



# District 8 News

FALL 2023



**Pernel Jones Jr.**  
Council President, District 8

**Contact:**

216.698.2010

216.698.2019

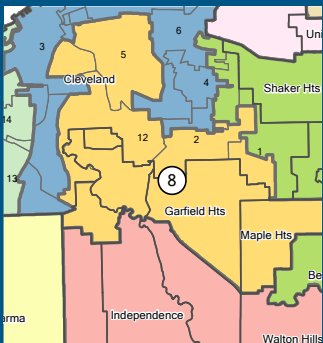
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**Visit Council's Website:**

[council.cuyahogacounty.us](http://council.cuyahogacounty.us)



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## A Message from... Council President Jones

Dear District 8 Residents,

I hope you had a wonderful summer, and are looking forward to the fall season ahead. I am taking this opportunity to share information with you about several important topics, including home ownership, our children, food insecurity and violence.

Keeping our neighborhoods stable, our businesses strong and our citizens safe will always be our highest priority. We will build on the programs and efforts we initiated to continue the revitalization of our neighborhoods.

Please know that I value your thoughts and will continue to be a strong advocate for reforms that promote the welfare of Cuyahoga County residents collectively.

The greatest part of being a County representative is helping my constituents. I realize there is a lot of work to be done, but I cannot do it alone. Your continued support of county government, the community, and your neighbors will be crucial in our progress.

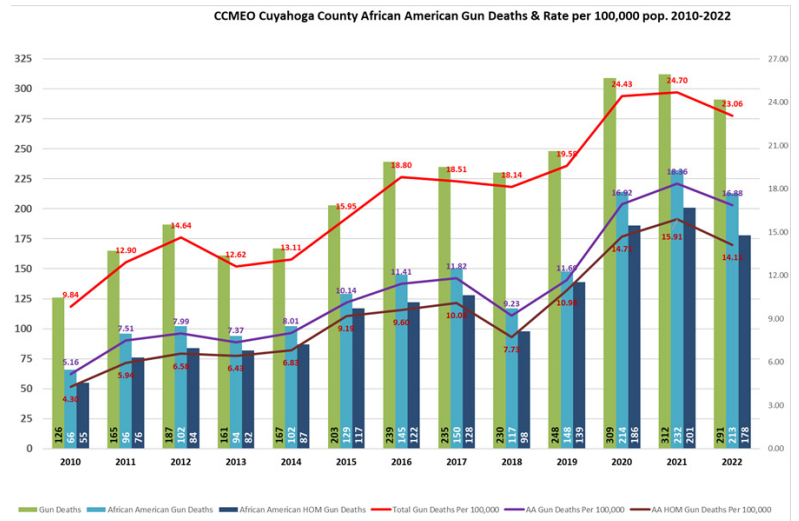
Stay Blessed!

Pernel Jones Jr.

# Understanding Violence in Our Community

According to data provided by the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office:

- In 2022, 309 individuals died as a result of gun violence, and 200 of those were homicides. There were 238 total homicides recorded in 2022.
- To date in 2023, there have been 94 homicides recorded, and of those, 92 were related to gun violence.
- May 2023 recorded the most homicides county-wide of any month prior to mid-year within the past 5 years.
- The chart shows the staggering reality within the African American community:
  - ◆ In 2022, 291 individuals died as a result of gun violence, of those, 213 were African American, and 178 of those were homicides.
  - ◆ Over the last decade, the number of gun-related deaths has more than doubled among the African American Community.



## Community Reinvestment - Home Ownership is Possible

### Check out the Cuyahoga County Land Bank:

The county land bank offers several programs to purchase and renovate properties. Their Deed-In-Escrow Program is the most popular, allowing qualified buyers to buy and renovate Cuyahoga Land Bank properties. The Land Bank's Programs and Property Management team prepares professional renovation specifications and the buyer has approximately 4 months to complete renovations according to the specs after their offer has been accepted. The deed to the property is held "in escrow" by the Land Bank until all renovations are complete and have passed a final inspection.



Visit them on the web to learn more: <https://cuyahogalandbank.org/>



### Check out the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Foreclosure Sale:

Buying foreclosed property at a sheriff's sale is one way to get a great deal on a property. There are several rules for this type of sale and understanding them can help you make an informed purchase.

- **Have a question about a property that is scheduled for a Sheriff's Foreclosure Sale?**
    - Contact the Sheriff's Civil Land Sales Department at 216.443.6000 x1226
  - **Where are Sheriff Sales held and how do I register or bid on a parcel?**
    - All Cuyahoga County Sheriff Sales are held online only.
- Visit them on the web to learn more:**  
<https://www.cuyahogacounty.us/sheriff/civil/foreclosure-sales>



# The Cuyahoga County Office of Reentry

The Cuyahoga County Office of Reentry (OOR) was established in 2009 as an organizational structure that supports reentry research, community education, and best practices in the delivery of services for reentrants. Reentry is the process by which an incarcerated person is released from jail or prison and makes the transition back to their community. The Office of Reentry is committed to strengthening a network of community partners by coordinating innovative programs and services that assure quality opportunities needed for successful reintegration.

Reentry Week, which has been designated as the last week of April, is dedicated to raising awareness in our community about the many barriers faced by justice-involved individuals and their families. As our largest focus for the year, we are able to serve over 600 justice-impacted community members. Reentry Week 2023: Restoring the Returned took on a more holistic approach as we emphasized the impact and effect of incarceration on the entire family. There was a greater concentration on events that highlighted juvenile justice, adult restoration, and children of incarcerated parents. We were extremely excited to amplify the voices of the reentry community!

When we are not planning reentry week, we collaborate and host events with many community partners and organizations to continue to focus on the needed services of the community like Expungement and Second Chance job fairs. We have an ongoing partnership, CLE for the Community, with the Cuyahoga County Office of the Public Defender, Case Western Reserve Second Chance Reentry Clinic, and the Cleveland State University Pardon Clemency & Reentry Clinic. CLE for the Community is designed to bring legal services and education directly into the community where residents are able to have their questions answered about new laws, legal issues, expungement and record sealing, child support, and so much more.

For information contact the Office of Reentry at 216.698.3437 or [Cuyahoga-Reentry@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Cuyahoga-Reentry@jfs.ohio.gov)



## Partnering with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank to Combat Food Insecurity

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank's mission is to ensure everyone in our communities has the nutritious food they need every day. That means, partnering with other community providers to expand the reach of needed services. So, if you are an organization looking to become a pantry program (providing families 3-5 days' worth of food for the whole household) or a hot meal program (providing a hot meal to the community), please fill out the application online.

The process to become a member agency may take 4-6 weeks. If an application is submitted from October - December, you will receive a follow-up response in January. A partnership is year-round, and they are unable to support one-time special events or distributions for organizations that are not partners. Please read the General Guidelines and Storage Requirements for becoming a Food Bank Partner Agency to determine if your organization meets the criteria for membership and can operate within the guidelines and policies of the Food Bank.

### Outreach Mobile Truck/ Counselor:

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank provides an Outreach Truck that brings small amounts of fresh produce and shelf food to outside

events. Outreach Counselors are available to engage individuals at various community organizations, health partners, and emergency feeding programs around SNAP, other public benefits, and community resources.

### Need Help?

Contact the GCFB @ 216.738.2067 or <https://www.greaterclevelandfoodbank.org>





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**2079 East Ninth Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Cleveland, Ohio 44115**



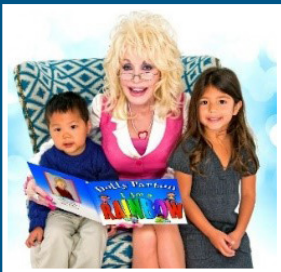
**Pernel Jones Jr.**  
 Council President  
 District 8

**THIS BOX DOES NOT PRINT**

**Clear area for post office to mail**

**This area is for address and postage  
 must have clear space for postal  
 machines to read address**

## Free Books!



Enroll your child to receive a free book in the mail every month through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Program. All children under the age of five are eligible to receive a brand new, high-quality, age-appropriate book every month instilling a love of books and family reading from an early age. The Literacy Cooperative leads the program throughout Cuyahoga County where 38,000 children are currently enrolled.



Enroll your child today by scanning the QR code, visiting: [www.literacycooperative.org](http://www.literacycooperative.org), text FREEBOOKS to 216-412-9005, or call us at 216-776-6180.

## Cuyahoga County Important Numbers

Board of Elections	216.443.8683
Board of Health	216.201.2000
Child Abuse Hotline	216-696.5437
Child Support Services	216.443.5100
CMHA	216.348.5000
Food Assistance/Medicaid	216.987.7000
Home Repair Loan Program	216.348.4066
Jury Duty	216.443.8625
MetroHealth	216.778.7800
Homeless Services	216.420.6844
Ohio Means Jobs	216.777.8200
Sheriff's Office	216.443.6000
RTA	216.621.9500
Veterans Services	216.698.2600

**Council meetings and Committee meetings are open to the public**  
**Free parking at 900 Prospect – 5<sup>th</sup> floor skywalk**

Attend a regular Council meeting – 5pm, every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month

Watch on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/CuyahogaCounty> (live and archived) Dates and times are subject to change; please go to Cuyahoga County Council's Website at [www.council.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.council.cuyahogacounty.us) or you may call 216.698.2010, to access the schedule of upcoming meetings.