

PRESS RELEASE
January 26, 2017



**COMMISSIONER BOYKIN JOINS OAK PARK MAYOR, SEN. DON HARMON AND
COOK COUNTY SHERIFF TOM DART TO ANNOUNCE JOINT PATROLS**

This week, the Cook County Sheriff's Police joined the Oak Park Police Department in patrols to curb the carjackings that have spiked in the village in recent weeks.

"I believe it is so important for my office to serve as a bridge between municipalities and the county," Commissioner Boykin said. "It is so crucial to make sure that all available resources are being used to fight crime."

The Mayor of Oak Park recognized there was a problem and reached out to Commissioner Boykin's office to coordinate with the Sheriff's office.

"I applaud Commissioner Boykin and Sheriff Dart for working quickly to fight this issue," Mayor Anan Abu-Taleb said. "We must work proactively to fight crime in our community, and collaboration serves as proof that the stakeholders are working together."

Sen. Don Harmon has also recognized this is an important issue, and he has helped coordinate state responses.

"I am in close contact with the Mayor, the Oak Park Police and the Illinois State Police about the disturbing spike in carjackings in Oak Park," Sen. Harmon said. "The State Police department is concerned and focused on this issue across the region. We have got to put a stop to it, and I am encouraged by the number of arrests already and the dedication of new resources to help."

Sheriff Tom Dart was immediately agreeable to send resources to Oak Park to help the village increase patrols.

"As the Cook County Sheriff, my office serves residents county-wide" Sheriff Dart said. "When issues like this arise, it is my duty to work with existing law enforcement to find a solution."

###

Media contact: Patrick.oldendorf@cookcountyil.gov or 312-813-4443