



PUBLIC SAFETY IN CHICAGO:

PUBLIC SAFETY QUESTIONS FOR BUSINESS TRAVELERS

Is Chicago a dangerous city?

- No. Like many other urban areas, Chicago experienced an uptick in crime during the COVID-19 pandemic, but we are making substantial progress in addressing this issue and millions of people are able to enjoy Chicago safely every day. So far this year, Chicago is one of the only major cities in the country that has seen a significant decrease in shootings and homicides. In fact, violent crime actually occurs at a lower rate in Chicago than in many other cities, with some large cities experiencing a crime rate double that of Chicago.

What is the city doing to increase public safety?

- In response to recent concerns, the Chicago Police Department has increased police presence on public transportation and downtown; the Cook County Sheriff's Office has opened a new command post in River North; and Mayor Lightfoot and the City Council have strengthened the city's curfew. Businesses and city residents are also now eligible for reimbursement for security equipment, further deterring crime where people live and work. While we continue to work tirelessly to improve public safety, these efforts have led to significant progress in 2022.

I am attending a conference at McCormick Place. Is it safe there?

- Yes. McCormick Place has expert, 24/7 security staff in all buildings, a central security command center, a

dedicated Chicago Police Department beat, patrol vehicles, and bike patrol officers. Additionally, McCormick Place has 1,400 closed-circuit cameras that security staff monitor 24/7 and a robust emergency communications system. In 2022, we have had a packed conference schedule, holding hundreds of events with well over a million attendees without incident. This includes the successful return of IMTS with approximately 90,000 attendees.

Is downtown Chicago safe?

- The Loop and Chicago's business districts are very safe, with hundreds of thousands of people working and visiting there every day - we encourage everyone take advantage of our amazing downtown area!
- Our public safety professionals are working tirelessly to ensure continued safety in this area. In addition to CPD's District Patrol personnel that work in the downtown area and the Central Business District, the Critical Incident Response Team specifically focuses on securing these high-trafficked areas. The police districts that cover the downtown area, with the supplemental Critical Incident Response Team, work 24/7 to protect residents, businesses and visitors. Crime is deterred by a saturation of police in the area and responded to quickly if it occurs.
- Despite the perception, the fact is that millions of people live, work and play throughout Chicago every day safely, and our efforts have led to major public safety improvements.

I've heard that large gatherings can be dangerous, is that true?

- Chicago has a long and successful track record of hosting large-scale, highly secure events, from President Barack Obama's 2008 acceptance speech in our beautiful Grant Park, which drew approximately 240,000 attendees, to 2012's massive NATO summit. More recently, we marked the successful return of IMTS to Chicago with approximately 90,000 attendees, and Lollapalooza has been drawing hundreds of thousands of music lovers to Chicago for more than 30 consecutive years. These are just some examples of the events we have carried out safely and successfully, and we look forward to continuing to hold large, safe events into the future.

What is the safest way to get to my meetings? Is it safe to take public transportation?

- Public transportation is a great way to travel in Chicago. The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) is ensuring the safety of all passengers through partnerships with the Chicago Police Department, including the use of 33,000 security cameras onboard trains and buses.
- You may also consider ordering a ride through Lyft, Uber, Curb, or hailing a taxi, which will often be the most direct path to your destination.



McCORMICK
SQUARE • PLACE • MPEA

SAFETY FIRST: A SHARED COMMITMENT

At McCormick Place, your safety is always top of mind. We know that a great event experience starts when your attendee arrives in Chicago and ends when they get home. From door-to-door, we want to make sure that your guests enjoy their time in Chicago. McCormick Place Security and the Chicago Police Department (CPD), are committed to your safety.



AT McCORMICK PLACE

McCormick Place is equipped with a state-of-the-art Security Command Center that oversees campus activity and coordinates directly with security at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place and Marriott Marquis Chicago. Personnel patrol and monitor facility public areas, parking lots and perimeters. **Security staff is on-site 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.** McCormick Place Security focuses on the following:

- Patrol of facility grounds and parking lots
- Closed-circuit television surveillance of selected public and exterior areas with nearly 1,400 cameras
- Surveillance of show floor, loading docks and shipping activities
- Meeting room security using alarms and locking systems

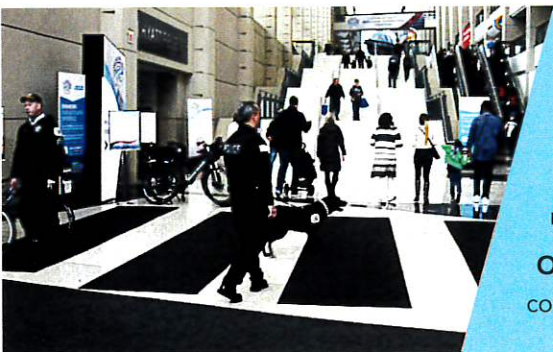
We work extremely closely with the Chicago Police Department, with **a dedicated officer and car patrolling our campus.** We also house one of the police department's bike units so there are additional officers regularly on and around campus, especially in walking areas.

We notify CPD when there are a citywide events, letting them know which hotels are part of the room block or other key events with the meeting so they can notify the appropriate districts that there will be increased traffic. McCormick Place has an extensive campus-wide security plan in place and has conducted numerous exercises with all stakeholders to ensure attendees are safe.

DURING YOUR EVENT

The event organizer is responsible for the safety and security of attendees and exhibitors in licensed space including exhibit halls and meeting rooms. Each event has a dedicated security plan. To fulfill this responsibility an independent event security company is often hired by the organizer to focus on the following:

- Control access into licensed exhibit halls and meeting rooms
- Security for booths
- Security for show materials being moved in and out of the Convention Center

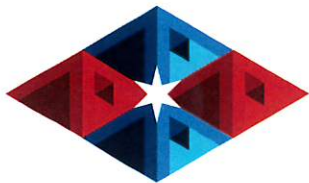


SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY

Based on your event needs, additional services are available

Canine Support - McCormick Place offers canine services for events on campus. Canines and their handlers assigned to events can conduct a variety of protective missions.

Off Duty Police - Off duty Chicago Police Department officers are available to be contracted for supplemental security.



McCORMICK
SQUARE • PLACE • MPEA

IN CHICAGO

The Chicago Police Department works closely with McCormick Place to provide a safe experience for visitors to our city. McCormick Place is located within the footprint of the 1st Police District which on a daily basis is keenly aware of the activities in and around the campus and its adjacent hotels and businesses. The 1st District is accustomed to successfully protecting hundreds of events at McCormick Place on an annual basis.

CPD is notified by McCormick Place and Choose Chicago of all events on campus. Information shared with CPD includes a list of the hotels in the block and other key offsite event venues being utilized. CPD then notifies the appropriate police districts of increased traffic in those areas, and staff up accordingly.

CPD is quick to respond to any kind of crime and is leaving no stone unturned in its effort to keep our city safe. More than 12,000 men and women actively patrol the city's neighborhoods and ensure our streets are safe. CPD is constantly reviewing and monitoring crime across the city to ensure the appropriate resources are in place to protect public safety and is in constant contact with its state, federal and international partners to evaluate and respond to any changes in intelligence.

In addition to CPD's District Patrol personnel that work in the downtown area and the Central Business District, the Critical Incident Response Team focuses on these high-trafficked areas. The police districts that cover the downtown area, with the supplemental Critical Incident Response Team, work 24/7 to protect residents, businesses and visitors.



SECURITY STARTS BEFORE YOUR EVENT BEGINS

6 MONTHS BEFORE

- Review historical documents, floorplans, and previous security plans
- Internal Risk Management Team identified to determine event risks.

4 MONTHS BEFORE

- Conduct a walk-through of site
- Evaluate general site concerns

90 DAYS BEFORE

- Event contacted by McCormick Place Security with submission credentials

45 DAYS BEFORE

- Submission of comprehensive security plan

30 DAYS BEFORE

- McCormick Place Security reviews security plan
 - Final addendums to original plan are due, including service requests

14 DAYS BEFORE

- CPD notified of event including hotel blocks, offsite events, estimated attendance
- Verification of Off Duty CPD staffing and K9 requests
- Conduct preliminary risk assessment

PRE-EVENT SECURITY MEETING

- Show Security responsibilities
 - Synopsis of event(s)
 - Guest Access (Credentials/tickets)
 - Security Assets (K9s, Magnetometers, etc.)
- McCormick Place Security responsibilities
 - Comprehensive Risk Assessment
 - Campus Security Initiatives (BEEP, CPD Bike Unit)
 - Staffing
 - Crisis Information

DURING THE EVENT

- Daily coordination meeting with McCormick Place Security
- Intelligence Sharing
- Incident Reporting
- Crisis Response

MEETING SAFELY IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO
CHOOSE CHICAGO

When it comes to large events and attractions, no city compares to Chicago. From multi-day concerts like Lollapalooza to some of the largest tradeshow in the world at McCormick Place, Chicago has a long and successful track record of keeping visitors safe at large events.

Across the United States, every city is facing public safety challenges following the COVID-19 pandemic. We know that public safety is top of mind for many people traveling for meetings and conventions, and we want to provide assurance: **you can safely meet in Chicago.**



THE FACTS ABOUT PUBLIC SAFETY IN CHICAGO

The general depiction of crime in our city does not fully reflect reality. Violent crime actually occurs at a lower rate in Chicago than in many other cities, with some large cities experiencing a crime rate double that of Chicago. The reality is that our public safety efforts are leading to significant improvements – Chicago is one of the only major cities in the country seeing a double-digit percentage decrease in gun crime in 2022.



BUSINESS TRAVELERS AND TOURISTS HAVE RETURNED TO CHICAGO IN DROVES

Millions of visitors have returned to Chicago in 2022 to safely experience all that our world-class city has to offer. Our tourist attractions are thriving, our streets are full, and our meeting spaces are booked.

- Total hotel room demand in the summer of 2022 was at nearly 90% of 2019 levels, with over 3 million rooms occupied
[source: Choose Chicago]
- Group room demand (representing delegates to large meetings and events) was higher in the summer of 2022 than 2019
[source: Choose Chicago]
- Pedestrian rates downtown are approaching 2019 levels
[source: Mag Mile Association]

MEETING SAFELY IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO
CHOOSE CHICAGO



Safety measures are in place for all visitors whether they are attending conventions, taking part in business meetings or visiting popular tourist attractions. The Chicago Police Department has increased personnel downtown, and the city launched an Ambassador Program for the Magnificent Mile, with patrols that connect with businesses, residents, and visitors along Michigan Avenue and some of the surrounding area to curb illegal activity.

MEETING SAFELY AT MCCORMICK PLACE

Chicago is proud to have the largest convention center in North America, and we work tirelessly to ensure that exhibitors and attendees are able to safely attend meetings and conventions at McCormick Place. Choose Chicago, McCormick Place and the Chicago Police Department work hand-in-hand to ensure safety at large events:

- McCormick Place staffs a central security command center and has expert, 24/7 security staff in all buildings
- The Chicago Police Department maintains a beat dedicated to the McCormick Place campus, with patrol vehicles and bike patrol officers
- McCormick Place has 1,400 closed-circuit cameras that security staff monitor 24/7 along with a robust emergency communications system.
- For all large events, the Chicago Police Department work closely with Choose Chicago, McCormick Place and the event organizer to develop a security plan and share information regarding the days of the show, the hotels in the room block, shuttles and any offsite events planned.



Learn more about visiting
and meeting in Chicago

