Flock Safety System

Prepared by the Bel Aire Police Department

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The Flock Safety Camera Automatic License Palate Reader (ALPR)

Flock systems are used by:
- Neighborhoods: Flock cameras are owned and operated by HOA's, Neighborhood Associations, who work with law enforcement to capture objective evidence needed to reduce crime rates, improve neighborhood security, and protect home values. (Northbrook at 39th and Woodlawn has 1).
- Law Enforcement: Flock cameras help law enforcement to develop that first lead to solve what used to be unsolvable crime. Thousands of law enforcement agencies across the country use Flock's ALPR.
- Businesses: Hundreds of retailers, corporate campuses, hotels, hospitals, and other commercial properties across the country use Flock ALPR cameras to reduce crime, improve the customer experience and keep their employees safe.
- Residential Real Estate groups and Improvement Districts: Flock ALPR cameras help reduce crime, improve community security and protect investments.
- School Districts: The Flock ALPR cameras reduce crime, improve campus security and promote safety for students, teachers and visitors to the campuses.
- Builders: The Flock ALPR cameras have proven to help reduce material theft, improve job site security and protect the investment of developers.

What does this system do?
  - The Flock cameras gather objective evidence and facts about vehicles, not people.
  - Alerts law enforcement of wanted vehicles
  - The Flock system adheres to all State and Federal laws.
  - The Flock cameras are able to identify vehicles and organize them into categories. By filtering the body types, the user can identify specific vehicles used in criminal events.
  - In addition to capturing the tag, the system collects the: Make, Model, Color, Resident or non-resident vehicle
  - Timestamp
  - Type of plate (standard vs. temporary)
  - Damage or alterations (i.e. broken taillights, after-market wheels, stickers)

- Maintains the footage for 30 days, then the footage is purged and unrecoverable.
    - The footage can be downloaded as part of a case investigation and retained elsewhere by the law enforcement agency.
- The Flock Software package allows investigators to go back in time to find criminal suspects and develop viable leads the same as if a police officer were standing in the same spot writing down tag numbers and vehicle descriptions at the time the vehicle passed.

- What will it not do?
    - The Flock cameras are not a tool for traffic enforcement.
    - The Flock cameras are NOT facial recognition cameras.
    - The Flock cameras are not tied to Personal Identifying information.
    - The Flock cameras do not gather information about people.
    - The Flock cameras do not detect speed.
    - The Flock cameras are not Red Light Cameras.
    - The Flock cameras are not security cameras.
    - The Flock cameras do not take photos of the occupants of a vehicle. The photos are of the back of the vehicle only.
    - Over photograph – The recording activity by the Flock cameras is intentionally narrow. The motion detection works up to 75 feet, and the field of view at that distance is ~20 feet wide, or about 1.5 lanes of traffic.
    - The footage collected by the Flock cameras is owned by the Agency/City and will never be sold or shared by Flock.
    - The Flock Cameras do not capture two-way traffic. The cameras are placed to only capture vehicles going away from the cameras.

Automatic License Plate Reader technology is not new!

Bel Aire City Hall and Bel Aire Recreation Center have security cameras to monitor activity 24/7. Bel Aire Police vehicles and Bel Aire Police Officers carry cameras. In all instances they have proven very valuable. This does not take into account the hundreds of doorbell cameras and security cameras throughout the City.

Flock System in Bel Aire

Two were installed on a trial basis for 45 days. There was no cost to install, nor will there be a cost to remove. If the decision is to keep them, there is no cost for the equipment. The equipment is acquired as a service so therefore each camera has annual service fee of $2,500/camera. If the city wanted to stop the program mid-contract, there is a $350 per camera fee to have them removed.

Flock Software

The software and storage are included in the service package. The footage and software are maintained by Flock which is encrypted throughout its entire lifecycle. The footage is secure from when it is on the camera to when it is transferred to the cloud. All data, both footage and metadata, is encrypted at rest using AES256 encryption (the level of encryption used by the Federal Government and NSA) with the cloud provider, Amazon Web Services. All data is securely stored with AES256 encryption with our cloud provider, Amazon Web Services. The footage is only stored temporarily on the device until it has been uploaded to the AWS cloud, at which point it is removed from the local device.

The monitoring of the system is automated. When there is a "hit", an alert is sent to our officers. This usually occurs withing 10 - 20 seconds after the tag has passed a camera. Officers with the system running on their vehicle will receive an alert. The officer will be able to see basic information such as below. The officers can then move into the area in an effort to locate the tag of interest.

Basic information received:
- Plate number
- Source of the information, i.e. NCIC
- Camera location that viewed the tag
- The topic, i.e, the list below
- Date and time the tag was viewed
- Photos of the back of the vehicle the tag is on and of the tag

The following list is what would identify as a hit.
- People under Supervised Release
- People who have an active Protection Order
- Protective Interest (People who have threatened protected persons, i.e., President, Supreme Court Justices, Senators, etc.)
- People who are registered as Violent Persons

- Missing Persons
- Immigration Violators
- CPIC Data Records (Canadian Police Information Center)
- Gang or Suspected Terrorists
- People with Warrants that have been entered the database.
- Stolen Vehicles
- Stolen Plates
- Registered Sex Offenders
- People under Extreme Risk Protection Orders
- Amber Alerts
- Missing Children

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