



**Village  
of  
Woodridge**

**CONTACT:**

Jamie Bonnema  
Communications & Community Relations Manager  
(630)-960-7880, [jbonnema@woodridgeil.gov](mailto:jbonnema@woodridgeil.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WOODRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES \$115K ORGANIZED  
RETAIL THEFT CRIME GRANT FROM IL ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE**

**WOODRIDGE, Ill. (August 10, 2023)** – The Woodridge Police Department has been awarded a \$115,000.00 grant from the Illinois Attorney General's Office to prevent retail theft crimes. This grant was issued by Attorney General Kwame Raoul, who established the Organized Retail Crime (ORC) Task Force in 2021. The purpose of this task force is to foster cooperation among retailers, online marketplaces, and law enforcement agencies to target organized retail crime enterprises.

As part of this task force, law enforcement agencies can apply for an ORC Grant each year. If awarded ORC funding, law enforcement agencies must use the grant money for initiatives that will help prevent organized retail crimes, which, according to the Coalition of Law Enforcement and Retail, account for \$45 billion in annual losses.

In Woodridge, the Police Department will purchase and install 20 License Plate Reader (LPR) cameras. These cameras will allow officers to search for suspected license plates involved in retail thefts and, as a result, catch more retail theft criminals.

“Our focus as a Police Department is to reduce crime in the Woodridge business community,” said Woodridge Police Chief Brian Cunningham. “We are honored and excited to have received this grant money which will help us purchase modernized equipment and resources to reduce theft and keep Woodridge businesses and residents safe.”

This is the first year the Woodridge Police Department has applied to the ORC Grant Program and received funding. The Department plans to apply again next year to purchase further equipment and secure additional funding to support required law enforcement overtime due to investigations resulting from retail theft crimes.

For more information about the ORC Grant Program, [click here](#).

**###**

**About the Village of Woodridge**

The Village of Woodridge is dedicated to achieving a high quality of life by providing superior customer service, responsible emergency services, and diverse programs and amenities in a fiscally responsible manner. Incorporated in 1959 with less than 500 residents, the Village of Woodridge is home to over 34 thousand people today and is located approximately 25 miles west of downtown Chicago. The Village includes a thriving commercial community with one of the largest business parks in the Chicago Metropolitan Area, thousands of acres of forest preserve land, six public elementary schools, one junior high school, and outstanding library and park facilities. To learn more about the Village of Woodridge, visit [woodridgeil.gov](http://woodridgeil.gov)