency Officer
- 1 Peoria County Assistant State’s Attorney
- 2 Auditors
- 1 National Insurance Crime Bureau Agent *
- 1 Clerical

** Salaries are not paid by Council funds.*

Council Pictures through the Year



MEATTF agents were alerted to a stolen vehicle from St. Louis County, which led to a police pursuit. Stop sticks were deployed, the suspect was arrested and is currently serving a four year sentence in IDOC.



Cook County Sheriff's Police responded to a burglar alarm at a residence in Worth Township and upon inspection noticed hundreds of catalytic converters on the property. The Sheriff's office with assistance from ISATT executed a search warrant on the property and the owner was charged with felony aggravated possession of a stolen vehicle along with several violations of recycled metal law.



Three brand new 2023 Tesla Model Xs valued at \$300,000 were fraudulently purchased from dealerships in Texas, Nevada and Utah and recovered by TCAT agents at a storage facility in Naperville. The suspect confessed to identify theft, fraud and money laundering.



A stolen vehicle was pursued by Dupo police officers. The suspects wrecked and fled into Frank Holten State Park where they were apprehended by MEATTF agents. A firearm was located in the vehicle and one of the suspects was tied to an armed carjacking in St. Louis.



Stolen 2023 Ford Bronco recovered by ISATT. Valued at \$89,000.



Stolen 2022 BMW X6 was revinned and registered in Illinois. Subjects driving the vehicle were involved in an accident and fled the scene before police arrived. ISATT recovered the vehicle, valued at \$55,000.



The owner of a 2023 Dodge Charger Scat Pack, valued at \$56,000, was carjacked in an apartment complex. The perpetrator, armed with a handgun, was located and arrested and the vehicle was recovered thanks to the Peoria Police Department's Special Investigations Unit and GPACK.



A stolen 2023 Caterpillar 279D3, 2019 Caterpillar 302 and 2019 Caterpillar skid steer were all recovered in unincorporated Will County by TCAT agents. Combined value was over \$200,000.



After a long term investigation, the CPD Major Auto Theft Investigations Unit, FBI – Chicago and ISATT recovered 175 catalytic converters, multiple stolen license plates and an AR-15 rifle with drum magazine.



Stolen vehicles are often used to commit other crimes. In a 7-month period, ESEG was able to seize 34 firearms as a result of stolen or hijacked vehicle recoveries.

Thank you to the following companies who contributed to the 2023 Trust Fund

1st Auto & Casualty Insurance Company
Acuity, A Mutual Insurance Company
AIG Property Casualty Company
All America Insurance
Allmerica Financial Alliance Insurance Company
Allstate Insurance Companies
Alpha Property & Casualty Insurance Company
Amco Insurance Company
American Access Casualty Insurance Company
American Family Insurance Companies
American Freedom Company
American Heartland Insurance Company
American National Property & Casualty Company
American Select Insurance Company
Amica Insurance Companies
Auto Club Insurance Association
Automobile Club Inter-Insurance Exchange
Auto-Owners Insurance Company
Badger Mutual Insurance Company
Bankers Standard Insurance Company
Berkley Insurance Company
Bristol West Insurance Company
California Casualty General Insurance Co. of OR
Central Mutual Insurance
Charter Oak Fire Insurance Company
Chubb Insurance Companies
Citizens Insurance Companies
Clearcover Insurance Company
Columbia Mutual Insurance Company
Cornerstone National Insurance Company
COUNTRY Insurance Companies
Crestbrook Insurance Company
Depositors Insurance Company
Direct Auto Insurance Company
Economy Insurance Companies
Electric Insurance Company
Elephant Insurance Company
Employers Insurance Company of Wausau
Encompass Insurance Companies
Equity Insurance Company
Erie Insurance Companies
Essentia Insurance Company
Esurance Insurance Companies
Falcon Insurance Company
Farmers Insurance Companies
Federal Insurance Company
First Acceptance Insurance Company
First Chicago Insurance Company
First Liberty Insurance Corporation
Foremost Insurance Company
Founders Insurance Company
Frankenmuth Mutual Insurance Company
Garrison Property & Casualty Insurance Co.
GEICO Insurance Companies
General Security National Insurance Co.
Goodville Mutual Casualty Company
Grain Dealers Mutual Insurance Company
Grange Insurance Companies
Great Northern Insurance Company
Grinnell Insurance Companies
Hartford Insurance Companies
Hastings Mutual Insurance Company
Horace Mann Insurance Companies
Illinois Farmers Insurance Company
Incline Casualty Company
Indiana Farmers Mutual Insurance Co.
Integon Casualty Insurance Company
Iowa Mutual Insurance Company
Liberty Mutual Insurance Companies
Loya Insurance Company
Madison Mutual Insurance Company
Meemic Insurance Company
MemberSelect Insurance Company
Mendota Casualty Company
Merastar Insurance Company
Mercury Insurance Company of Illinois
Meridian Security Insurance Company
MGA Insurance Company
MIC General Insurance Corporation
MICO Insurance Company
Midvale Indemnity Companies
Midwest Family Mutual Insurance Co.
Milbank Insurance Company
National General Insurance Companies
Nationwide Insurance Companies
Noblr Reciprocal Exchange
Owners Insurance Company
Pacific Indemnity Company
Pekin Insurance Company
Permanent General Insurance Companies
Pharmacists Mutual Insurance Company
Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Company
Phoenix Insurance Company
ProCentury Insurance Company
Progressive Insurance Companies
Response Insurance Company
Riverport Insurance Company
Rockford Mutual Insurance Company
Root Insurance Company
Safe Auto Insurance Company
Safeco Insurance Company of Illinois
Safeway Insurance Company
SECURA Insurance Companies
Selective Insurance Company of South Carolina
Sentinel Insurance Company
Shelter Insurance Companies
Spinnaker Insurance Company
Standard Insurance Companies
Star Insurance Company
Starstone National Insurance Company
State Auto Insurance Companies
State Farm Insurance Companies
Stillwater Insurance Company
Stonegate Insurance Company
The Cincinnati Insurance Companies
The General Automobile Insurance Company
Toggle Insurance Company
Travelers Insurance Companies
Truck Insurance Exchange
Trumbull Insurance Company
Trustgard Insurance Company
Twin City Fire Insurance Company
Unique Insurance Company
United Insurance Companies
Unitrin Insurance Companies
USAA Insurance Companies
Vigilant Insurance Company
Viking Insurance Company
Wadena Insurance Company
West Bend Mutual Insurance Company
Westfield Insurance Companies
Williamsburg National Insurance Company
XL Specialty Insurance Company
Young America Insurance Company

The IVHMTVP Act (P.A. 102-0904)

Public Act 102-0904

AN ACT concerning finance.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Act is amended by changing Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, and 8.5 as follows:

(20 ILCS 4005/1) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 1301)
(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2025)

Sec. 1. This Act shall be known as the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Act.

(Source: P.A. 100-373, eff. 1-1-18.)

(20 ILCS 4005/2) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 1302)
(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2025)

Sec. 2. The purpose of this Act is to prevent, combat and reduce vehicle hijacking and related violent crime as well as motor vehicle theft in Illinois; to improve and support vehicle hijacking and motor vehicle theft law enforcement, prosecution and administration of vehicle hijacking and motor vehicle theft and insurance verification laws by establishing statewide planning capabilities for and coordination of financial resources.

(Source: P.A. 100-373, eff. 1-1-18.)

(20 ILCS 4005/3) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 1303)
(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2025)

Sec. 3. As used in this Act:

(a) (Blank).

(b) "Council" means the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council.

(b-2) "Director" means the Director of the Secretary of State Department of Police.

(b-5) "Police" means the Secretary of State Department of Police.

(b-7) "Secretary" means the Secretary of State.

(c) "Trust Fund" means the Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Trust Fund.

(Source: P.A. 100-373, eff. 1-1-18.)

(20 ILCS 4005/4) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 1304)
(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2025)

Sec. 4. There is hereby created an Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and insurance Verification Council, which shall exercise its powers, duties and responsibilities. There shall be 11 members of the Council consisting of the Secretary of State or his designee, the Director of the Illinois State Police, the State's Attorney of Cook County, the Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department, and the following 7 additional members, each of whom shall be appointed by the Secretary of State: a state's attorney of a county other than Cook, a chief executive law enforcement official from a jurisdiction other than the City of Chicago, 5 representatives of insurers authorized to write motor vehicle insurance in this State, all of whom shall be domiciled in this State.

The Director shall be the Chairman of the Council. All members of the Council appointed by the Secretary shall serve at the discretion of the Secretary for a term not to exceed 4 years. The Council shall meet at least quarterly.

(Source: P.A. 102-538, eff. 8-20-21.)

(20 ILCS 4005/7) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 1307)
(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2025)

Sec. 7. The Council shall have the following powers, duties and responsibilities:

- (a) To apply for, solicit, receive, establish priorities for, allocate, disburse, contract for, and spend funds that are made available to the Council from any source to effectuate the purposes of this Act.
- (b) To make grants and to provide financial support for federal and State agencies, units of local government, corporations, and neighborhood, community and business organizations to effectuate the purposes of this Act, to deter, ~~and~~ investigate, and prosecute recyclable metal theft, and ~~for~~ ~~to~~ law enforcement agencies to assist in the identification, apprehension, and prosecution of vehicle hijackers and the recovery of stolen motor vehicles, ~~recyclable metal theft~~.
- (c) To assess the scope of the problem of vehicle hijacking and motor vehicle theft, including particular areas of the State where the problem is greatest and to conduct impact analyses of State and local criminal justice policies, programs, plans and methods for combating the problem.
- (d) To develop and sponsor the implementation of statewide plans and strategies to combat vehicle hijacking and motor vehicle theft and to improve the administration of vehicle hijacking and ~~the~~ motor vehicle theft laws and provide an effective forum for identification of critical problems associated with vehicle hijacking and motor vehicle theft.
- (e) To coordinate the development, adoption and implementation of plans and strategies relating to interagency or intergovernmental cooperation with respect to vehicle hijacking and motor vehicle theft law enforcement.
- (f) To adopt rules or regulations necessary to ensure that appropriate agencies, units of government, private organizations and combinations thereof are included in the development and implementation of strategies or plans adopted pursuant to this Act and to adopt rules or regulations as may otherwise be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Act.
- (g) To report annually, on or before January 1, 2019 to the Governor, General Assembly, and, upon request, to members of the general public on the Council's activities in the preceding year.
- (h) To exercise any other powers that are reasonable, necessary or convenient to fulfill its responsibilities, to carry out and to effectuate the objectives and purposes of the Council and the provisions of this Act, and to comply with the requirements of applicable federal or State laws, rules, or regulations; provided, however, that these powers shall not include the power to subpoena or arrest.
- (i) To provide funding to the Secretary for the creation, implementation, and maintenance of an electronic motor vehicle liability insurance policy verification program.

(Source: P.A. 100-373, eff. 1-1-18.)

(20 ILCS 4005/8) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 1308)
 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2025)

Sec. 8.

- (a) A special fund is created in the State Treasury known as the Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Trust Fund, which shall be administered by the Secretary at the direction of the Council. All interest earned from the investment or deposit of monies accumulated in the Trust Fund shall, pursuant to Section 4.1 of the State Finance Act, be deposited in the Trust Fund.
- (b) Money deposited in this Trust Fund shall not be considered general revenue of the State of Illinois.
- (c) Money deposited in the Trust Fund shall be used only to enhance efforts to effectuate the purposes of this Act as determined by the Council and shall not be appropriated, loaned or in any manner transferred to the General Revenue Fund of the State of Illinois.
- (d) Prior to April 1, 1991, and prior to April 1 of each year thereafter, each insurer engaged in writing private passenger motor vehicle insurance coverages which are included in Class 2 and Class 3 of Section 4 of the Illinois Insurance Code, as a condition of its authority to transact business in this State, may collect and shall pay into the Trust Fund an amount equal to \$1.00, or a lesser amount determined by the Council, multiplied by the insurer's total earned car years of private passenger motor vehicle insurance policies providing physical damage insurance coverage written in this State during the preceding calendar year.
- (e) Money in the Trust Fund shall be expended as follows:
 - (1) To pay the Secretary's costs to administer the Council and the Trust Fund, but for this purpose in an amount not to exceed 10% in any one fiscal year of the amount collected pursuant to paragraph (d) of this Section in that same fiscal year.
 - (2) To achieve the purposes and objectives of this Act, which may include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (A) To provide financial support to law enforcement and correctional agencies, prosecutors, and the judiciary for programs designed to reduce vehicle hijacking and motor vehicle theft and to improve the administration of motor vehicle theft laws.
 - (B) To provide financial support for federal and State agencies, units of local government, corporations and neighborhood, community or business organizations for programs designed to reduce motor vehicle theft and to improve the administration of vehicle hijacking and motor vehicle theft laws.

(C) To provide financial support to conduct programs designed to inform owners of motor vehicles about the financial and social costs of vehicle hijacking, interstate shootings, and motor vehicle theft and to suggest to those owners methods for preventing motor vehicle theft.

(D) To provide financial support for plans, programs and projects designed to achieve the purposes of this Act.

(3) To provide funding to the Secretary's Vehicle Services Department for the creation, implementation, and maintenance of an electronic motor vehicle liability insurance policy verification program by allocating no more than 75% of each dollar collected for the first calendar year after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 100th General Assembly and no more than 10% 50% of each dollar collected for every ~~other year after the first~~ calendar year after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly. The Secretary shall distribute the funds to the Vehicle Services Department at the beginning of each calendar year.

(f) Insurers contributing to the Trust Fund shall have a property interest in the unexpended money in the Trust Fund, which property interest shall not be retroactively changed or extinguished by the General Assembly.

(g) In the event the Trust Fund were to be discontinued or the Council were to be dissolved by act of the General Assembly or by operation of law, then, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 5 of the State Finance Act, any balance remaining therein shall be returned to the insurers writing private passenger motor vehicle insurance in proportion to their financial contributions to the Trust Fund and any assets of the Council shall be liquidated and returned in the same manner after deduction of administrative costs.

(Source: P.A. 100-373, eff. 1-1-18.)

(20 ILCS 4005/8.5)

(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2025)

Sec. 8.5. State Police Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Trust Fund. The State Police Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Trust Fund is created as a trust fund in the State treasury. The State Treasurer shall be the custodian of the Trust Fund. The Trust Fund is established to receive funds from the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council. All interest earned from the investment or deposit of moneys accumulated in the Trust Fund shall be deposited into the Trust Fund. Moneys in the Trust Fund shall be used by the Illinois State Police for motor vehicle theft prevention purposes.

(Source: P.A. 102-538, eff. 8-20-21.)

Section 10. The State Finance Act is amended by changing Sections 5, 5.295, 6z-125, and 6z-126 as follows:

(30 ILCS 105/5) (from Ch. 127, par. 141)

Sec. 5. Special funds.

(a) There are special funds in the State Treasury designated as specified in the Sections which succeed this Section 5 and precede Section 6.

(b) Except as provided in the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Act, when any special fund in the State Treasury is discontinued by an Act of the General Assembly, any balance remaining therein on the effective date of such Act shall be transferred to the General Revenue Fund, or to such other fund as such Act shall provide. Warrants outstanding against such discontinued fund at the time of the transfer of any such balance therein shall be paid out of the fund to which the transfer was made.

(c) When any special fund in the State Treasury has been inactive for 18 months or longer, the fund is automatically terminated by operation of law and the balance remaining in such fund shall be transferred by the Comptroller to the General Revenue Fund. When a special fund has been terminated by operation of law as provided in this Section, the General Assembly shall repeal or amend all Sections of the statutes creating or otherwise referring to that fund. The Comptroller shall be allowed the discretion to maintain or dissolve any federal trust fund which has been inactive for 18 months or longer.

(d) (Blank).

(e) (Blank).

(Source: P.A. 100-373, eff. 1-1-18.)

(30 ILCS 105/5.295) (from Ch. 127, par. 141.295)

Sec. 5.295. The Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Trust Fund.

(Source: P.A. 100-373, eff. 1-1-18.)

(30 ILCS 105/6z-125)

Sec. 6z-125. State Police Training and Academy Fund. The State Police Training and Academy Fund is hereby created as a special fund in the State treasury. Moneys in the Fund shall consist of: (i) 10% of the revenue from increasing the insurance producer license fees, as provided under subsection (a-5) of Section 500-135 of the Illinois Insurance Code; and (ii) 10% of the moneys collected from auto insurance policy fees under Section 8.6 of the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Act. This Fund shall be used by the Illinois State Police to fund training and other State Police institutions, including, but not limited to, forensic laboratories.
(Source: P.A. 102-16, eff. 6-17-21.)

(30 ILCS 105/6z-126)

Sec. 6z-126. Law Enforcement Training Fund. The Law Enforcement Training Fund is hereby created as a special fund in the State treasury. Moneys in the Fund shall consist of: (i) 90% of the revenue from increasing the insurance producer license fees, as provided under subsection (a-5) of Section 500-135 of the Illinois Insurance Code; and (ii) 90% of the moneys collected from auto insurance policy fees under Section 8.6 of the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Act. This Fund shall be used by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board to fund law enforcement certification compliance and the development and provision of basic courses by Board-approved academics, and in-service courses by approved academies.
(Source: P.A. 102-16, eff. 6-17-21.)

Section 15. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by changing Section 4-109 as follows:

(625 ILCS 5/4-109)

Sec. 4-109. Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Program. The Secretary of State, in conjunction with the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council, is hereby authorized to establish and operate a Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Program as follows:

(a) Voluntary program participation.

(b) The registered owner of a motor vehicle interested in participating in the program shall sign an informed consent agreement designed by the Secretary of State under subsection (e) of this Section indicating that the motor vehicle registered to him is not normally operated between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. The form and fee, if any, shall be submitted to the Secretary of State for processing.

(c) Upon processing the form, the Secretary of State shall issue to the registered owner a decal. The registered owner shall affix the decal in a conspicuous place on his motor vehicle as prescribed by the Secretary of State.

(d) Whenever any law enforcement officer shall see a motor vehicle displaying a decal issued under the provisions of subsection (c) of this Section being operated upon the public highways of this State between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m., the officer is authorized to stop that motor vehicle and to request the driver to produce a valid driver's license and motor vehicle registration card if required to be carried in the vehicle. Whenever the operator of a motor vehicle displaying a decal is unable to produce the documentation set forth in this Section, the police officer shall investigate further to determine if the person operating the motor vehicle is the registered owner or has the authorization of the owner to operate the vehicle.

(e) The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of the Illinois State Police and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council, shall design the manner and form of the informed consent agreement required under subsection (b) of this Section and the decal required under subsection (c) of this Section.

(f) The Secretary of State shall provide for the recording of registered owners of motor vehicles who participate in the program. The records shall be available to all law enforcement departments, agencies, and forces. The Secretary of State shall cooperate with and assist all law enforcement officers and other agencies in tracing or examining any questionable motor vehicles in order to determine the ownership of the motor vehicles.

(g) A fee not to exceed \$10 may be charged for the informed consent form and decal provided under this Section. The fee, if any, shall be set by the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council and shall be collected by the Secretary of State and deposited into the Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Trust Fund.

(h) The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of the Illinois State Police and the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council shall promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this Section.

(Source: P.A. 102-538, eff. 8-20-21.)