Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

426.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for the capture, storage and use of digital data obtained through the use of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology.

426.2 DEFINITIONS
(a) Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR): A device that uses cameras and computer technology to compare digital images to lists of known information of interest.

(b) ALPR Operator: Trained Department members who may utilize ALPR system/equipment. ALPR operators may be assigned to any position within the Department, and the ALPR Administrator may order the deployment of the ALPR systems for use in various efforts.

(c) ALPR Administrator: The Investigations Bureau Captain or the Chief's designee, serves as the ALPR Administrator for the Department.

(d) Hot List: A list of license plates associated with vehicles of interest compiled from one or more databases including, but not limited to, NCIC, CA DMV, Local BOLO's, etc.

(e) Vehicles of Interest: Including, but not limited to vehicles which are reported as stolen; display stolen license plates or tags; vehicles linked to missing and/or wanted persons and vehicles flagged by the Department of Motor Vehicle Administration or law enforcement agencies.

(f) Detection: Data obtained by an ALPR of an image (such as a license plate) within public view that was read by the device, including potential images (such as the plate and description of vehicle on which it was displayed), and information regarding the location of the ALPR system at the time of the ALPR's read.

(g) Hit: Alert from the ALPR system that a scanned license plate number may be in the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) or other law enforcement database for a specific reason including, but not limited to, being related to a stolen car, wanted person, missing person, domestic violation protective order or terrorist-related activity.

426.3 ADMINISTRATION
The ALPR technology, also known as License Plate Recognition (LPR), allows for the automated detection of license plates along with the vehicle make, model, color and unique identifiers through the Vallejo Police Department's ALPR's system and the vendor's vehicle identification technology. The technology is used by the Vallejo Police Department to convert data associated with vehicle license plates and vehicle descriptions for official law enforcement purposes, including identifying stolen or wanted vehicles, stolen license plates and missing persons. It may also be used to gather information related to active warrants, suspect interdiction and stolen property recovery.

All installation and maintenance of ALPR equipment, as well as ALPR data retention and access, shall be managed by the Department Information Technology Manager. The Department Information Technology Manager will assign members under his/her command to administer the day-to-day operation of the ALPR equipment and data.

426.3.1 ALPR ADMINISTRATOR
The Investigations Bureau Captain shall be responsible for compliance with the requirements of Civil Code § 1798.90.5 et seq. This includes, but is not limited to (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53):

(a) Only properly trained sworn officers, crime analysts, communication operators, records clerks and police assistants are allowed access to the ALPR system or to collect ALPR information.

(b) Ensuring that training requirements are completed for authorized users.

(c) ALPR system monitoring to ensure the security of the information and compliance with applicable privacy laws.

(d) Ensuring that procedures are followed for system operators and to maintain records of access in compliance with Civil Code § 1798.90.52.

(e) The title and name of the current designee in overseeing the ALPR operation is maintained. Continually working with the Custodian of Records on the retention and destruction of ALPR data.

(f) Ensuring this policy and related procedures are conspicuously posted on the department's website.

426.4 OPERATIONS
Use of an ALPR is restricted to the purposes outlined below. Department members shall not use, or allow others to use the equipment or database records for any unauthorized purpose (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53).

(a) An ALPR shall only be used for official law enforcement business.

(b) An ALPR may be used in conjunction with any routine patrol operation or criminal investigation; reasonable suspicion or probable cause is not required before using an ALPR.

(c) Partial license plates and unique vehicle descriptions reported during major crimes should be entered into the ALPR system in an attempt to identify suspect vehicles.

(d) No member of this department shall operate ALPR equipment or access ALPR data without first completing department-approved training.

(e) If practicable, the officer should verify an ALPR response through the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) before taking enforcement action that is based solely on an ALPR alert. Once an alert is received, the operator should confirm

that the observed license plate from the system matches the license plate of the observed vehicle. Before any law enforcement action is taken because of an ALPR alert, the alert will be verified through a CLETS inquiry via MDC or through Dispatch. Members will not take any police action that restricts the freedom of any individual based solely on an ALPR alert unless it has been validated. Because the ALPR alert may relate to a vehicle and may not relate to the person operating the vehicle, officers are reminded that they need to have reasonable suspicion and/or probable cause to make an enforcement stop of any vehicle. (For example, if a vehicle is entered into the system because of its association with a wanted individual, Officers should attempt to visually match the driver to the description of the wanted subject prior to making the stop or should have another legal basis for making the stop.)

(f) Hot Lists. Designation of hot lists to be utilized by the ALPR system shall be made by the ALPR Administrator or his/her designee. Hot lists shall be obtained or compiled from sources as may be consistent with the purposes of the ALPR system set forth in this Policy. Hot lists utilized by the Department's LPR system may be updated by agency sources more frequently than the Department may be uploading them and thus the Department's LPR system will not have access to real time data. Occasionally, there
may be errors in the LPR system's read of a license plate. Therefore, an alert alone shall not be a basis for police action (other than following the vehicle of interest). Prior to
initiation of a stop of a vehicle or other intervention based on an alert, Department
members shall undertake the following:

(1) Verification of status on a Hot List. An officer must receive confirmation, from a Vallejo Police Department Communications Dispatcher or other department computer device, that the license plate is still stolen, wanted, or otherwise of interest before proceeding (absent exigent circumstances).

(2) Visual verification of license plate number. Officers shall visually verify that the license plate of interest matches identically with the image of the license plate number captured (read) by the LPR, including both the alphanumeric characters of the license plate, state of issue, and vehicle descriptors before proceeding. Department members alerted to the fact that an observed motor vehicle's license plate is entered as a Hot Plate (hit) in a specific BOLO (be on the lookout) list are required to make a reasonable effort to confirm that a wanted person is actually in the vehicle and/or that a reasonable basis exists before a Department member would have a lawful basis to stop the vehicle.

(3) Department members will clear all stops from hot list alerts by indicating the positive ALPR Hit, i.e., with an arrest or other enforcement action. If it is not obvious in the text of the call as to the correlation of the ALPR Hit and the arrest, then the Department member shall update with the Communications Dispatcher and original person and/or a crime analyst inputting the vehicle in the hot list (hit).

(4) General Hot Lists (SVS, SFR, and SLR) will be automatically downloaded into the ALPR system a minimum of once a day with the most current data overwriting the old data.

(5) All entries and updates of specific Hot Lists within the ALPR system will be documented by the requesting Department member within the appropriate general offense report. As such, specific Hot Lists shall be approved by the ALPR.

Administrator (or his/her designee) before initial entry within the ALPR system. The updating of such a list within the ALPR system shall thereafter be accomplished pursuant to the approval of the Department member's immediate supervisor. The hits from these data sources should be viewed as informational; created solely to bring the officers attention to specific vehicles that have been associated with criminal activity.

All Hot Plates and suspect information entered into the ALPR system will contain the following information as a minimum:

- Entering Department member's name
- Related case number.
- Short synopsis describing the nature of the originating call

(g) Training. No member of this Department shall operate ALPR equipment or access ALPR data without first completing Department-approved training.

(h) Login/Log-Out Procedure. To ensure proper operation and facilitate oversight of the ALPR system, all users will be required to have individual credentials for access and use of the systems and/or data, which has the ability to be fully audited.

Permitted/Impermissible Uses. The ALPR system, and all data collected, is the property of the Vallejo Police Department. Department personnel may only access and use the ALPR system for official and legitimate law enforcement purposes consistent with this Policy. The following uses of the ALPR system are specifically prohibited:

(1) Invasion of Privacy: Except when done pursuant to a court order such as a search warrant, is a violation of this Policy to utilize the ALPR to record license plates except those of vehicles that are exposed to public view (e.g., vehicles on a public road or street, or that are on private property but whose license plate(s) are visible from a public road, street, or a place to which members of the public have access, such as the parking lot of a shop or other business establishment).

(2) Harassment or Intimidation: It is a violation of this Policy to use the ALPR system to harass and/or intimidate any individual or group.

(3) Use Based on a Protected Characteristic. It is a violation of this policy to use the LPR system or associated scan files or hot lists solely because of a person's, or group's race, gender, religion, political affiliation, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, or other classification protected by law.

(4) Personal Use: It is a violation of this Policy to use the ALPR system or associated scan files or hot lists for any personal purpose.

(5)First Amendment Rights. It is a violation of this policy to use the LPR system or associated scan files or hot lists for the purpose or known effect of infringing upon First Amendment rights.

Anyone who engages in an impermissible use of the ALPR system or associated scan files or hot lists may be subject to:

- criminal prosecution,
- civil liability, and/or
- administrative sanctions, up to and including termination, pursuant to and consistent with the relevant collective bargaining agreements and Department policies.

426.5   DATA COLLECTION AND RETENTION
The Investigations Bureau Captain is responsible for ensuring systems and processes are in place for the proper collection and retention of ALPR data. Data will be transferred from vehicles to the designated storage in accordance with department procedures.

All ALPR data downloaded to the server should be stored for no longer than one year, and in accordance with the established records retention schedule. Thereafter, ALPR data should be purged unless it has become, or it is reasonable to believe it will become, evidence in a criminal or civil action or is subject to a discovery request or other lawful action to produce records. In those circumstances the applicable data should be downloaded from the server onto portable media and booked into evidence.

ALPR vendor, Flock Safety will store the data (data hosting) and ensure proper maintenance and security of data stored in their data towers. Flock Safety will purge their data at the end of the 30 days of storage. However, this will not preclude VPD from maintaining any relevant vehicle data obtained from the system after that period pursuant to the established City of Vallejo retention schedule mentioned above or outlined elsewhere. Relevant vehicle data are scans corresponding to the vehicle of interest on a hot list.

Restrictions on use of ALPR Data: Information gathered or collected, and records retained by Flock Safety cameras or any other VPD ALPR system will not be sold, accessed, or used for any purpose other than legitimate law enforcement or public safety purposes.

426.6   ACCOUNTABILITY AND SAFEGUARDS
All data will be closely safeguarded and protected by both procedural and technological means. The Vallejo Police Department will observe the following safeguards regarding access to and use of stored data (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53):

(a) All non-law enforcement requests for access to stored ALPR data shall be processed in accordance with applicable law.

(b) All ALPR data downloaded to the mobile workstation shall be accessible only through a login/password-protected system capable of documenting all access of information by name, date, and time.

(c) Persons approved to access ALPR data under these guidelines are permitted to access the data for legitimate law enforcement purposes only, such as when the data relate to a specific criminal investigation or department-related civil or administrative action.

(d) Such ALPR data may be released to other authorized and verified law enforcement officials and agencies for legitimate law enforcement purposes.

(e) Every ALPR Detection Browsing Inquiry must be documented by either the associated Vallejo Police case number or incident number, and/or a reason for the inquiry.

For security or data breaches, see the Records Release and Maintenance Policy.

426.7 POLICY

The policy of the Vallejo Police Department is to utilize ALPR technology to capture and store digital license plate data and images while recognizing the established privacy rights of the public.

All data and images gathered by the ALPR are for the official use of this department. Because such data may contain confidential information, it is not open to public review.

The Vallejo Police Department does not permit the sharing of ALPR data gathered by the City or its contractors/subcontractors for purpose of federal immigration enforcement, pursuant to the California Values Act (Government Code § 7282.5; Government Code § 7284.2 et seq) – these federal immigration agencies include Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Patrol (CPB).

426.8 ALPR DATA DETECTION BROWSING AUDITS

It is the responsibility of the Professional Standards Division (PSD) Lieutenant or the Chief's designee to ensure that an audit is conducted of ALPR detection browsing inquiries at least once during each calendar year. The Department will audit a sampling of the ALPR system utilization from the prior 12-month period to verify proper use in accordance with the above- authorized uses. The audit shall randomly select at least 10 detection browsing inquiries conducted by department employees during the preceding six-month period and determine if each inquiry meets the requirements established in policy section 462.6(e).

The audit shall be documented in the form of an internal department memorandum to the Chief of Police. The memorandum shall include any data errors found so that such errors can be corrected. After review by the Chief of Police, the memorandum and any associated documentation shall be filed and retained by PSD.

426.9   RELEASING ALPR DATA

The ALPR data may be shared only with other law enforcement or prosecutorial agencies when there is a need to know, a right to know or legal obligation to provide the information..

> (a)   The agency makes a written request for the ALPR data that includes:
>
>> (1) The name of the agency.
>>
>> (2) The name of the person requesting.
>>
>> (3) The intended purpose of obtaining the information.
>
> (b) The request is reviewed by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee and approved before the request is fulfilled.
>
> (c)   The Chief of Police or the authorized designee will consider the California Values Act (Government Code § 7282.5; Government Code § 7284.2 et seq), before approving the release of ALPR data. The Vallejo Police Department does not permit the sharing of ALPR data gathered by the City or its contractors/subcontractors for purpose of federal immigration enforcement, these federal immigration agencies include Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Patrol (CPB).
>
> (d) The approved request is retained on file. Requests for ALPR data by non-law enforcement or non-prosecutorial agencies will be processed as provided in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy (Civil Code § 1798.90.55).

426.10   TRAINING

The Training Sergeant should ensure that members receive department-approved training for those authorized to use or access the ALPR system (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53).

flock safety™
Let's defeat crime together.™

About Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPR)

The Problem: Violent Crime Is Not Going Away

Nationwide, cities are experiencing a disturbing rise in homicides and violence. The FBI's 2020 Crime Report shows a 30% increase in homicides from 2019 to 2020, the largest single-year increase recorded.

Over two-thirds of the country's most populous cities saw [even more homicides](#) in 2021.

One Solution: Technology that Detects Objective Evidence to Clear More Cases

Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR) capture computer-readable images of license plates and vehicles, allowing officers to compare plate numbers against those of stolen cars or wanted individuals on a crime database like the NCIC.

ALPR devices assist law enforcement in solving crime in two ways:

- Proactive - ALPR devices provide real-time alerts when a vehicle that is stolen or associated with a known suspect is detected.
- Investigative - ALPR cameras help determine whether and which vehicle(s) were at the scene of a crime.

Is ALPR effective ?

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, when employed ethically and objectively, ALPRs are an effective tool for law enforcement, cutting down on the time required for investigations and acting as a force multiplier. In 2011, a study by the Police Executive Research Forum concluded that ALPRs used by the Mesa, Ariz., Police Department resulted in "nearly 3 times as many 'hits' for stolen vehicles, and twice as many vehicle recoveries."

Communities with ALPR systems report crime reductions of up to 70 percent. In some areas, that included a 60 percent reduction in non-residential burglaries, 80 percent reduction in residential burglary, and a 40 percent reduction in robberies.

ALPR Provides Objective Evidence While Protecting Privacy

ALPR does not include facial recognition capabilities and does not capture personally identifiable information (PII). While eyewitnesses and individual officers are subject to inherent human bias, ALPR cameras capture wholly-objective images of vehicles and license plates, providing a clear and actionable investigative lead.

ALPR Use Cases Include:

- AMBER Alerts: License plate readers in metro Atlanta were able to find a vehicle containing a kidnapped one-year-old, who had been taken from his mother at random off the street. The child was recovered unharmed. Some ALPR systems integrate directly with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's AMBER Alert system, sending real-time alerts to officers in seconds. [New information released about 1-year-old's kidnapping]

- Silver Alerts: Knoxville Police were able to locate a missing elderly man who suffers from dementia after he drove away in a family vehicle. ALPR technology has helped solve hundreds of Silver Alerts across the country. [Missing man with dementia found using Flock camera]

- Firearm violence: The Las Vegas Trail, a high-crime area in Fort Worth, TX, saw violent crime decrease by 22% in 2021 compared with the first nine months of 2019. Fort Worth Police attributed this drop partially to the license plate reader system implemented in the neighborhood during the same period of time. [Crime is down 22% in Fort Worth's Las Vegas Trail. How neighbors and police made it safer]

- Organized theft: Grafton, a growing village with a bustling retail district, is dealing with increased organized retail theft – Two-thirds of all the crimes reported to Grafton police in 2020 were retail thefts. Grafton Police have implemented a license plate reader system to identify vehicles that have been involved in thefts or have been stolen themselves. In one week alone, they recovered three stolen vehicles with drivers planning to engage in retail theft. [Losses mount as retailers fight theft rings, accuse online storefronts of doing little to stop resale of stolen goods]

About Flock Safety ALPR

Privacy and Ethics Factsheet

How does Flock Safety keep devices and data secure?

Flock Safety holds itself to the highest level of security. We have implemented the following security policies and features:

- Flock Safety data and footage is encrypted throughout its entire lifecycle. All data is securely stored with AES256 encryption with our cloud provider, Amazon Web Services.
- On-device, data is only stored temporarily for a short time until it is uploaded to the cloud, at which point it is removed automatically from the local device. This means the data is secure from when it is on the Flock Safety device to when it is transferred to the cloud, using a secure connection to Flock Safety servers. While stored in the cloud, all data (both footage and metadata) is fully encrypted at rest.
- Flock Safety defaults to permanently deleting all data after 30 days on a rolling basis, setting a new standard in the industry.

Who has access to data collected by Flock Safety devices?

- Flock Safety's customers own 100% of their data and determine who has access. Flock Safety will never share or sell the data, per our privacy policy.
- With explicit written permission from the customer, Flock Safety does have the ability to grant law enforcement access to specific footage for a short period (24 hours, 48 hours, or however long the customer desires) in the event of an investigation following a crime. Access can only be granted through the approval of the customer.
- Flock Safety has maintenance software in place to measure device performance and image capture quality. This is used to diagnose issues preemptively and schedule service calls in the event of a device malfunction or emergency.

About Flock Safety ALPR

Privacy and Ethics Factsheet

How long does Flock Safety keep data?

- Flock Safety stores footage for only 30 days on a rolling basis by default, after which the footage is automatically hard deleted. The only exception to this is if a democratically-elected governing body or official legislates a different data retention period.

What features do Flock Safety devices have that enable audits and oversight?

- While searching for footage or other evidence on the Flock Safety platform, law enforcement agencies must enter reason codes to verify the legitimacy of the search and create an audit trail.
- Authorized users go through training to properly use our system and communicate with their dispatch teams.
- Flock Safety customers commit not to use the data collected to work with third-party repossession companies, traffic enforcement, revenue collection, unpaid fines, or towing companies. We do not use facial recognition or capture any personally identifiable information such as name, phone number, or address, and we do not work with federal government agencies for immigration enforcement purposes.
- Flock Safety's ALPR Transparency Portal, an optional free feature for all law enforcement customers, is the first public-facing dashboard for law enforcement agencies, city leaders, and local government officials to share policies, usage, and public safety outcomes related to ALPR technology. The ALPR Transparency Portal helps promote transparency and accountability in the use of policing technology in order to build community trust while creating a safer, more equitable society.

Developing your ALPR policy

flock safety

In the ACLU's reports on ALPR, they make recommendations for law enforcement who consider using ALPR. Flock addressed each of these in our system design and implementation.

(1) Short data retention
  (a) Flock by default deletes the data every 30 days, allowing a detective to use the footage for investigative purposes
  (b) Flock is among the shortest of all the state statutes on data retention

(2) No hot lists unless independently verified.
  (a) The FBI curates NCIC hot list plates; the NIJ curates NAMUS; DOJ funds and curates NCMEC.
  (b) Most ALPR policies require hot list verification before action.

(3) No data sharing with 3rd parties.
  (a) Flock does not share with 3rd parties

(4) Consult legal counsel
  (a) Flock welcomes conversations with legal counsel.

(5) Open to public input and receive approval from democratically elected governing bodies
  (a) Flock encourages all agencies to seek democratic approval.

(6) Operate in public and disclose use of ALPR
  (a) Flock developed a transparency portal.

(7) Public audits and reports
  (a) Flock requires an investigative reason to search, and we provide an audit report to system administrators.

Flock's response to common concerns

1. **Short data retention & No sharing with 3rd parties**
   a. Data is by default stored for 30 days and then permanently deleted, unless connected to an active investigation.
   b. You own your data, and we never sell your data.

2. **Public input and approval**
   a. City Council approval
   b. Community town-halls

3. **Transparent communication**
   a. Transparency portal
   b. Annual updates to City Council

4. **Slippery slope arguments**
   a. Democratic authorization, good ALPR policies, and community engagement protects us and our customers from becoming what we want to avoid.

5. **Audits and accountability**
   a. Our system automatically requires a law enforcement reason to search. These can be reported through the transparency portal.

6. **Over-policing**
   a. Violent crime disproportionately affects the BIPOC community (8X more likely to be a victim than white counterparts), and violent crime has increased by more than 30% in the last 2 years.
   b. Indiscriminate evidence. Unbiased, actionable leads
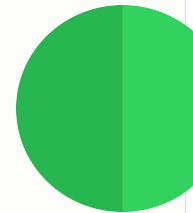
Case Studies

Castle Rock PD

According to C-MATT, Castle Rock was the only Metro-Denver City to reduce auto-theft (with a 25% reduction) in 2020 - 2021, they were also the only Flock Customer
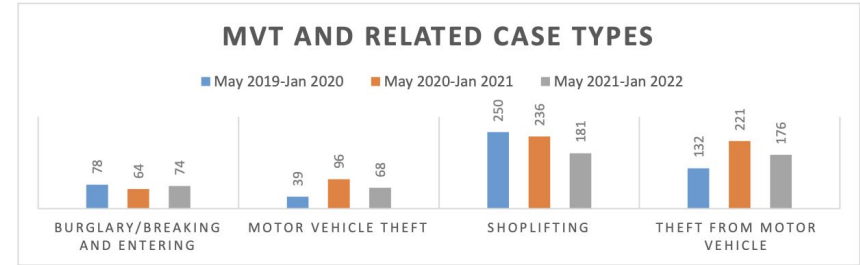
Flock hits resulting in the recovery of a stolen vehicle or eluding:

- 27% resulted in the recovery of other stolen property
- 29% led to the seizure of illegal drugs (966.3 grams)
- 8 guns recovered/seized
- 79 warrants served
- 30% involved a VCT (29 times)
- 5% led to a pursuit and 24 vehicles eluded

In the last 9 months there have been **360 calls for service** mentioning "LPR" in the call notes. Flock facilitated the recovery of **65 stolen vehicles**.

Compared to the same time frame last year...

...vehicle trespasses are **down 20%** and motor vehicle theft is **down 29%**...

MVT AND RELATED CASE TYPES

Legend: May 2019-Jan 2020 | May 2020-Jan 2021 | May 2021-Jan 2022

	May 2019-Jan 2020	May 2020-Jan 2021	May 2021-Jan 2022
BURGLARY/BREAKING AND ENTERING	78	64	74
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	39	96	68
SHOPLIFTING	250	236	181
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	132	221	176

...felony filings are **up 25%**...

CASES CLEARED BY FELONY FILING

MAY 2019-JAN 2020	MAY 2020-JAN 2021	MAY 2021-JAN 2022
142	184	230
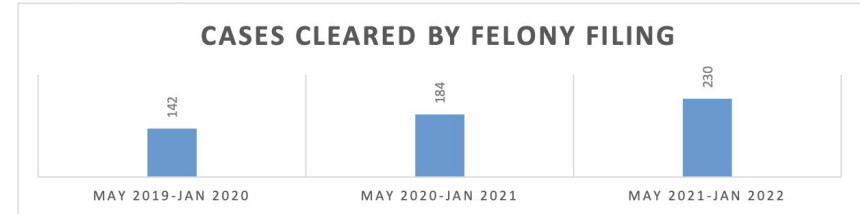
...and drug/weapons charges are up a combined **69%**.

Drug/Weapon Charges

	May 2019-Jan 2020	May 2020-Jan 2021	May 2021-Jan 2022
Weapons Law Violations	14	21	27
Drug/Narcotic Violations	80	53	89
Drug Equipment Violations	46	28	56
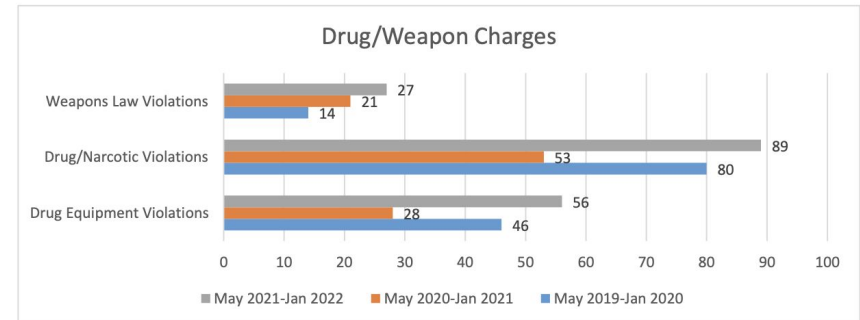
CASE STUDY *Long Term Results*

🛡 **Vacaville PD**   📍 **Vacaville, CA**

33% Decrease in Reported Vehicle Thefts	**35%** Increase in Arrests related to Vehicle Thefts	**2x** Requested increase in # of cameras

Less Vehicle Thefts are happening in Vacaville, and more of them are getting solved

"Word has gotten out about these ALPR programs, and folks that are in the business of stealing cars will typically do a little bit of research and find out that a city that has an ALPR program they then want to avoid"

-Chief Ian Schmutzler

Lexington PD   **Lexington, KY**

In 3 months with 25 Falcons, the Lexington PD had the following outcomes...

Total value of recovered vehicles:
$861,025.00

Total of Success Stories:
98

NCIC Stolen Vehicles:
57

NCIC Warrant:
2

Investigative:
26

NCIC Missing Person:
4

Warrants/Subpoenas Served:
55

Missing Persons Recovered:
11

Guns Seized:
25

# of Charges:
246

# of Persons Charged:
97

CCPD   Cobb County, GA

"[We're] able to react to crimes in progress with actionable evidence obtained quickly and effortlessly by Flock Safety."

- **Chief VanHoozer**

Cobb County drops crime by 60% w/ help of tech

- Fox 5 Atlanta

215 Beat
64% Entering Auto
63% Non-Res Burglary

Precinct 2
35% Entering Auto
40% Robbery

	5 Yr Avg	2018	2019	'18 -> '19 % Change
Robbery	29	23	11	**-52%**
Res Burglary	59	34	27	**-21%**
Non-Res Burglary	23	27	10	**-63%**
Entering Auto	147	138	50	**-64%**
Theft	135	160	150	**-6%**
Vehicle Theft	55	52	45	**-13%**

Crime ~~reduction~~ prevention

Flock ALPR

Perth Amboy PD   **Perth, NJ**

- Results with 6 months of Flock Safety
  - 7 stolen vehicle recoveries
  - 3 stolen plate recoveries
  - 8 fictitious recoveries
  - 10 arrests
  - Assisted with 30 separate investigations for SIU

- In a NYC subway shooting in April of 2022, Flock Safety cameras captured the U-Haul used by the suspect of the shooting, helping detective establish a timeline and location of the suspect that morning prior to the shooting

Suspect Brooklyn subway shooter indicted on two federal counts, including terror charge

🛡️ **Dayton PD**   📍 **Dayton, Ohio**

Before Flock Safety, crime in Dayton was 2.1X the national average.*

Result: 46% reduction in violent crime within target area after 6 months

Problem
- Violent and non-violent crime on the rise
- Community members feel unsafe

Goals
- 29 strategically placed LPR cameras to capture evidence that solves crimes
- Proactively reduce crime to increase quality of life

🛡 **Gwinnett County PD - Central Precinct**

📍 **Gwinnett County, GA**

"2021 is the first time in six years that they have had under 1,000 entering autos."

Central Crime Statistics Comparisons 2020 to 2021

Crime Type	2020	2021	Difference	+/- Percentage
Homicide:	17	10	-7	-41%
Robbery:	135	109	-26	-19%
Aggravated Assault:	259	229	-30	-12%
Aggravated Battery	26	16	-10	-38%
Residential Burglary:	226	204	-22	-10%
Commercial Burglary	190	120	-70	-37%
Entering Autos:	1097	947	-150	-14%
Motor Vehicle Theft:	375	345	-30	-8%

San Marino PD   San Marino, CA

70%

Decrease in residential burglaries

19%

Decrease in part 1 crimes

36%

Requested increase in # of cameras

Police Chief and City Council Attribute Crime Decrease to More Cases Cleared With LPR Cameras

As the number of cleared cases increases, crime correspondingly decreases.

30-Day ROI with Flock Safety

🛡 **WPD**   📍 **Wichita, Kansas**

First Camera Installed

November 5, 2020

49 Arrests Made

November 30, 2020

53 Stolen Vehicles, 32 Stolen Plates Recovered

December 4, 2020

11 Stolen Vehicles Recovered

November 6, 2020

$496,000 reached in Vehicle Recoveries

December 1, 2020

⭐ **Wichita, KS PD**

197	vehicles recovered
88	stolen plates
$1.9M	in vehicle recoveries
211	arrests, mostly felonies
28	guns seized
1 lb+	of meth
5 lbs+	of marijuana and other drugs

*Stats are from November 2020 - May 2021

"One of the most impactful technologies we've ever had, period."

"Flat out solving unsolvable crimes because of it."

"Systemic type of positivity about Flock."

-Lt. Casey Slaughter

Case Study: *Auto Theft*

Yakima, PD   **Yakima, WA**

- Avg # of Recovered Vehicles is 58.5 per year (past 4 years)

- Since Flock went live (69 days ago) it has gone up to **89 recovered stolen vehicles**

- Average rate of recovered stolen vehicles over past 4 years is 55.6% since Flock went live it has gone up to 78.76%

- Flock led to 8 arrests in 69 days

Transparency Highlight: Lexington, KY

Home / Public safety / Police / Transparency
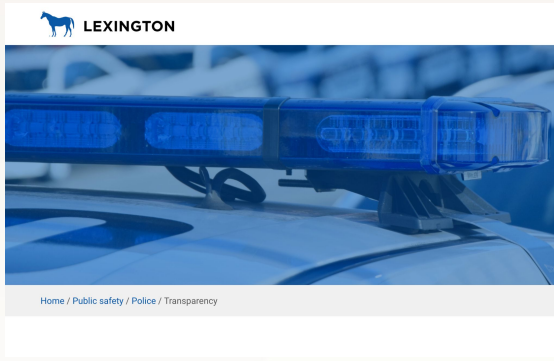
Lexington, Kentucky PD has robust Transparency Portal:

- Easily understandable and divided into sections by subject matter.
- Has a subsection dedicated to **License Plate Readers**
  - Video Archive of public approval process.
  - License Plate Reader Policy
  - License Plate Reader Statistics (Frequently updated)
  - Audit Report
  - Section on recovery of Stolen Vehicle Success
  - FAQ Section

Transparency + Insights
Promote the ethical use of public safety technology

Transparency Portal
- Customizable for each agency
- Display technology policies
- Publish usage metrics
- Share downloadable Search audits

Insights Dashboard
- Measure crime patterns
- Audit Search history

Examples
- Click here for Morgan Hill PD
- Click here for Vallejo PD

Vallejo CA PD
Transparency Portal
Last Updated: Tue Nov 16 2021

Overview

Vallejo CA PD uses Flock Safety technology to capture objective evidence without compromising on individual privacy. Vallejo CA PD utilizes retroactive search to solve crimes after they've occurred. Additionally, Vallejo CA PD utilizes real time alerting of hotlist vehicles to capture wanted criminals. In an effort to ensure proper usage and guardrails in place, they have made the below policies and usage statistics available to the public.

Policies

What's Detected
License Plates, Vehicles

What's Not Detected
Facial recognition, People, Gender, Race

Acceptable Use Policy
Data is used for law enforcement purposes only. Data is owned by Vallejo CA PD and is never sold to 3rd parties.

Prohibited Uses
Immigration enforcement, traffic enforcement, harrassment or intimidation, usage based solely on a protected class (i.e. race, sex, religion), Personal use.
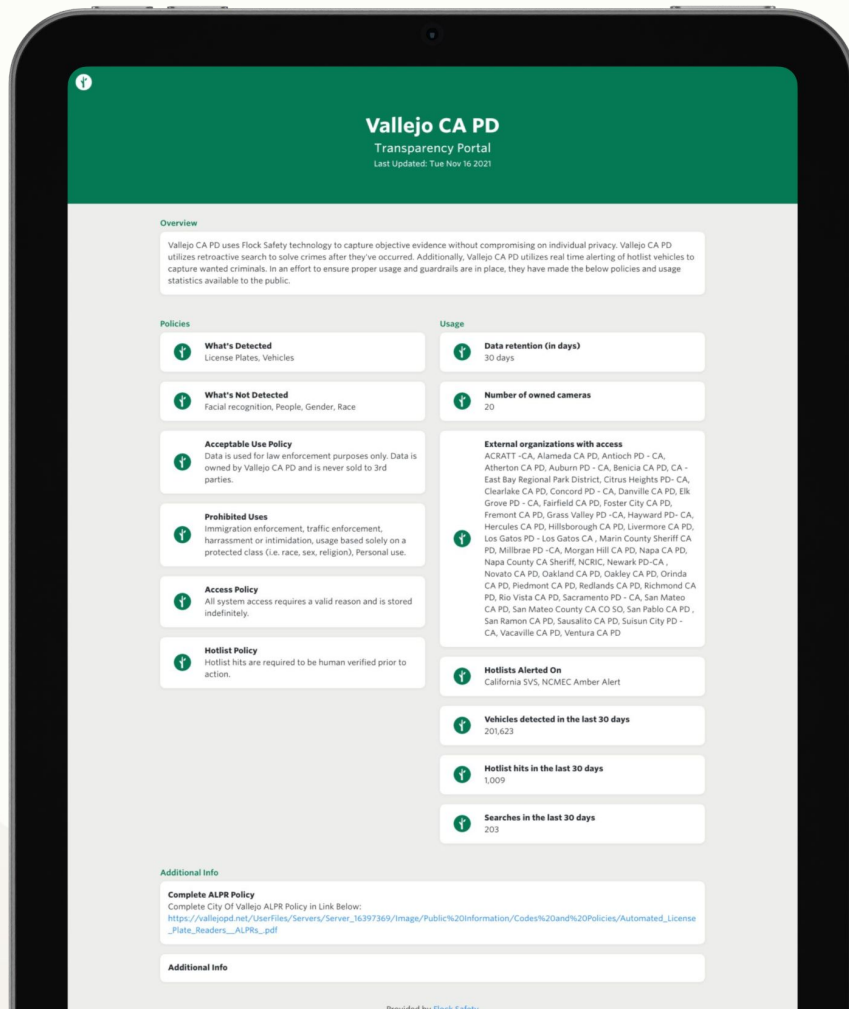
Access Policy
All system access requires a valid reason and is stored indefinitely.

Hotlist Policy
Hotlist hits are required to be human verified prior to action.

Usage

Data retention (in days)
30 days

Number of owned cameras
20

External organizations with access
ACRATT -CA, Alameda CA PD, Antioch PD - CA, Atherton CA PD, Auburn PD - CA, Benicia CA PD, CA - East Bay Regional Park District, Citrus Heights PD- CA, Clearlake CA PD, Concord PD - CA, Danville CA PD, Elk Grove PD - CA, Fairfield CA PD, Foster City CA PD, Fremont CA PD, Grass Valley PD -CA, Hayward PD- CA, Hercules CA PD, Hillsborough CA PD, Livermore CA PD, Los Gatos PD - Los Gatos CA , Marin County Sheriff CA PD, Millbrae PD -CA, Morgan Hill CA PD, Napa CA PD, Napa County CA Sheriff, NCRIC, Newark PD-CA , Novato CA PD, Oakland CA PD, Oakley CA PD, Orinda CA PD, Piedmont CA PD, Redlands CA PD, Richmond CA PD, Rio Vista CA PD, Sacramento PD - CA, San Mateo CA PD, San Mateo County CA CO SO, San Pablo CA PD , San Ramon CA PD, Sausalito CA PD, Suisun City PD - CA, Vacaville CA PD, Ventura CA PD

Hotlists Alerted On
California 5VS, NCMEC Amber Alert

Vehicles detected in the last 30 days
201,623

Hotlist hits in the last 30 days
1,009

Searches in the last 30 days
203

Additional Info

Complete ALPR Policy
Complete City Of Vallejo ALPR Policy in Link Below:
https://vallejopd.net/UserFiles/Servers/Server_16397369/Image/Public%20Information/Codes%20and%20Policies/Automated_License
_Plate_Readers__ALPRs_.pdf

Additional Info

Provided by Flock Safety

Piedmont CA PD

Transparency Portal

Last Updated: Thu Dec 22 2022

Overview

The Piedmont Police Department uses Flock Safety's Operating System to capture objective evidence without compromising on individual privacy. Piedmont PD utilizes retroactive search to solve crimes after they've occurred. Additionally, PPD utilizes real-time alerting of hotlist vehicles to capture wanted criminals. In an effort to be open with the public to demonstrate our proper usage and communicate what guardrails are in place, we have made the below policies and usage statistics available to the public.

Policies

What's Detected
Vehicles, License Plates

What's Not Detected
Facial recognition, People, Gender, Race

Acceptable Use Policy
Data is used for law enforcement purposes only. Data is owned by Piedmont PD and is never sold to 3rd parties.

Prohibited Uses
Immigration enforcement, traffic enforcement, harrassment or intimidation, usage based solely on a protected class (i.e. race, sex, religion), Personal use.

Access Policy
All system access requires a valid case number and is stored indefinitely. This data is regularly audited every 90 days.

Hotlist Policy
Hotlist hits are required to be human verified prior to action.

Usage

Data retention
60 days

Number of owned cameras
39

External agencies who have access
ACRATT -CA, Alameda CA PD, Albany CA PD, Antioch PD - CA, Atherton CA PD, Benicia CA PD, Campbell CA PD, Citrus Heights PD- CA, City of Millbrae CA (SMCSO), Colma CA PD, Concord CA PD, Daly City CA PD, Danville CA PD, Dixon CA PD, East Bay Parks CA PD, El Cerrito CA PD, Elk Grove CA PD, Fairfield CA PD, Fremont CA PD, Hayward CA PD, Hercules CA PD, Hillsborough CA PD, Livermore CA PD, Lodi CA PD, Los Gatos Monte Sereno PD - CA, Marin County CA SO, Milpitas CA PD, Morgan Hill CA PD, Napa County CA SO, NCRIC, Newark CA PD , Novato CA PD, Oakland CA PD, Oakley CA PD, Orinda CA PD, Pinole CA PD, Pleasanton CA PD, Redwood City CA PD, Richmond CA PD, Rio Vista CA PD, Rocklin CA PD, San Bruno CA PD, San Leandro PD CA, San Mateo CA PD, San Mateo County CA SO, San Pablo CA PD , San Ramon CA PD, Santa Clara PD - CA, Santa Maria CA PD, Sausalito CA PD, Solano County CA SO, Tracy CA PD, Vacaville CA PD, Vallejo CA PD, Walnut Creek CA PD

Hotlists Alerted On
NCIC, California SVS, NCMEC Amber Alert

Vehicles detected in the last 30 days
162,728

Hotlist hits in the last 30 days
721

Searches in the last 30 days
63

Search Audit
[Download CSV](#)

Additional Info

Full ALPR Policy
Piedmont PD's full ALPR policy can be found at the following link:
https://www.ci.piedmont.ca.us/UserFiles/Servers/Server_13659739/File/Government/Departments/Police%20Department/Automated_License_Plate_Readers__ALPRs_%20(5).pdf

Disclaimer
The Piedmont Police Department is in the process of transitioning all of its cameras to Flock Safety and so the ALPR data reflected in the Transparency Portal is not reflective of all the data the Department is collecting.

Provided by [Flock Safety](#)

California Public Customer SB34 Information & Policy Template

1. Acknowledgements

1.1 Acknowledgements. Customer acknowledges that:

- As between Customer and Flock Safety, Customer is the owner of the ALPR data captured by the cameras in Customer's system.
- Flock Safety is responsible for securely storing and maintaining the ALPR data for Customer on Flock Safety's servers in compliance with applicable law.
- Customer is responsible for accessing and using the ALPR data and Services in compliance with applicable law, including California's requirements under California Senate Bill 34 (SB 34) regarding the operation and use of ALPR technology.
- To help familiarize Customer with the requirements of SB 34, Flock Safety is providing a summary of key areas in this Addendum, but Customer is ultimately responsible for developing and implementing its own appropriate compliance procedures.
- Flock Safety is a developer and provider of ALPR technology, and is not providing Customer with legal or regulatory compliance advice. The information and sample policy in this Addendum is for general informational purposes and may not constitute the most up-to-date information available. Flock Safety encourages Customer to stay up-to-date on its compliance requirements and to contact its attorney with questions about any particular legal matter.

1.2 Link to full text of California SB 34
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB34

2. Key Elements for ALPR Usage and Privacy Policy

2.1 The authorized purpose for using the ALPR system and collecting, accessing or using ALPR data.

2.2 A description of the job title or other designation of the employees and independent contractors who are authorized to use or access the ALPR system, or to collect the ALPR data.

2.3 The training requirements for the employees and independent contractors authorized to use or access the ALPR system, or to collect the ALPR data.

2.4 A description of how the ALPR system will be monitored to ensure the security of the information and compliance with applicable privacy laws.

2.5 The purposes of, process for, and restrictions on the sale, sharing or transfer of ALPR data.

2.6 The length of time ALPR data will be retained, and the process for determining if and when to destroy retained ALPR data.

3. Outline of a typical SB 34 ALPR End-User Policy for customer's consideration

What is it: Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR or LPR) captures and stores digital images of license plates, and uses character recognition to identify and store plate characters. The system creates a searchable computerized database resulting from the mobile and fixed cameras at _____. The ALPR system data includes license plate number as well the date, time and location when the image was collected.

Purpose: Identification of vehicles entering _____ will enhance security and safety of _____.

Training: ALPR operators will receive initial training from the ALPR technology vendor (Flock Safety) on the procedure and proper use of the system prior to being granted access to the ALPR system; each user will also receive annual refresher training from the assistant director or designee.

Access: The _____ will be the custodian and head administrator of the ALPR systems and its operation. The only individuals who have access and ability to query data in the system are:

_____ Police Department/Sheriff's Office
- Detectives
- Patrol Officers

All logins and queries will be stored and monitored including:
- Username
- Date
- Time
- Purpose of query
- License plate and other elements used to query the system

These data points will be stored, the _____ or their designee will also run periodic audits to ensure access was made by authorized persons for legitimate purposes.

Information Collected: Information collected by the ALPR system is as follows:

For ALPR:
- License plate image captured
- Vehicle image captured
- License plate number
- License plate state
- Date
- Time
- Location

Security: We use administrative, operational, technical and physical safeguards to protect ALPR information from unauthorized access, use, destruction, modification or disclosure.

Administrative: Username and password protected access to the LPR system. Monitoring and auditing usage of database.

Operational: Training and proper use and secure practices when using LPR and its database.

Physical: Secure storage of computers with access to database, and secure off-site database.

Technical: All information is encrypted in transit from camera to cloud storage and encrypted at rest in the cloud.

In the very unlikely event of an information breach, all individuals who are believed to be affected or have their information compromised will be notified by _____.

Quality Assurance: ALPR is automated so the license plate images and details of collection are included in the system without review. Although infrequent, license plate translation may be incomplete or inaccurate. The _____ or their designee will ensure accuracy and correct license plate translation errors when identified. Users will also confirm the computer translation prior to taking any action based on ALPR results.

Flock Safety, the ALPR vendor will store the data (data hosting) and ensure proper maintenance and security of data stored in their data towers. Flock Safety will also be in charge of purging data at the end of the 30 days of storage.

Restrictions on use of ALPR Data: Information gathered or collected and records retained by _____ will not be sold, accessed or used for any purpose other than legitimate law enforcement or public safety purposes.

We will only share information with:
- Law enforcement who we have chosen to share with within the Flock Safety system
- _____

Data Retention: License plates will be stored in the system for no longer than 30 days.

Privacy: The images stored in the system are collected from areas visible to the public where there is no reasonable expectation of privacy. License plate image and affiliated data will be purged after a 30 day period.

This policy governs the Automated License Plate Recognition System (ALPR System or ALPR) operated by _____.