

# Kane County Sheriff's Office



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Ron Hain, Sheriff

Amy Johnson, Undersheriff

September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

## PRE-TRIAL FAIRNESS ACT UPDATE ON THE IMPACT TO THE KANE COUNTY JAIL

St Charles – In September of 2023, the Pre-Trial Fairness Act (otherwise referred to as the cashless bail system) was implemented in Illinois. The main intent of the legislation was to reduce jail populations and minimize wealth and racial disparity of those held in custody under the cash bail system. This law was placed into effect with little-to-no consultation with Sheriffs across the state who operate their county's jail.

The Kane County Sheriff's Office had worked for five years at that time to reduce the jail population, recidivism, and local crime by implementing a myriad of programming for vocational training, substance abuse treatment, and job placement. When Sheriff Ron Hain took office in 2018, the jail population was ranging in the 550's per day. With the innovative programming, cooperation with our State Attorney's Office, and understanding from our judicial partners; the jail population fell to an all-time low of 229 by the end of 2022 and recidivism was brought down from almost 49% to 18% during that same time.

As of September 18<sup>th</sup> of 2025, under the Pre-Trial Fairness Act, the Kane County Jail's population has risen to 401. Most of the uptick is caused by people simply not appearing in court under the new parameters and having failure to appear warrants issued for them. We have not seen a reduction in racial or demographic disparity under the new law, either.

Sheriff Hain said, "Many legislators continue to get their intent wrong just by reading headlines and taking action without consulting those that do the job on a daily basis. Considering that each detainee costs our taxpayers a minimum of \$75 per day, per person, this has a dramatic impact on our budget at a time when Kane County is already facing financial concerns. We have also had to hire many new officers and ship detainees off to other county jails just to offset the rapid increase in jail population, increasing our expenses even further."

The Kane County Sheriff's Office presents this information to keep our public informed of our operations, budget concerns, and the need for increased collaboration to effect proper legislation for the betterment of our communities.