

Cook County, IL

County Trunked and Conventional Operations

See the CARMA StarCom21 Profile for detailed information about Cook County's trunked radio system.

The Cook County Sheriff's Police and other county agencies have been using various VHF repeater and simplex frequencies for decades. This system has been outgrown and is prone to interference from other users. It also suffers from coverage problems and aging equipment.

The Cook County Jail moved to an in-house Motorola SmartNet trunked system several years ago. This system evolved to include 6 channels for local, in-house use at the Jail and Courthouse facility in the "26th & California" area of the south side of Chicago. It also had 6 higher power "wide area" channels that covered a wider area of the county.

A separate Countywide Astro SmartZone networked system was built as of early 2006, taking over day-to-day operations for the Sheriff's Department. This system was to replace the VHF systems used by the Sheriff's Police, courthouse operations and Transportation / Corrections units. This has since been upgraded to become a part of the StarCom21 system (Zone 5)

Unfortunately for scannists and local law enforcement agencies most Sheriff's Department communications on the trunked system are encrypted. This serves to further isolate the Cook County Sheriff's Department from its mutual aid partners as well as the public.

Suburban agencies are being recruited to join the merged system. Some south suburban towns have already started using the system for police communications, Park Ridge and Des Plaines will also join in 2011.

In early 2011 the transition to APCO P-25 was completed, with the Cook County sites becoming Zone 5 of StarCom21. See the CARMA StarCom21 Profile for full details.

Sheriff's Police Numbering:

First Digit	District
4	Maybrook (Maywood) HQ & Court Complex
5	Bridgeview
6	Markham
7	Rolling Meadows
8	Skokie

Cook County InterOp System

Used to provide coordinated communications between Cook County, the local municipalities and other public safety agencies across all three radio bands used in the area. The 453 MHz. channels were retasked from the Cook County Highway Department and the 460 MHz. channels will be provided by the Chicago FD once they transition off of them. The VHF channels are from the old Sheriff's system.

Ch	Output Freq (U)	PL In (U)	PL Out (U)	Output Freq (V)	Input Freq (V)	PL (V)
1	453.9500	127.3	141.3	154.9950	153.7850	107.2
2	453.7500	127.3	156.7	155.6400	153.9350	107.2
3	460.6000	156.7	156.7	155.5950	153.9650	107.2
4	460.6250	156.7	156.7	155.5350	153.9950	107.2

Old VHF/UHF Operations

Sheriff: Operations from the trunked system are occasionally patched to the legacy VHF system. This is also used during outages of the trunked system. Some of these channels are being retasked to the County InterOp Network.

Receive	Transmit	PL	Channel #	Use
155.5950	153.9650	107.2	Band 1	North Patrol
155.5350	153.9950	107.2	Band 2	South Patrol
154.9950	153.7850	107.2	Band 3	Admin/Warrants
155.4750	155.4750	000.0	Band 4	ISPERN
155.6400	153.9350	107.2	Band 5	Aux. Repeater Channel
153.9050	153.9050	107.2	Band 6	Car to Car Simplex
159.0900	unknown	misc	Band 7	Alternate
155.0550	155.0550	000.0	Band 8	IREACH Aid Channel
153.8450	153.8450	107.2	Band 9	Tac Simplex
153.8450	153.8450	173.8	Band 10	Courts
154.0250	154.0250	173.8	Band 11	Tac Simplex
153.8150	153.8150	107.2	Band 12	Tac Simplex
155.0250	155.0250	000.0	Band 13	ESMARN Aid / County EMA
158.8650	158.8650	107.2	Band 14	Tac Simplex
155.9850	155.9850		Band 15?	Detectives/ERT
158.8950	158.8950		Band 16?	Detectives/ERT

Courts, Corrections, Buildings and Transportation:

Frequency	PL	Channel	Use
153.8150	173.8	F1	Jail, Surveillance
154.0250	173.8	F2	Jail
153.8450	173.8	F3	Jail
158.8650	173.8	F4	Corrections Vans/Transportation

Old Highway Department: (Retasked to the County InterOp System)

Frequency	Input PL	Output PL	District	Location
453.950	127.3	156.7	District 1	Schaumburg
453.750	127.3	141.3	District 2	Des Plaines
453.950	127.3	167.9	District 3	LaGrange Park
453.750 *	127.3	156.7	District 4	Orland Park
453.950 *	127.3	141.3	District 5	Blue Island

Hi Performance Data System:

769.2625	Chicago Loop	769.5125	Chicago Far South, Des Plaines
769.8125	Chicago South	770.2625	Chicago North
771.2625	Chicago Loop	771.5375	Chicago Far South
771.9875	Chicago South	772.3875	Chicago North
773.1375	Elgin, Homewood	773.3875	Chicago Far South
773.6375	Chicago South	774.9125	Palos Park

Cook County Jail System: (System 761B, SmartZone Site 8)

While the rest of the Cook County "761B" trunked system has switched over to StarCom21 50x sites the Jail system remains as of spring 2011 on the older 3600 baud system as Site 8. Eventually this system too will switch to StarCom21 compatible technology.

853.2625cv 851.2875av 852.1375v 852.7125dv 852.8000dv 853.6125dv
851.5750v 851.8250v 852.8500v 853.2375v 853.5875v 853.8375v

TGID	Use	TGID	Use
16	Radio Techs	2384	System Wide (ATG)
384		2448	154.9950 simulcast
1088		2480	Sheriff A4 ISPERN
1488		2512	Boot Camp Division 12
1616	Division 1	2544	Custodians (Jail)
1648	Division 2 South	2576	Maintenance Channel 1
1680	Receiving (Tunnel, Bridge)	2608	Maintenance Channel 2
1712	Division 3 & 4	2704	
1744	Division 5	2736	Corr Sup& Intervention (DCSI)
1776	Division 6	2800	DCSI
1808	Cermak EMS/	2832	DCSI
1840	Division 3&8 DWJS	2864	
1872	Division 9	2960	
1888		3024	
1904	Building Control Div 10	3120	
1936	Division 11	3424	
2000	External Operations 1	3472	Control Court Services Dept
2032	External Operations 2	3536	26th & California Courts
2064	Central Kitchen/Sanitation	3712	
2096	ShfA6 "Support"(Comm Room)	3728	Juvenile Detention Ctr
2128	Sheriff C12 Jail Tac 1a	7536	
2160	Sheriff C13 Jail Tac 2a	8016	
2192	Jail Tac 3a	8512	
2224	Jail Tac 4a	9408	
2288	Spcl Ops Response Team	9552	
2320	Command Post		