

**Subject:** News Headlines: 3-2-24

**From:** "Local Government News" <info@list.localgovnews.org>

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News Headlines: March 2, 2024

#### ASK ANCEL GLINK

Ancel Glink, P.C., a leading Illinois local government law firm, answers questions about local government law submitted by LocalGovNews.org readers. Responses posted weekly below the Quote of the Day. This service may constitute Advertising Material. The Question and Answer of the Week is generally written by Ancel Glink partner, Adam Simon. To submit questions, e-mail: [asimon@ancelglink.com](mailto:asimon@ancelglink.com)

#### EDUCATION

More Evidence That COVID School Closures Wrecked Student Performance; California's poorly served public school students need more than a few more dollars diverted to tutoring programs. They need an escape hatch

<https://bit.ly/3uWAQLh>

How 2 schools are tackling chronic absenteeism; Rewarding good attendance, analyzing data and individualizing interventions are strategies being used to improve attendance

<https://bit.ly/3lpuerG>

Another continuing resolution pushes FY 24 education funding decision to March 22; The approval of the short-term funding plan, which includes a FAFSA provision, avoids a partial shutdown

<https://bit.ly/3T18DL7>

White House beefs up child care block grants; A new rule caps the total amount low-income families have to pay for child care at 7% of their income and directs states to pay child care providers more fairly and on time

<https://bit.ly/3liSdsz>

The school choice plan that is controversial, even in Texas; Rural residents who consider themselves conservative reject private school vouchers

<https://bit.ly/3V14RE9>

Texas policy allowing school chaplains spreads to other states; Similar proposals have been considered in at least 13 other state legislatures, and are part of a broader national debate on religion in public schools

<https://bit.ly/3P2lpa2>

Classical Education Is Booming, but What Is It Exactly? New classical schools have been launching at an average annual growth rate of nearly 5% over each of the past four academic years

<https://bit.ly/3SXUluT>

Teachers unions have turned our schools into woke brainwashing camps; Charter schools represent a threat to progressive orthodoxy - and Democrat lawmakers have taken notice

<https://tinyurl.com/yvxcsd2w>

Google really is programming our kids; If we do not exorcise this ideological demon from our educational institutions now, it will own the way our children understand truth for generations

<https://bit.ly/3wJcQvu>

Many Students Don't Inform Their Colleges About Their Disability. That Needs to Change

<https://bit.ly/42YyBDI>

What Does an SAT Score Mean Anymore? The mass pivot to a test-optional approach reshuffled college admissions. MIT decided it was done

<https://nym.ag/3lmjzA>

Wisconsin committee releases \$32M to university system for workforce development instead of DEI

<https://bit.ly/3ThPXYV>

South Asian American applicants to prestigious U.S. schools 50% less likely to attend than white peers, study finds; Part of this disparity is due to legacy status, which typically benefits white applicants, experts said

<https://nbcnews.to/49BbXnk>

Is Biden's student debt action enough to win back young voters angry over Gaza?

<https://tinyurl.com/yukv7wj5>

University of California, Berkeley, Students Violently Shut Down Event Featuring Israeli Attorney; Students should be able to peacefully protest events, but they shouldn't disrupt a speaker or assault attendees

<https://bit.ly/49B2qg5>

Harvard University is staring down a deadline after the House Education Committee issued unprecedented subpoenas against school officials in its investigation into antisemitism on the elite college's campus, sparking concerns of deteriorating academic freedom

<https://bit.ly/3wAcPKI>

Not much has changed on American campuses since the explosion of antisemitism that followed the Hamas attacks of October 7, according to a group of Jewish college students who spoke to lawmakers about conditions on campus

<https://bit.ly/49wqvog>

Yale University employs more than three administrators and support staff for every four undergraduate students - roughly one administrator per undergrad; Over the last decade, Yale added 631 administrators and support staff to its payroll,

<https://bit.ly/3v0CMSP>

A Professor Claimed to Be Native American. Did She Know She Wasn't? Elizabeth Hoover, who has taught at Brown and Berkeley, insists that she made an honest mistake. Her critics say she has been lying for more than a decade

<https://bit.ly/3SY4szO>

The chief diversity, equity, and inclusion officer of Columbia University's medical school plagiarized extensively in his doctoral dissertation, lifting entire pages of material, without attribution, from sources that include Wikipedia, according to a complaint submitted to the university

<https://bit.ly/3wJjCBo>

Rediscovering the Meaning of Diversity: Lessons from Generation X; Gen X is young enough to take civil rights and integration for granted-but old enough to appreciate how much progress America has made

<https://bit.ly/42ZApMG>

The West Virginia Senate passes a bill requiring schools to show a fetal development video

<https://n.pr/49PqvjD>

Recent Parental Guidance Suggestions Seem Hopeless In A World With Book Bans; A new PG rating for "Mary Poppins" raises the question of whether many adults want to engage with kids about difficult themes - even when the children do

<https://bit.ly/3TgRKO4>

Bathroom bills are back-broader and stricter-in several states

<https://bit.ly/49PfCON>

Not Even a Child's Death Can Stop These Lawmakers From Spewing Hate; Lawmakers are doubling down on anti-trans rhetoric after Nex Benedict's death

<https://bit.ly/48BZ4YP>

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County clerks push back against legislation allowing schools to deny polling places

<https://bit.ly/3wCF6QJ>

Illinois Paid at Least \$640K to Review Controversial 'Invest In Kids' Tax Credit Program, But Results Are Deemed 'Inconclusive'

<https://bit.ly/3T2ZIOX>

Illinois' \$640K 'Invest In Kids' Program Review Sparks Controversy Over Ineffectiveness Claims

<https://bit.ly/49yrdS9>

Air monitors installed at two Western Springs schools to teach kids about air quality

<https://bit.ly/48EbXlo>

Chicago women, queer and non-binary students of color create group to fight prejudice in legal field

<https://bit.ly/42X8Ofh>

Western Illinois University is the subject of a federal civil rights complaint about scholarships

<https://bit.ly/3IIYdRw>

University of Illinois Springfield Secures \$145,000 Grant to Combat Teacher Shortage in Illinois

<https://bit.ly/3v06aZq>

Southern Illinois Grapples with Teacher Shortage: Strategies to Rebuild Education Workforce

<https://bit.ly/49A8563>

Study shows Illinois' spending per student is one of the highest in the country

<https://bit.ly/48CFf3y>

Kenwood Academy often makes house calls to verify students' residency - a practice some parents call invasive

<https://bit.ly/4bZy0pC>

U-46 to cover registration, instructional fees for one more year using COVID-19 relief funds before they revert back to parents

<https://bit.ly/4bUhy9T>

Valpo U considers cuts to graduate, undergraduate programs with low enrollment

<https://bit.ly/3Il7fhK>

Black History Month offers lessons, excitement for young Chicago students

<https://bit.ly/3V134ix>

Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias backs bill for digital driver's licenses and IDs in Illinois

<https://bit.ly/3lhK3Rm>

Illinois Signed \$640K Contract to Review Controversial 'Invest In Kids' Tax Credit Program, But Results Are Deemed 'Inconclusive'

<https://bit.ly/49Wh6Ge>

Smith opposes higher education reform bill, fears it will stifle diversity initiatives

<https://bit.ly/3V6sZ8J>

Illinois State's graduate teaching assistants ratify new contract with university

<https://bit.ly/3wukxph>

Learning sign language is gaining in popularity, says local college teacher

<https://bit.ly/3P2NTl4>

Danville Area Community College is set to receive \$550,000 and the Illinois Chapter of the Associated Builders & Contractors is set to receive \$165,000 in grant funding to support pre-apprenticeship programs for the construction trades

<https://bit.ly/3wEVU9G>

The Illinois Commission on Equitable Public University Funding Submits New Formula Recommendations to General Assembly

<https://bit.ly/4bZQd6s>

Proposed Bill would ban Native American names, mascots, and logos in Illinois public schools

<https://bit.ly/49BANn7>

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ten reasons why the Fed won't cut in 2024

<https://bit.ly/3TkFkVw>

Why We Expect Inflation to Fall in 2024; For now, it looks like inflation will return to normal without a recession

<https://bit.ly/49Tchxl>

U.S. construction spending unexpectedly fell in January as weakness in outlays on public projects more than offset a moderate increase in private homebuilding

<https://tinyurl.com/59m595ze>

U.S. manufacturing slumped further in February, with a measure of factory employment falling to a seven-month low amid layoffs, but there were signs activity was on the cusp of rebounding

<https://tinyurl.com/mwyzt2x2>

Global factories struggled to claw their way out of decline in February, with European powerhouse Germany squeezed by a steeper fall in demand while an uneven recovery in China overshadowed some signs of improvement in Asia

<https://tinyurl.com/ywj7y577>

Construction costs reveal just how out of reach homeownership is for Americans; A supply shortage is driving more home buyers to new builds, but rising construction and materials costs are making new homes equally unaffordable

<https://bit.ly/4c0BU1a>

New Mexico governor signs bills on housing and infrastructure; At least \$200M in spending to come down for new homes, planning and development; New Mexico lacks around 32,000 units of affordable housing

<https://bit.ly/3SXnBBT>

After 30 Years of NAFTA, the Working Classes Are Still Losing; The promise of free trade was never fulfilled. Workers are continuing to lose ground

<https://bit.ly/3P3sGra>

'Ghosting' gets more common in the job market: It's not a 'passing fad'; About 78% of job seekers said they'd ghosted a prospective employer based on a poll conducted in spring 2023

<https://cnb.cx/3T2bAuW>

A number of red states are moving to weaken child labor laws. Sponsors say they just want kids to be able to work, but critics complain companies are already exploiting vulnerable populations

<https://bit.ly/42VNDKB>

States Advance New 'Captive Audience' Bans Amid Court Challenges; Washington passes latest curbs on anti-union meetings; Businesses say bans violate freedom of speech, US labor law

<https://bit.ly/3Tf5zwl>

Michigan Democrats' repeal of right-to-work took effect, forcing unionized employees to belong and pay dues to their unions as a condition of employment

<https://bit.ly/3lmnYkO>

Fewer job posts contain educational requirements so far in 2024; Growing support of skills-first hiring approaches is a clear sign for workers to invest in skills now, regardless of their education level. In other words, even college-educated workers may have to think about reskilling more going forward

<https://bit.ly/49ypIIN>

Plano, Texas offers grant funds to improve aging shopping centers; The retail revitalization program reimburses eligible shopping center owners 10%, give or take, for making improvements to their properties like perhaps adding a fresh paint job, or adding new landscaping or signage

<https://bit.ly/3lirNr2>

States invest to save rural grocery stores; Lawmakers hope grant and loan programs can help small towns keep their markets open

<https://bit.ly/3uJKNM5>

The zombie CVS, a late-capitalism horror story; Everything else that remains in the store in Northwest D.C., which is not much, is under Plexiglas

<https://bit.ly/48HZtJf>

Downtown DC Confronts a Grim Prospect: A Return to the Dismal 1980s; A quarter-century comeback is over. Can dog parks and condos on K Street usher in a new golden age?

<https://politi.co/48BGiAU>

Knoxville-Knox County Sports Authority updates progress on the \$116M project to build a new stadium in the downtown Knoxville area

<https://bit.ly/3T0U6zb>

Newark, New Jersey, sells residents \$1 homes to fend off corporate property buyers

<https://bit.ly/3uUFfOM>

A Walk in Hoboken: What Makes It Different? Hoboken, New Jersey, has gained fame online for its safe streets. But does this urbanist's paradise live up to the hype, in person?

<https://bit.ly/3uK6oUF>

Red Lights Are Costing Us \$Bs, But Connected Car Data Offers a Solution; Poorly timed traffic lights waste time and money, but are difficult to fix. A University of Michigan study uses connected cars for a simpler remedy

<https://bit.ly/3v0hZyL>

Changing Car Culture Can Benefit Our Health and Our Planet; We need to rethink the American love affair with the automobile and redesign cities to reduce car pollution

<https://bit.ly/3lErBCR>

Rogue Editors Started a Competing Wikipedia That's Only About Roads; A group of Wikipedia editors wrote 15,000 articles on US roads and highways. But after a fight over the platform's rules, they went rogue  
<https://bit.ly/3T2sgCC>

AARoads's mission is to provide the most comprehensive coverage of roads and highways online. Featured throughout the site are photo guides, highway history, project news, maps and other resources. A variety of topics on AARoads aids in trip planning and research while providing the latest information  
<https://bit.ly/3T78ENY>

To Change the Behavior, Change the Environment: Lessons From the Blue Zones  
<https://bit.ly/3ThcN34>

Federal Transit Administration makes \$9.9B in formula funds available for public transportation; Due to the ongoing budget debate in Congress, the funds represent only the first five months of fiscal year 2024  
<https://bit.ly/3TgcZJk>

Governor wants to build a \$16B water tunnel. Will it destroy California's delta? The state may lose as much as 10% of its water supply by 2040  
<https://lat.ms/3lhN2JJ>

Mexico City's 21M residents are facing a severe water shortage; Local authorities have imposed water rations as reservoirs hit historic low levels  
<https://nbcnews.to/3V1J8MC>

AI Is Taking Water From the Desert; With more than 8,000 data centers whirring all around the world and venting heat, and many more on their way, that optimism may come off as nothing more than faith: Technology has gotten us into this predicament; perhaps technology will get us out of it  
<https://bit.ly/3wCWG72>

Utility Fraud and Corruption Are Threatening the Clean Energy Transition; A historic surge of malfeasance has cost US consumers-and thwarted efforts to slash emissions  
<https://bit.ly/48zuM9b>

Texas fires: Burned rangeland can recover quickly, but cattle ranchers face struggles ahead to find and feed their herd  
<https://bit.ly/4bUdExR>

Texas Agriculture Commissioner said individual ranchers could suffer devastating losses, but predicted the overall impact on the Texas cattle industry would be minimal  
<https://bit.ly/49wfTWs>

Immigrant Dairy Workers Often Endure Substandard Housing Conditions. The Law Doesn't Protect Them; Minnesota's attorney general exposed conditions at one dairy farm where workers lacked heat and plumbing and dealt with mold in their homes  
<https://bit.ly/3v3iurT>

Why Europe's ambitious Green Deal hinges on farmers; Farmer protests in Europe pose a global question: How can governments make the shift to environmental sustainability politically sustainable?

<https://bit.ly/3UW5oYd>

Lab fabricates ecosystem to bioengineer crops better; Improved knowledge of the mechanisms by which microorganisms and plants collaborate to store large amounts of atmospheric carbon in the soil will aid in developing more effective bioenergy crops to combat climate change

<https://bit.ly/3uREUwm>

"A dream. It's perfect": Helium discovery in northern Minnesota may be biggest ever in North America

<https://cbsn.ws/3licMFw>

Humanoid robot-maker Figure partners with OpenAI and gets backing from Jeff Bezos and tech giants

<https://bit.ly/4bUMU0a>

Figure AI robot gets OpenAI's ChatGPT-brain to train at lightning speed; After raising \$675M, Figure is partnering with OpenAI to make a walking-talking robot

<https://bit.ly/431N1Tz>

See the humanoid work robot OpenAI is bringing to life with artificial intelligence

<https://cbsn.ws/3V0wTjf>

Elon Musk sues OpenAI for abandoning its mission to benefit humanity

<https://bit.ly/42WoOhz>

Elon Musk sues OpenAI and Sam Altman, claiming "stark betrayal" of the AI company's mission

<https://cbsn.ws/3P5ceXD>

Elon Musk Taps '\$5 Billion Man' Chu for OpenAI, Altman Lawsuit; Morgan Chu is known for his prowess securing courtroom wins for clients

<https://bit.ly/49ENWMf>

ChatGPT and Google Gemini Are Both Doomed; All-purpose chatbots have an impossible job; A chatbot for everyone and everything is destined to become a chatbot for nobody and nothing

<https://nym.ag/49A30dU>

Researchers develop insect brain-inspired motion detector; The new semiconductor is expected to have some important applications in things like transportation and security systems in both industry and the public

<https://bit.ly/3ThRcHw>

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Illinois touts improvements in making pot industry equitable, but critics say more needed

<https://bit.ly/49XpuFt>

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity announced that applications for Round II of the Pot Social Equity Loan Program are open. \$12M is available through Direct Forgivable Loans fully financed by the State. Loan amounts, up to \$240,000, will be provided to qualified, licensed social equity dispensaries

<https://bit.ly/3wwQz3Y>



Native tribe seeks return of ancestral land in Dekalb County

<https://bit.ly/4bXom6l>

Chicago Crowned Top Metro for Corporate Growth, Illinois Celebrates Second Year at #2 Nationwide

<https://bit.ly/3lkLiPJ>

Illinois Ranks #2 in Nation for Corporate Expansions and Relocations for Second Year

<https://bit.ly/3T1t7U1>

Brookfield Zoo changing name, adding \$66M Tropical Forests exhibit

<https://bit.ly/3wwKaFY>

Nearly half of Chicago renters spend too much for rent and utilities. Chicago mirrors a nationwide trend in which more renters are spending at least 30% of their income on utilities and rent

<https://bit.ly/48Cje4X>

Drive-Thru Starbucks Special Use Permit Goes Heads To Lake Forest City Council

<https://bit.ly/3P2ijnD>

New clubhouse for Elgin's Wing Park Golf Course to include shop, simulators, whiskey bar

<https://bit.ly/3P3bVwo>

Waukegan Parks Foundation funding Bevier Park discovery dock; 'People will be able to see what the fish are doing'

<https://bit.ly/4bUhJSB>

Illinois Launches \$12M Pot Equity Loan Program; Dispensaries Vie for Quarter-M Dollar Boost

<https://bit.ly/49Z11Cx>

What Goes Into Setting Car Insurance Rates and How Illinois May Change It

<https://bit.ly/4bUtOr4>

Students Seek Feedback From Transit Riders on How CTA Can Bring 'Joy' to Its Stations: 'It's a Pipe Dream, But It Gives Us Hope'

<https://bit.ly/3Tk3lvG>

The West Side Long-Term Recovery Group (LTRG) held a press conference recently asking for a \$50M grant to aid hundreds of forgotten flood victims, many of whom are seniors who have allegedly been left behind in getting financial relief following last year's mass flooding

<https://bit.ly/48FwplP>

Fun City Adventure Park in Algonquin abruptly closes 2 weeks after opening; state says it had no permit

<https://bit.ly/4bZ760T>

Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers is seeking a special use permit to build a drive-thru restaurant in Rockford

<https://bit.ly/48zW2o1>

Cargo, passenger numbers down for 2023 at Rockford airport

<https://bit.ly/49yHpmp>

Illinois is offering \$30M in grants to organizations in minority communities, funded by a portion of the state's pot sales tax

<https://bit.ly/3uSnobi>

The Pillsbury Mills site is getting more funding to knock down more buildings on its 500,000 square feet campus

<https://bit.ly/3ImP7DW>

Illinoisans can challenge configuration of state broadband map

<https://bit.ly/49vdKua>

Max Dancer says the interest in the Brewhaus Townhomes development at Eighth and Jersey is emblematic of the needs of the Quincy housing market. The 34 townhomes are the result of a \$7.5M project that was greenlighted in March 2023

<https://bit.ly/3T3jd4e>

Glen Carbon Spring Way subdivision to feature 12 homes, church

<https://bit.ly/4adVmpR>

Legislation is being crafted to make small business loans more accessible in low-income communities

<https://bit.ly/49UIbK9>

Recently arrived migrants say they want to find jobs and build stable lives for their families, but the roadblocks they encounter make it extremely hard to get ahead

<https://bit.ly/48BoVQL>

Chicago Fed: Land values reach new peak

<https://bit.ly/3uT6vgY>

North Central College to end 'Presented Performance Series' after this season

<https://bit.ly/3SY4RSN>

## PUBLIC SAFETY

CDC ending five-day COVID isolation guidance

<https://bit.ly/3TgkrdY>

COVID-19 rapid tests still work against new variants - researchers keep 'testing the tests,' and they pass

<https://bit.ly/3P2p9cK>

Where Did Covid Come From? New documents bolster the theory that it not only escaped from a laboratory but was developed in one

<https://on.wsj.com/3UXTLzS>

'Brain fog' is one of Covid-19's most daunting symptoms. A new study measures its impact

<https://bit.ly/48EB9rZ>

Scientists have found a connection between brain fog in long COVID patients and leaky blood vessels in their brains

<https://bit.ly/49LRFr4>

Measles is one of the deadliest and most contagious infectious diseases - and one of the most easily preventable

<https://bit.ly/3ljiFSZ>

Gastrointestinal disease explodes in Alabama elementary school; 773 kids out; Highly contagious norovirus is the leading suspect; four other area schools affected

<https://bit.ly/3ViuUHp>

How cognition changes before dementia hits; Study finds language-processing difficulties are an indicator - in addition to memory loss - of amnesic mild cognitive impairment

<https://bit.ly/3TIJ3Cd>

Politicians Need to Talk About Air Pollution and Alzheimer's; A new study links fine particulate matter pollution to the incurable disease. But American industry will fight any attempt at regulation

<https://bit.ly/3wCnjca>

Calls for a global fund to tackle air pollution, killer of 7M a year

<https://tinyurl.com/mwn3uhn8>

Gene Silencing Slashes Cholesterol in Mice-No Gene Edits Required

<https://bit.ly/3lhlGm6>

Who fakes cancer research? Apparently, lots of people; Faked cancer data is the latest sign of science's fraud problem

<https://bit.ly/3P3mwHy>

Artificial intelligence tools have the potential to prevent thousands of heart attacks every year - if researchers can meet the technology's challenges

<https://bit.ly/3wAhY57>

Pot use as little as once per month linked to higher risk of heart attack and stroke

<https://nbcnews.to/3lIDf5q>

The West Virginia Senate approved a bill that would ban parents from labeling a baby as "nonbinary" on their birth certificate

<https://bit.ly/3wDLl6L>

In the wake of teen's death, why LGBTQ+ Oklahomans say they stay; In talking with LGBTQ+ people in Oklahoma, a complicated picture emerges - of steep challenges but also of a sense of home worth fighting for

<https://bit.ly/3SRp78w>

Alarm at US nurses' suicides amid staff shortage and stress

<https://tinyurl.com/2ua3a46w>

When Therapy Makes Things Worse; Spending time with friends and family, exercise, and volunteer work are often more helpful than long conversations about one's anxieties and grievances

<https://bit.ly/49VocuU>

California wants to force people into mental health care. Advocates say it will backfire; Proposed reform of state's system would fund locked institutions, and probably take funds from preventive care

<https://tinyurl.com/3njfxw3c>

Obesity now greater risk to global health than hunger, study finds

<https://bit.ly/3TiArvS>

More Than 1B People Worldwide Suffer From Obesity; Since 1990, rates have doubled among adults and quadrupled among children and adolescents

<https://bit.ly/3P2Mtar>

1 in 8 worldwide qualify as obese: Research

<https://bit.ly/3wEvTr2>

Sitting all day linked to an early death - and exercise won't help

<https://bit.ly/4c0qCKk>

Researchers find serious security flaws in cheap video door bells sold by a Chinese company under various brands names on Amazon, Shein, and other sites

<https://bit.ly/3V5NEtz>

Welcome to the Era of BadGPTs; The dark web is home to a growing array of artificial-intelligence chatbots similar to ChatGPT, but designed to help hackers. Businesses are on high alert for a glut of AI-generated email fraud and deepfakes

<https://on.wsj.com/3UZzp9i>

Hacking at UnitedHealth unit cripples a swath of the U.S. health system: What to know

<https://cbsn.ws/48EkKUr>

Here Come the AI Worms; Security researchers created an AI worm in a test environment that can automatically spread between generative AI agents-potentially stealing data and sending spam emails along the way

<https://bit.ly/42XIRMo>

The FBI Is Using Push Notifications to Catch Predators; The data in a push notification can help law enforcement officials identify and track a criminal suspect

<https://bit.ly/49MgaEI>

Driving at ridiculous speeds should be physically impossible; Reckless speeding is epidemic in the US. This

simple technology could save tens of thousands of lives

<https://bit.ly/3Tjtn27>

Executions could resume as Louisiana Legislature locks in governor's criminal justice agenda

<https://bit.ly/4bUHfqZ>

Lawmakers Could Limit When County Officials in Mississippi Can Jail People Awaiting Psychiatric Treatment; Hundreds of people in the state are jailed every year while awaiting court-ordered treatment simply because public mental health facilities are full or too far away

<https://bit.ly/3P2EZUT>

When Your Home State Also Becomes Your Abuser; The leading cause of death for pregnant women is homicide, most often by an abusive partner with a gun. And Texas is forcing victims to stay pregnant, while making it easier for abusers to get guns

<https://bit.ly/3wCwr0r>

Inside the Latest Biden Showdown With Second Amendment Devotees; The White House's anti-gun campaign threatens to repeat sins of law enforcement's recent past

<https://bit.ly/48xSLWd>

Oregon lawmakers appear poised to roll back the state's decriminalization measure, which was hailed as a pioneering approach to addiction but faces intense backlash as communities grapple with surges in fentanyl use and overdoses

<https://bit.ly/3uV7qNA>

Oregon takes massive step toward recriminalizing possession

<https://bit.ly/48Sroql>

There aren't enough Pittsburgh police officers; On the night of Monday, Feb. 26, only 14 officers patrolled this city of 300,000 people

<https://bit.ly/49uU0H4>

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Chicago sees no shootings Wednesday; 7th day with no shootings in last 5 years, CPD says

<https://abc7.ws/49SwqE3>

Getting to know Chicago's feral cats; Cook County is considered a feral cat haven, in part because of an ordinance allowing people to care for them

<https://bit.ly/49Teol8>

Hostile staff, bad food, filth - that's life in city's shelters, migrants say

<https://bit.ly/3uKILfP>

Chicago-based Catholic order is keeping secrets about child-molesting clergy around the US

<https://bit.ly/48xtwU8>

Walgreens and CVS plan to start dispensing abortion pill mifepristone soon. The chain will start with some locations in New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, California and Illinois

<https://bit.ly/3TIVM7X>

In split vote, Kane County Board delays decision on funding new health center

<https://bit.ly/49PJ7A1>

Harvey Ald. Colby Chapman faces possible censure over use of police van for video, city prosecutor says

<https://bit.ly/3P8HKnt>

Illinois Adopts New CDC Guidelines Targeting Vulnerable Populations Amid Uptick in Respiratory Illnesses

<https://bit.ly/3liqlVN>

Illinois Sheds Light on Gambling Addiction, Launches Awareness Campaigns Amid NCAA Tournaments

<https://bit.ly/4c12pE2>

Chicago officials have transitioned migrants from shelters to homes, but the rapid move is causing community disruptions and concerns about migrant welfare

<https://bit.ly/49WLWYA>

Migrants in Chicago file complaints about racist remarks and hostile treatment across city shelters

<https://bit.ly/49Bxfkl>

Migrants move out of two Oak Park shelters. What's next for them?

<https://bit.ly/3OZFrTS>

What to do if you test positive? Here are the new CDC COVID guidelines for 2024

<https://bit.ly/4bUiVFz>

Illinois health officials issue statement after CDC announces changes to COVID isolation guidelines

<https://bit.ly/3UVVV32>

CDC explains why it changed COVID guidelines for 2024

<https://bit.ly/4bXBTly>

A month-by-month breakdown of Chicago's warmest meteorological winter in 92 years

<https://bit.ly/3TkdAjN>

Members of the Mount Prospect Transportation Safety Commission recommended the village board approve a new traffic calming program, which has not been updated in over a decade

<https://bit.ly/3P8LdT1>

Report: Only one Peoria hospital is complying with federal law on price transparency

<https://bit.ly/3uK2Em9>

Chatham Fire Protection District to welcome first African American female firefighter

<https://bit.ly/3uT4Png>

A new Illinois re-entry guide includes resources for LGBTQ+ people after incarceration

<https://bit.ly/48E5LJW>

Illinois state lawmakers hold hearing about foster care system

<https://bit.ly/49Zpaq5>

Missouri AG accuses Planned Parenthood of 'trafficking children' in lawsuit

<https://bit.ly/3P4TZBH>

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority today released a \$30M notice of funding opportunity to provide Restore, Reinvest, and Renew (R3) programming in historically underserved Illinois communities

<https://bit.ly/42YkAG0>

The City of Alton wants your opinion on how to make downtown a safer place. The city received a "Plans to Pilot" grant to take on a quick-build project with the intent of making downtown safer for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users

<https://bit.ly/3SS5DRa>

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Lawsuit accuses Kleenex maker Kimberly-Clark of polluting a town with PFAS chemicals; Kimberly-Clark says it does not use so-called "forever chemicals" in its U.S. consumer products, and plans to "vigorously" defend itself against the allegation

<https://nbcnews.to/4bPG8su>

In Georgia, a bill to cut all ties with the American Library Association is advancing; Anti-ALA furor fueled by a social media post

<https://n.pr/3TjJ4E>

On 'Alternative Walking Tours,' Formerly Homeless People Share Their Perspectives; The tours help the guides embrace the next chapter of their lives, while showing tourists a hidden side of the city they're visiting

<https://bit.ly/49XUeXd>

Introducing Microsoft Copilot for Finance: Transform finance with next-generation AI in Microsoft 365

<https://bit.ly/48xelKE>

Microsoft introduces Copilot AI chatbot for finance workers in Excel and Outlook

<https://cnb.cx/3wym3GV>

Microsoft rolls out Copilot AI tool to finance teams

<https://bit.ly/3wCunpe>

Good Climate Solutions Need Good Policy-and AI Can Help With That; Climate Policy Radar's tools scan global environmental laws to see what works and what doesn't. What its AI is discovering today will help shape the regulations of tomorrow

<https://bit.ly/42WSMIB>

Adapt Your Strategy to Higher Interest Rates; To increase sales and profits in this environment, executives need to rediscover the concept of economic profit

<https://bit.ly/42ZDJaC>

How to Actually Execute Change at a Company; Four factors that will determine the success - or failure - of your initiative

<https://bit.ly/3lkhXVD>

How to slay "vampire problems" for better decision-making; "Vampire problems" occur when you have to make a major, life-changing decision without knowing all the consequences; At work we're often asked to be decisive - but how can we make an informed choice without complete information?

<https://bit.ly/49wQTyr>

What Successful Purpose Statements Do Differently; Strategies from companies that got their guiding mission right

<https://bit.ly/49xMewg>

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Chicago's Problems Will Not Be Solved by Rebranding; Chicago requires more than a marketing strategy

<https://bit.ly/434IAbJ>

Despite a court ruling, backers of the proposed "Bring Chicago Home" ordinance are, if anything, escalating their campaign to urge people to vote for the measure via referendum

<https://bit.ly/49MDjXC>

Migrants in Chicago file complaints about hostile treatment across city shelters; From June 2023 to January 2024, migrants living in city-run shelters lodged 248 grievances

<https://bit.ly/4bVe4UG>

City and state quickly moves thousands of migrants from shelters into homes across the South and West sides. But will they stay

<https://bit.ly/4bV7cXn>

Migrants housed in Oak Park moved from YMCA, hotel to vacant St. Edmunds Catholic school building

<https://bit.ly/3ThNihT>

Glencoe Hires New Assistant Village Manager

<https://bit.ly/3lpwsY4>

Three Chicago civic groups are calling on the City Council and Mayor Brandon Johnson to improve transparency and public access to council meetings so Chicagoans can more easily monitor and participate in city government

<https://bit.ly/3UXEr6f>

BGA, Civic Federation, League of Women Voters Pen Letter to Mayor Johnson and City Council Regarding Transparency Concerns

<https://bit.ly/48LbBJS>



Waukegan groups hoping to trade 37,500 plastic bags for a \$1,500 park bench; 'It . helps the environment by recycling the bags'

<https://bit.ly/49Tr23A>

Ald. Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth (48th): We need to look at the whole grid. The alderperson discusses improving bike safety, CTA access and transit upgrades in one of the coolest neighborhoods in the world

<https://bit.ly/3TiycbV>

Chicago Strikes \$2.2M Settlement with ResiPro Over Unlicensed Construction; Compensation Offered to Affected Homeowners

<https://bit.ly/3P0oxv5>

Morgan County Approaches Tax Parity with New State-Established Equalization Factor

<https://bit.ly/49A2nkM>

Northlake Public Library Asking Residents To Vote 'Yes' For 'Zero Tax Rate Increase'

<https://bit.ly/3UUFXWU>

Evanston Ald. Devon Ward says he plans to seek new restrictions on public comment at City Council meetings in response to antisemitic remarks made at some recent meetings.

<https://bit.ly/3T7KvH4>

'Check Your Judges': Injustice Watch's Judicial Election Guide sheds light on lesser discussed portion of ballot

<https://bit.ly/49MSBeY>

Oak Park library's trustees apologize for 'harming' community in handling of Palestinian event

<https://bit.ly/3P0qrFd>

Mount Prospect elected officials in the future will likely be asked to approve annexing another large area on the village's far southern border

<https://bit.ly/3SY2IMl>

Decatur City Council to review premium yard waste rates

<https://bit.ly/3T2R5yx>

Pritzker plan to repeal grocery tax would mean less funding for services, Central Illinois city leaders say

<https://bit.ly/3UYZ3uU>

The City of East Peoria has issued a survey for residents to give their input on what is appealing about living there, and what could use improvement

<https://bit.ly/3TjkUvW>

The McLean County Regional Planning Commission is inviting the public to comment on its draft regional housing recovery plan.

<https://bit.ly/4bVm3Bb>

Springfield City Council receives new mics, has streaming equipment repaired for end of February's Committee of the Whole

<https://bit.ly/3liu45J>

IDNR to offer fishing and hunting licenses and permits at Illinois Deer Classic

<https://bit.ly/49GCKyU>

Madison County panel OKs new dog kennel and chicken permits

<https://bit.ly/3lr96RT>

New rules advance for chicken owners in Madison County

<https://bit.ly/4c15iV6>

## SPACE NEEDS - NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS

As former Uptown Catholic school redevelopment begins, Uptown parishioners worry about church's future; Renovations are underway on the former Our Lady Of Lourdes school building. Parishioners were upset by the sale and worry about the fate of the church across the street

<https://bit.ly/49zrRPc>

In a split vote, the Kane County Board has delayed a decision on funding a new \$30M headquarters for the county's health department

<https://bit.ly/3ThfYYy>

Renovation projects in the works at Lyons Township High School

<https://bit.ly/3T6Myv0>

Conversations are ongoing between the YMCA Board of Directors, its leadership team, and the village of Shorewood to build a new center in the village

<https://bit.ly/4bZx44w>

The Greenfield school district plans to issue about \$500,000 in bonds towards a \$1M upgrade to its elementary and high school buildings

<https://bit.ly/3P3sYyd>

Construction for the Illinois Youth Center in Lincoln is being held off as they are set to receive funds from the governor's new budget

<https://bit.ly/49SV0EB>

## STATE & FEDERAL

Governor Pritzker wants to spend record amount but needs \$898M in tax hikes to do it; Record-setting \$52.7B 2025 spending plan needs massive tax increases

<https://bit.ly/48E6fQz>

Gov. J.B. Pritzker's record-setting \$52.7B 2025 spending plan needs massive tax increases. Tax changes will hurt individuals, businesses and local governments.

<https://bit.ly/49UirNV>

Governor Pritzker's willingness to tackle pension problem is a breakthrough

<https://bit.ly/42X12lv>

Governor Pritzker continues to spread his political wealth across the country; He spent over \$350M on his two gubernatorial campaigns. Another \$58M on the "Fair Tax" campaign of 2020. Pritzker even spent over \$20M picking his Republican opponent for the 2022 election

<https://bit.ly/432JcNO>

Governor Pritzker is backing abortion rights ballot measures across nation, but little on the horizon in Illinois

<https://bit.ly/3wJNldr>

Gov. Pritzker in Nevada, Virginia, pushing for reproductive rights, fundraising for state parties

<https://bit.ly/3libUkm>

Gov. Pritzker Champions Nationwide Abortion Rights, Fuels Constitutional Protections Beyond Illinois

<https://bit.ly/3T1pFsx>

New home for Roselle library? Village trustees agree to study property swap

<https://bit.ly/3wGrB2s>

Early voting for Illinois primary election expands to Cook County suburbs on Monday

<https://bit.ly/3UW2tib>

IL lawmakers weighing zero-emission standards for vehicles

<https://bit.ly/3uTIIOD>

Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker is against a bill that seeks to have the Land of Lincoln adopt the vehicle emissions standards of California

<https://bit.ly/3V16Atf>

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SS overpayment errors of \$11B in 2022 leaves recipients with massive debts; The administration pays more than \$1.4T to more than 71M people each year

<https://bit.ly/49VbHzj>

Supreme Court should end government and Big Tech collusion; Plaintiffs have uncovered substantial evidence of the federal government coercing and otherwise pressuring social media companies to take down constitutionally protected speech

<https://bit.ly/3uTyn46>

Pennsylvania governor launches election security task force ahead of 2024 elections; The goal is to mitigate threats to election security and protect voters from intimidation

<https://bit.ly/3li50vk>

Open-carry gun ban at polling places clears the Michigan Senate, faces battle in House

<https://bit.ly/3wFLWF6>

What does a state's secretary of state do? Most run elections, a once-routine job facing increasing scrutiny

<https://bit.ly/42WEVM1>

Mitch McConnell: Hero or Villain? We asked congressional insiders, historians and political analysts to choose the longtime Senate GOP leader's most consequential achievement as he prepares to step down

<https://politi.co/4c0BCHG>

Mitch McConnell: A Republican Party Hero

<https://bit.ly/4adAIWT>

McConnell's Peculiar Institutionalism; Mitch McConnell's announcement that he will step down from his leadership post in the fall has sparked a lot of reflections on his reign

<https://bit.ly/3UZT6he>

Republicans Must Use Leadership Change as Opportunity to End Business as Usual in Senate; McConnell has been the Senate's GOP leader for over 17 years

<https://tinyurl.com/34tepzts>

GOP senators face Trump civil war with McConnell retiring; The race to replace Senate Republican Leader McConnell is laying bare the power struggle between pro-Trump and anti-Trump Republicans in the Senate

<https://bit.ly/48x3Wi4>

The Coming Clash Between Republicans vs. Hardliners On IVF; Behind the scenes, the battle lines are being drawn. Will it break the party?

<https://bit.ly/3T06503>

Former President Trump said he hasn't determined a period after which abortions should be banned but has considered 15 or 16 weeks

<https://bit.ly/3V0gYkP>

The attorney general of Missouri is suing Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion provider in the United States, for "trafficking minors out of state to obtain abortions without parental consent"

<https://tinyurl.com/y2r733xs>

Missouri AG sues Planned Parenthood over Project Veritas video involving fictional girl; A former Missouri Supreme Court chief justice said the 'highly political lawsuit' presents the courts with a hypothetical question rather than a reality

<https://bit.ly/4cbb32T>

Tennessee and Oklahoma are the latest states where Republicans are seeking to criminalize "abortion trafficking," a felony committed when a person "knowingly or intentionally recruits, harbors, or transports a pregnant minor . . . to procure an illegal abortion or to obtain an abortifacient" without her parent's consent

<https://bit.ly/3TijEsX>

Michigan 'uncommitted' vote fuels hope for third-party advocates

<https://bit.ly/3OYMtrF>

Speaker Johnson is eager to escape the chaos of a two-seat House majority. And he's leaning on Trump for help

<https://politi.co/3wJ44O4>

Nikki Haley can't win the Republican primary with 40%. But she can expose some of Trump's weaknesses

<https://bit.ly/43fW5Vf>

Nikki Haley seeks to avoid getting shut out in the 2024 contest; Donald Trump could win all his party's nominating contests - a feat that hasn't been accomplished by a non-incumbent presidential hopeful since 2000

<https://nbcnews.to/3UUSFVD>

There's a Good Reason Haley's Still Running - And It's Not Trump's Legal Problems; The answer might be buried deep in the Republican convention rules

<https://politi.co/3uEflcl>

Haley Criticizes GOP Priorities as Trump Closes In on Nomination

<https://bit.ly/48zqKO5>

Haley in new interview says she's not 'anti-Trump,' ahead of Super Tuesday

<https://bit.ly/3Ti9AA3>

Presidential candidate Nikki Haley wants all of former President Donald Trump's legal cases to be "dealt with" prior to the presidential election

<https://politi.co/4c0BvvK>

After several days of extraordinary testimony, the judge in the Georgia election interference case against former President Trump is set to hear arguments over whether Fulton County District Attorney Willis should be removed from the prosecution over a relationship

<https://bit.ly/49ASjYF>

Texts show prosecutor's ex-law partner gave info for effort to remove Fulton County District Attorney Willis from election case

<https://bit.ly/48ADmob>

President Biden underwent a physical, and his doctor said the "most notable" change in the past year concerned the 81-year-old's sleep apnea - a disorder associated with an increased risk of dementia

<https://bit.ly/49GelUI>

Why So Many Republicans Believe Biden Won't Be The Democratic Nominee; Some of the alternatives don't make much sense

<https://bit.ly/4bRmv3r>

The Increasing Attacks on Kamala Harris; The Vice-President is trying to cast herself as a leader and connect with voters who are not excited about the Democratic ticket

<https://bit.ly/3T05nzV>

5 takeaways from the Hunter Biden transcript; Republicans conducting the impeachment investigation into President Biden released the transcript of their private interview with Hunter Biden

<https://bit.ly/48BnfH0>

Hunter Biden Told Republicans He Has A Better Résumé Than They Do; The president's son was combative with Republicans during his deposition, the transcript shows

<https://bit.ly/3wCez65>

The US knows how to resettle refugees. Why can't it figure out what to do with the current wave of migrants?

<https://bit.ly/3uQ75vF>

The Politics and Policy of Immigration Redux; Anti-immigration sentiment is being exaggerated, and immigration's actual benefits to the U.S. economy are wildly underappreciated

<https://bit.ly/48zBFr3>

Biden versus Trump: Will Texas visits reframe border blame game? In a marked change, President Biden is going on the offensive

<https://bit.ly/3T77wtl>

Biden Goes On Offense On His Weakest Issue: Illegal Border Crossings

<https://bit.ly/48Spo1j>

Fact-Checking 4 Big Claims Biden Made at the Border in Texas

<https://tinyurl.com/2rwnm4h4>

Trump Says Local Police Will Play Key Role In His Mass Deportation Plan; Said he would give officers immunity to carry out his plan

<https://bit.ly/49UhtRT>

President Biden and Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas Have Blood on Their Hands; The death of Laken Riley was tragic; it was also avoidable; Police arrested and charged an illegal alien from Venezuela with murder

<https://bit.ly/49ReBoP>

Guns Don't Kill People, Neither Do Immigrants

<https://bit.ly/3Tk6cnp>

Mexico is about to have its biggest election ever. Here's what to know; Voters will choose the president, along with the winners of 628 seats in Congress and tens of thousands of local positions; Is almost certain to elect its first woman president

<https://bit.ly/3uTdK8a>

Mexico's Presidential Race Is Shaping Up to Be a Blowout

<https://bit.ly/3T0ZFNX>

The Consequences of Good Intentions; Western involvement in Ukraine has quickly gone from a euphoric cause célèbre to a catastrophe

<https://bit.ly/49MBry4>

NATO could be dragged into a war with Russia if Putin's forces are not stopped in Ukraine, Defense Secretary Austin warned

<https://tinyurl.com/mrytp47w>

Russian President Putin is prepared to attack Germany as part of an invasion that could last years and trigger full-scale conflict with NATO, according to a just-released government report delivered to German lawmakers in the Bundestag

<https://bit.ly/4bXATa7>

What Sweden Brings to NATO; Skeptics need not fear: Sweden will contribute meaningfully to the alliance

<https://bit.ly/3uX4L5Z>

Sweden is joining NATO, but it's hopelessly unprepared for war; After two centuries of peace, and a fire-sale of public infrastructure, the country has never been so vulnerable

<https://tinyurl.com/mpdp4wfv>

The French president raised the prospect of Western troops in Ukraine. What was he thinking? Macron floated the possibility of Western troops helping in Ukraine while speaking at a news conference after 20 European heads of state, and other Western officials, met in Paris

<https://bit.ly/3P2yrWc>

Russian President Putin vowed to fulfill Moscow's goals in Ukraine and sternly warned the West against deeper involvement in the fighting, saying that such a move is fraught with the risk of a global nuclear conflict

<https://bit.ly/3P3gPcW>

Is NATO heading for nuclear war? Both Russia and the West could spark an escalation

<https://bit.ly/48SvqyZ>

Putin Says West Risks Nuclear Conflict if It Intervenes More in Ukraine; "We also have weapons that can strike targets on their territory," Mr. Putin said in an annual speech. "Do they not understand this?"

<https://nyti.ms/49uvmX4>

Ukraine Goes to Court; Ukraine has pursued multiple legal avenues in response to the aggression

<https://bit.ly/3lIDeye>

Russia is using private militias to control and "weaponize" immigration into Europe; The Kremlin has influence over a number of the main routes into the continent and border police are warning that, with the arrival of spring, Russia is likely to "intensify" its efforts to move migrants

<https://tinyurl.com/25uxpe67>

Palestinian factions including Hamas and Fatah have made progress in establishing political unity after talks in Moscow, the Russian foreign minister has said

<https://tinyurl.com/2zbb5uu3>

What Is Lloyd Austin Thinking? Does the defense secretary share the unfounded and hostile biases of Israel's most caustic critics? If the secretary is uncomfortable with America's mission in support of its ally, as he seems to be, he should reconsider his value to the president

<https://bit.ly/3uKQsI5>

European leaders demand probe into Gaza aid delivery 'atrocities'; "Deep indignation at the images coming from Gaza where civilians have been targeted by Israeli soldiers," French President Macron said

<https://politi.co/49RSOxi>

'America Cannot Be Complicit': Dems Press Biden After 100 Gazans Die Waiting For Food

<https://bit.ly/49SnBKr>

More than 100 Palestinians were killed trying to get aid; The competing narratives about a deadly aid distribution in Gaza, explained

<https://bit.ly/4c0COLa>

The story behind the New York Times October 7 exposé; A narrative-defining investigation claimed to uncover Hamas's systemic weaponization of s. violence. The story and its authors are under fire

<https://bit.ly/48zicXv>

As Vietnam grows ties with the U.S., a directive seeks to protect the Communist Party; A leaked document offers a window into the motivations and concerns of party leaders as they seek to deepen ties with the U.S.

<https://n.pr/49PCsFe>

Is the United States overestimating China's power? In overestimating China's comprehensive power, the U.S. risks misallocating resources and attention, directing them toward a threat that is not as imminent as one might otherwise assume

<https://bit.ly/3uL56c2>

A new Chinese study claims that machine gun-armed robot dogs are as accurate as trained human marksmen. If true, we could be about to witness a revolution of sorts in urban warfare

<https://bit.ly/49USCNL>

US general warns of 'window of vulnerability' in space; China and Russia have "transformed space into a contested warfighting domain"

<https://bit.ly/3Vinm7x>

China is growing its military capabilities in space at a "breathtaking pace" to counter the American satellites in orbit and improve its ability to monitor and target forces on Earth, according to the head of the US Space Command

<https://bit.ly/3v3pVPP>

The Fight to Keep the Plastics Industry From Drowning Us in Trash; Plastics recycling was always a lie. A new bill tries to address the growing mess

<https://bit.ly/3P5Wqnw>

Decades after the US buried nuclear waste abroad, climate change could unearth it; A new report says



melting ice sheets and rising seas could disturb waste from U.S. nuclear projects in Greenland and the Marshall Islands

<https://bit.ly/3V72hwm>

The FAA's space chief talks mission authorization, the SpaceX Starship; The clock is ticking to get a legislative fix for mission authorization approved, says the FAA's associate administrator for commercial space transportation

<https://bit.ly/49xMNWU>

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#### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Let us not look back in anger or forward in fear, but around in awareness."

--James Thurber

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ASK ANCEL GLINK...the question changes each Friday. Information submitted to Ancel Glink through this service is not considered confidential, nor does the service create an attorney-client relationship with Ancel Glink.

Q: Is written correspondence addressed only to a Mayor a public record available for copying under FOIA?

A: Possibly not. This question was recently addressed again by the Illinois Appellate Court in Shehadeh v. City of Taylorville, where the court reviewed the City's denial of a FOIA request for a copy of the requester's own letter to the Mayor. The most interesting result of the case arises from the Appellate Court ruling that the requester's letter addressed to the Mayor did not qualify as a public record under FOIA because it was not "received by, in the possession of, or under the control of a public body." After analyzing FOIA's definition of a "public body" and prior Illinois cases concluding that an individual alderperson was not a "public body" under FOIA, the Appellate Court concluded that the Mayor is not a "public body" under FOIA. The Court rejected the requestor's argument that an individual Alderperson should be distinguished from a Mayor, noting that even though a Mayor (unlike an individual Alderperson) has legal authority to make certain unilateral decisions and actions, that distinction does not transform a Mayor into a "public body" under FOIA. It is important to note that there is mixed precedent regarding this question.

(Note: This column is not meant to provide legal advice. Consult with your local attorney. This service may constitute Advertising Material.)

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