

Virginia FOIA Request

Flock Safety ALPR Operations, Policies, Data Sharing, and Law-Enforcement Outcomes

PUBLIC COPY

Personal email, phone/contact information, and the sender's extended signature block have been redacted for publication. No substantive FOIA request language has been removed.

From: Mike Joyce [PERSONAL EMAIL REDACTED]
To: Sheriff Lee S. Bailey <lsbailey@newkent-va.us>
Sent: August 12, 2026 - 6:17 PM EDT
Subject: Virginia FOIA Request - Flock Safety ALPR Operations, Policies, Data Sharing, and Law-Enforcement Outcomes

Sheriff Bailey,

Pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, I respectfully request electronic copies of records concerning the New Kent County Sheriff's Office use of Flock Safety automated license plate reader (ALPR) technology, from the initial deployment of the system through August 12, 2026.

I am intentionally limiting this request to Sheriff's Office operational records, policies, data-access practices, and documented law-enforcement outcomes. I am submitting a separate request to New Kent County for procurement, contracts, invoices, grant funding, and financial records.

To keep this request focused and minimize search and production costs, I am requesting the following:

1. Policies and Procedures

Please provide the current and any prior Sheriff's Office policies, general orders, standard operating procedures, training materials, or written guidance governing:

- use of Flock Safety or other automated license plate reader systems;
- authorized purposes for conducting ALPR searches;
- supervisory approval requirements, if any;
- data retention and deletion;
- auditing and misuse prevention;
- sharing of ALPR information with other agencies; and
- restrictions on use of the system.

2. System Capabilities

Please provide records sufficient to identify the Flock Safety functions or search capabilities currently available to the New Kent County Sheriff's Office, including, if applicable:

- license plate searches;

- vehicle make, model, color, or body-type searches;
- vehicle characteristic or "Vehicle Signature" searches;"fingerPrint"
- FreeForm or natural-language vehicle searches;
- hot-list alerts;
- National Crime Information Center or other law-enforcement database integrations; and
- any other analytical or search capabilities enabled for New Kent users.

I am not requesting proprietary technical source code or security credentials.

3. Camera Deployment

Please provide records sufficient to show:

- the total number of Flock/ALPR cameras currently deployed;
- the number added, removed, or deactivated since initial deployment;
- the approximate installation date of each camera; and
- the roadway, general location, or deployment area associated with each camera.

If precise camera locations are withheld pursuant to an applicable exemption, please provide the reasonably segregable information identifying the total number of cameras and their general deployment areas.

4. Data Retention, Access, and Sharing

Please provide records sufficient to show:

- the retention period for ALPR records;
- which New Kent Sheriff's Office personnel or units are authorized to access the system;
- which outside law-enforcement agencies or organizations currently have direct or shared access to New Kent's Flock data;
- which outside ALPR networks or agencies New Kent personnel can search;
- any current memoranda of understanding, data-sharing agreements, or written agreements governing such access; and
- any existing aggregate audit reports, access reports, or system-use summaries showing how frequently the system has been searched or accessed.

I am not requesting individual officers' passwords, credentials, or information that would compromise system security.

5. Alerts and Documented Law-Enforcement Outcomes

Please provide any existing reports, summaries, spreadsheets, dashboards, statistics, grant reports, presentations, or other records showing, by year if available:

- total Flock alerts or hot-list hits;
- stolen vehicles located or recovered;

- wanted persons located;
- missing or endangered persons located;
- arrests resulting from or materially assisted by Flock information;
- criminal charges resulting from or materially assisted by Flock information;
- stolen property recovered;
- investigations in which Flock information provided a material investigative lead;
- cases cleared or solved in which Flock information was used; and
- any other documented law-enforcement outcomes attributed to use of the system.

I am not asking the Sheriff's Office to create a new statistical report if one does not already exist.

If no consolidated report exists, I request records sufficient to identify responsive incidents through an existing case number, incident number, offense category, date, and general disposition where that information can be produced without requiring review or production of complete investigative files.

6. Crime Prevention and Deterrence

Please provide any existing report, study, memorandum, presentation, grant report, analysis, correspondence, or other record in which the Sheriff's Office has:

- measured crime reduction associated with Flock deployment;
- evaluated whether the system has prevented or deterred crime;
- compared crime rates or offense patterns before and after deployment;
- represented that Flock has prevented or deterred a specific crime or category of crime; or
- relied upon crime-prevention, deterrence, or effectiveness claims to support continuation or expansion of the program.

If the Sheriff's Office maintains no existing records quantifying or measuring crimes prevented or deterred by Flock, a response stating that no responsive records were identified would be sufficient.

7. Annual or Program Reviews

Please provide any existing annual review, program evaluation, command-staff briefing, presentation, memorandum, grant performance report, or similar assessment discussing the effectiveness, benefits, limitations, expansion, or continued use of the Flock ALPR program.

I request the records electronically in their existing format whenever possible.

To reduce the cost of production, please use existing summaries, reports, spreadsheets, exports, dashboards, and program-level records wherever available rather than reviewing individual investigative files. Please exclude duplicate records and routine emails merely transmitting an attachment that is otherwise being produced.

If one portion of this request would substantially increase the cost, please process the readily available and lower-cost portions first and advise me regarding the more burdensome portion.

Please provide a cost estimate before proceeding if the anticipated cost will exceed \$50, and please do not incur costs above \$50 without my written authorization.

If any responsive record is withheld in whole or in part, please provide all reasonably segregable non-exempt portions and identify the specific statutory exemption relied upon for each category of information withheld.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Respectfully,

Mike Joyce

[PERSONAL / PROFESSIONAL SIGNATURE BLOCK REDACTED FOR PUBLICATION]

P.S. For context, I have consistently supported increasing the number of deputies serving New Kent County. I believe visible law-enforcement presence, more deputies, more patrols, and more community engagement are a stronger deterrent than simply adding more surveillance technology. Maybe that is the military mindset in me, but command presence matters. A deputy can deter, intervene, respond, de-escalate, and serve the community in real time. A camera may be a useful tool, but at the end of the day, it is still just a camera.