

500-Plus Fugitives Arrested Across Illinois & Missouri

AI Regulation

By Jim Talamonti | The Center Square

More than 400 fugitives have been arrested in Illinois, and another 117 in Missouri, over the last two months.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Illinois said recently that 305 fugitives were brought into custody since May 1.

U.S. Attorney Andrew Boutros said 11 federal agencies worked together to combat violent crime in Chicago, Rockford and surrounding areas.

“During Operation New Dawn, federal law enforcement engaged in rapid, targeted and responsive interventions that interrupted violence in real time,” Boutros said in a statement.

Boutros said many of the fugitives had previously been charged with serious criminal offenses.

Boutros said 24 children were found and safely returned home.

A spokesperson from Boutros’ office said were no additional appropriations for the operation.

“Existing resources were deployed,” the spokesperson said in a statement to The Center Square.

Also, federal officials in the Southern District of Illinois and Eastern District of Missouri announced the results of a regional initiative led by the U.S. Marshals Service and its task force law enforcement partners.

The officials said 224 fugitives were apprehended in June and 290 outstanding arrest warrants were cleared, including at least 20% for violent crimes including homicide.

Across Illinois’ southern district, U.S. Marshal David Davis

said marshals and regional task force members arrested 114 violent felons and seized 20 guns, including two that were outfitted with machine-gun converter devices.

“I’m especially proud of them for their arrest of six individuals wanted on homicide warrants and the recovery of one missing child,” Davis said.

Another 110 fugitives were apprehended in the Eastern District of Missouri.

U.S. Attorney Thomas Albus said many of the warrants were for people on probation or parole, some of whom allegedly committed new offenses.

“That’s why we thought strategically why we really hopefully have made a great impact for public safety in our community by taking these 224 individuals off the streets now,” Albus said.

Albus said local, state and federal officials are all working together.

“As someone that’s been involved in this process in St. Louis for 25 years, that’s the only way we know how to do it. The challenge is such and the resources are such that we don’t have any choice but to work together,” Albus said.

Southern Illinois U.S. Attorney Steven Weinhoeft said an environment of freedom and liberty starts with keeping violent elements off the streets.

“Our principles and our way of life are secured by law enforcement officers who defend those values with courage and with strength,” Weinhoeft said.

Weinhoeft called law enforcement officers “the indispensable guardians of American freedom.”

Illinois Tax Receipts

(From Toluca Front Page)

over-year increases.

Giertz said individual income tax revenues have been strong all year, possibly driven by large capital gains.

“That increases the revenue, so the fact that the stock markets have been strong in the last year or so probably had an impact there,” Giertz said.

Giertz said higher sales tax receipts reflect real growth over and above higher prices.

“Every month, the tax revenues are, the term is called deflated, that is, the inflation is basically taken out of them. So all the numbers are based on real values, the same purchasing power over a period of time,” Giertz said.

Giertz said corporate tax revenues are lower than last year but still very good by historic standards.

Giertz said the flash index was devised almost 30 years ago in the University of Illinois Institute of

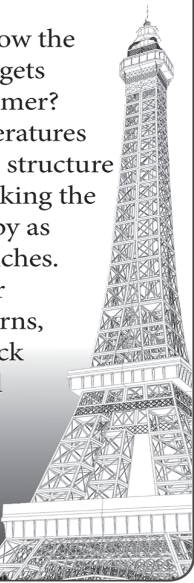
Government and Public Affairs, because federal and state government data doesn’t come out for weeks or months after a given month ends.

“We decided to use the tax revenue as kind of a surrogate or a substitute or a quick measure of how the economy is doing, so that’s been the substance of the Flash Index for several decades now,” Giertz said.

Giertz said the index is very good for quickness, but adjustments have to be made to deal with unusual situations regarding tax revenues, such as changes in cash flow patterns.

Fun Fact

“Did you know the Eiffel Tower gets taller in summer? When temperatures rise, the iron structure expands, making the tower grow by as much as 6 inches. When cooler weather returns, it shrinks back to its normal height.”



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Three Sheets in The Wind . . . by Mary

We are having a real “heat wave” last and this week. Like the song says, “a tropical heat wave.” I found that the best place to be, during this weather, is home in the air conditioning. With my dog panting everytime he makes a move, I sit at the window watching the sizzling backyard.

I spotted a lone squirrel in our maple tree, laying with all four legs spread, suspended on a limb. I guess the poor critter had gone as far as he/she could go.

I put out clean water everyday for any creature crawling, flying or buzzing by, particularly for those listless squirrels and tired bunnies. It seems a small thing to ask, particularly when we have running water at hand, to put out a little bowl of water everyday.

So, what’s for lunch? What’s for dinner? Hot as it is, we still have to eat something. Unfortunately, because I just can’t afford a personal chef, I’m the cook, and I don’t want to. Although a nice roast, mashed potatoes, gravy, cheesy vegetables and apple pie sound good, fixing it does not.

Imagine turning on the oven, boiling potatoes, and chopping stuff. My kitchen would have been hotter than the backyard in the sun. I vote for cold food like popsicles. Tastes good and keeps you cool.

I remember some hot days back in the years when, believe it or not kids, we didn’t have air conditioning. In fact, around town, there were a lot fewer houses with air than without. Fans were the answer.

I remember that our house seemed quiet. Mom would close it up to keep the evening cool as long as possible. Fans, were turned

to pull the hot air out during the day, and to pull the cool air in at night. When cousins came to stay overnight, the mattress was on the floor in front of the screen door. Of course, for kids, it didn’t seem so hot.

Starting at a very young age, with my first very own copy of “Little Women,” I have learned that the best escape from a hot day, too much politics on T.V., housework and so many other little nagging problems, is a good book. During these hot summer days, our library has come through for me by offering hundreds and hundreds of books to read. Luckily, I chose a couple good ones that kept me glued to the pages, only getting up from my chair for a snack and some lemonade. I read two really good mysteries with exciting endings I didn’t expect. On the other hand, I read the story of a wonderful man who made the most of his elder years by gifting strangers and making new friends. As much as the mysteries were exciting, this book was inspiring.

The books I read were “The Last Thing He Told Me” by Laura Dave; “It’s Not Her” by Mary Kubica and “Theo of Gold” by Allen Levi. I really liked all three and recommend each of them. Cast your blues, your troubles, the chores you don’t want to tackle to the side and enjoy a good read. Your relaxation is as close as the library.

“I’m not insane. My mother had me tested.”
- *Sheldon Cooper (Jim Parsons), The Big Bang Theory*

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