



JOINT NEWS RELEASE

Kane County Sheriff's Office
Kane County State's Attorney's Office



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Kane County Sheriff Ron Hain Announces Retirement

ST. CHARLES, IL – Kane County Sheriff Ron Hain today announced his retirement, effective November 1, 2026, bringing a distinguished 30-year career in law enforcement to a close. Sheriff Hain has decided to step down to focus on his health and to ensure continuity of leadership for the people of Kane County.

“Serving the people of Kane County has been the honor of my life,” said Sheriff Hain. “I’m proud of what we built together and prouder still of the men and women of this office who show up for this community every single day. The work that means the most to me, helping people get treatment and a real second chance instead of just a jail cell, happened because of great partners: State’s Attorney Mosser, our County Board, our fellow agencies, and the recovery and treatment providers who believed in it with us. I know I’m leaving the office in excellent hands with Undersheriff Amy Johnson. Thank you for trusting me with this responsibility.”

Hain was first elected in November 2018 and re-elected in 2022. As sheriff, he implemented innovative programs to improve public safety, reduce recidivism, and address the opioid crisis.

Hain shifted the office’s approach to mental health and substance abuse issues, launching the “A Way Out” program in 2019 that helped individuals struggling with drug addiction access treatment, recovery services, and reentry support. In 2021, he launched a social worker program at the Sheriff’s Office and joined the State’s Attorney’s Office in advocating for a Mental Health Unit at local hospitals. In 2023, the two offices teamed up again and established the Child Exploitation Unit to investigate internet crimes against children. Hain led the Sheriff’s Office through the implementation of the Illinois SAFE-T Act, which included the elimination of cash bail in Kane County.

Throughout his career, Hain served on the boards of the Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry, the Juvenile Justice Council, and Kane County CASA. He also served as chairman of the Illinois State TRIAD Association and the Kane County DUI Task Force.

Hain joined the Kane County Sheriff’s Office as a deputy in March 2003 and was later promoted to sergeant. He developed a reputation for investigating and apprehending narcotics traffickers and became recognized as an expert in interstate criminal and terrorist interdiction. He went on to spearhead the office’s interdiction unit. He also served as a SWAT team leader, canine handler, and, while sheriff, reestablished the Deputy Cadet and Explorer Post Program divisions for Kane County.

Before joining the Kane County Sheriff’s Office, Hain served with the DuPage County Sheriff’s Office, West Chicago Police Department, and Waubensee Campus Police.

At this time, Sheriff Hain will respectfully decline media interview requests and asks that the public respect his privacy as he focuses on his health.

“I want to thank Sheriff Hain for his years of service to this community and his partnership with me and my office to make Kane County safer,” said Kane County State’s Attorney Jamie Mosser. “When I was newly elected, it was Sheriff Hain who assisted me most in undertaking this significant role. He was not only a mentor but also a trusted friend and confidant. His vision for the jail in providing treatment and job skills transformed the way we

look at criminal justice. It has been an honor to work alongside him these past six years. I wish him the best in retirement, as he truly deserves it! Please join me in thanking him for his decades of service, leadership, and lasting impact on Kane County.”

“Sheriff Hain’s retirement marks the close of a remarkable career defined by service and unwavering commitment to the people of Kane County,” said Kane County Undersheriff Amy Johnson. “His vision transformed how we serve our community and will continue to guide this office for years to come. His dedication to public safety, court security, and human-centered rehabilitation within our jail has left a lasting imprint on this agency. It has been an honor to serve alongside him, and we thank Sheriff Hain for his leadership, his integrity, and the positive change he championed throughout Kane County. We wish him every success in retirement.”

“I am privileged to have worked alongside Sheriff Hain in the field of law enforcement over the years,” said Kendall County Sheriff Dwight Baird. “His insight and dedication, particularly as a partner to the Kendall County Sheriff’s Office, have been greatly valued. As Sheriff Hain enters retirement and begins a new chapter, I extend my best wishes for his continued success. It has been an honor to serve with him as a fellow Sheriff.”

“Congratulations to Sheriff Ron Hain on a well-deserved retirement,” said former Kane County Sheriff Pat Perez. “His innovative approach to developing programs for inmates to help put their lives in a positive direction and reduce recidivism raised the bar for sheriff’s offices across the country. On the public safety side, he provided members of the agency with top notch training, equipment, and opportunities. Additionally, he has fully staffed court security to provide a safe court environment. I wish Sheriff Hain health and happiness in his next stage of life.”

“On behalf of the members of the Elgin Police Department, we wish to thank Sheriff Hain for his many contributions to Kane County and specifically the Elgin community,” said Elgin Chief of Police Ana Lalley. “There were many times when I contacted Ron for assistance from his agency, and he never failed to provide these much-needed resources. His spirit of professionalism, cooperation, and a commitment to the safety of all in Kane County was always appreciated and recognized. I wish Ron the best in his retirement, and there is no doubt that his impact on our profession has been made and will be felt for many years to come. Thank you, Ron.”

“We couldn’t have asked for a better partner in our efforts to bring therapeutic reform to the jail system,” said Nathan Lanthrum, Clinical Director for Lighthouse Recovery Inc. in St. Charles. “Sheriff Hain truly believed in the power of recovery, and that belief helped change countless lives in the last eight years.”

“For nearly six years, I had the privilege of working alongside Sheriff Hain and witnessing firsthand his dedication to public safety, his staff, and the people he served,” said Kane County Board Chairman Corinne Pierog. “Sheriff Hain brought a steady, thoughtful presence to his job and never lost sight of the responsibility that comes with wearing the badge. What distinguished his service was his belief that public safety and second chances could go hand in hand. He worked to create opportunities for individuals with criminal backgrounds to develop valuable job skills, rebuild their self-respect and make positive changes in their lives. He understood that helping people find a productive path forward benefits not only the individual, but the entire community. Sheriff Hain leaves a legacy of integrity, compassion, professionalism and dedicated service to Kane County.”

“Sheriff Ron Hain’s impact on Kane County will be felt long after his retirement,” said Kane County Board Member Michelle Gumz. “Ron understood that public safety is not measured simply by how many people we incarcerate, but by how many people we can help keep from ever returning to the justice system. He transformed the way we approach corrections by treating those in our custody with dignity, addressing the underlying causes that too often lead people into the criminal justice system, and creating real pathways toward recovery, stability, and successful reentry. In doing so, he elevated Kane County as a leader in direct care and recidivism reduction. I am incredibly proud of what he has accomplished as our Sheriff, but even more grateful to call Ron my friend. His leadership has changed lives, strengthened our community, and left Kane County better than he found it. That is an extraordinary legacy. It was an honor to work with Ron, and I wish him the best going forward.”

In accordance with Illinois law, Hain has designated current Kane County Undersheriff Amy Johnson to fill the vacancy created by his retirement until another sheriff is elected or appointed. The designation was made in writing and filed with the county clerk. The county board has 60 days to fill the vacancy from the time it opens.