



LEXINGTON POLICE
DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE
4/11/2024

EFFECTIVE DATE

NUMBER

<p>TO: Chief Lawrence Weathers Chief of Police</p>	<p>SUBJECT: Quarterly Flock Audit January - March 2024</p>
<p>FROM: Lt. David M. Richardson Bureau of Investigations - Intelligence Unit</p>	

An audit of the department ALPR system, FLOCK, was conducted on Thursday April 11th, 2024 in accordance with General Order 2022-01, License Plate Readers.

As of March 31, 2024, 100 ALPR cameras are being managed by the Lexington Police Department.

A review of the monthly usage produced the below data:

January 2024

219 Users conducted a Search in the System
7661 Total searches were conducted and all listed a reason for the search
1327 Unique search reasons

February 2024

206 Users conducted a search in the system
5915 Total searches were conducted and all listed a reason for the search
853 Unique search reasons

March 2024

208 Users conducted a search in the system
6162 Total searches were conducted and all listed a reason for the search
1061 Unique search reasons

Total Searches vs. Unique Search Reason

Total Searches account for each individual search submitted by a user in the ALPR system. Unique searches is an evaluation of total searches narrowed into a specific reason/category/case number. For example the ALPR system may be searched multiple times throughout a shift or duration of an investigation by one or more Officer(s)/Detective(s) as they are attempting to locate a specific vehicle. The ALPR system tracks each individual user's searches which can be identified uniquely to a specific case number or investigative reason and thus accounts for all users searching the same vehicle. This accounts for the difference in total searches vs unique searches in the ALPR system.

A review of the 3241 unique search reasons for this quarter indicated that twelve users did not provide sufficient detail in the search field of their submission. These searches were further analyzed against other searches conducted in the Flock ALPR system and it was determined that other users had searched the same registration plate and provided more context for the search. The Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system was also reviewed and revealed the registration plate had been entered into a call for service and the officer was attempting to gain additional information during their investigation. This audit further determined that all of these searches were for legitimate Law Enforcement purposes.

It was also discovered that oftentimes an invalid search reason is due to the user prematurely hitting the submission button before all data has been inputted into the search reason field. Users are unable to update the reason for their search once the search is executed as an audit protection component of the system. Since we have identified this through our audit we have submitted a recommendation to Flock to consider adding a supplemental field for search addition/correction. It would not remove the original entry where an error may have been made, however it would allow for additional information or context to be added to support audits. Until that feature is made available, we have directed user in our department wide refresher training to forward an email to the Intelligence Lieutenant in circumstances where they have recognized a search submission error/mistake to allow for appropriate tracking and documenting of the issue.

The users identified in this audit who did not provide sufficient reason in the search field as required, have received supplemental retraining at the Bureau level. In addition to the individual re-training, the Intelligence Unit has proactively provided a briefing update regarding policy standards for the Flock ALPR system and also developed additional refresher training to be completed for the entire department in May 2024. These efforts are in place for user compliance, to ensure integrity of the ALPR program, and protect community trust.

Quarterly Statistics

	Last Quarter
Total value of recovered vehicles:	\$336,822.00
Total of Success Stories reported:	33
Stolen Vehicles recovered:	25
Stolen Plates recovered:	0
Investigative leads:	1
Warrants/Subpoenas Served:	21
Missing Persons Recovered:	2
Guns Seized:	4
# of Charges:	64
# of Persons Charged:	45

Hot List Entries

The Flock ALPR system provides the ability to create “Hot List” entries, which would allow users to create an individual list of vehicles they are searching for in the system. During the implementation phase of Flock in 2022, the executive decision was made for increased

oversight and the department restricted “Hot List” entry creations to the Intelligence Unit only, thus eliminating individual “hot lists”. All “Hot List” entries require a submission authorization to the Intelligence Unit which is vetted through two layers of supervision. If a “Hot List” request is determined to meet department policy/standards, the entry is created for a maximum of 7 days before it is automatically deleted. This allows for improved management of the system and additional supervisory review. This process is audited by the LPR administrator and independently by the Public Integrity Unit.

A review of the “Hot List” Entries during this audit shows only current active investigations are entered into an active “Hot List” and no stale data is remains in the system.