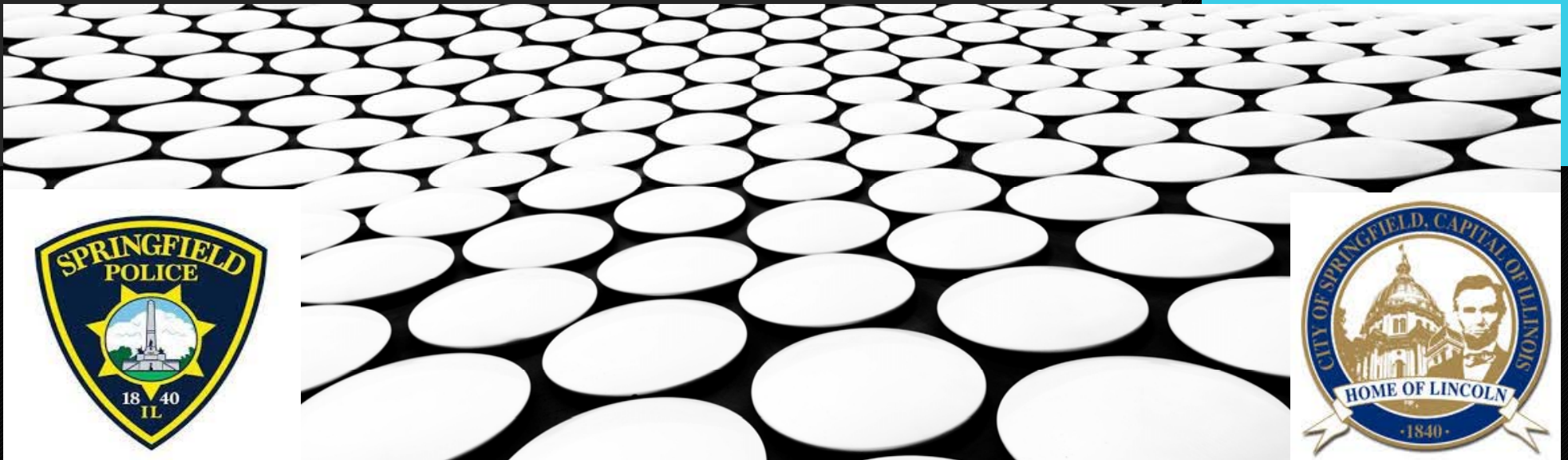


AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READERS (ALPRs)

Springfield Police Department



The Ins and Outs of ALPRs

WHAT ARE AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READERS

AND

HOW DO THEY WORK?

What They ARE:

- Additional layer of Technology used to substantially increase the likelihood of solving crime that has a mobile component
- Motion activated cameras
- Specifically aimed towards traffic flows to capture images of the rear of the vehicle including the license plate
- Computer AI recognizes the plate and vehicle type, and makes this information available for searches

What They Are NOT:

- Surveillance Cameras (pan/tilt/zoom)
- Red Light Cameras
- Speed Cameras
- Used for registration/city ordinance violations
- Used for other than law enforcement/investigative purposes

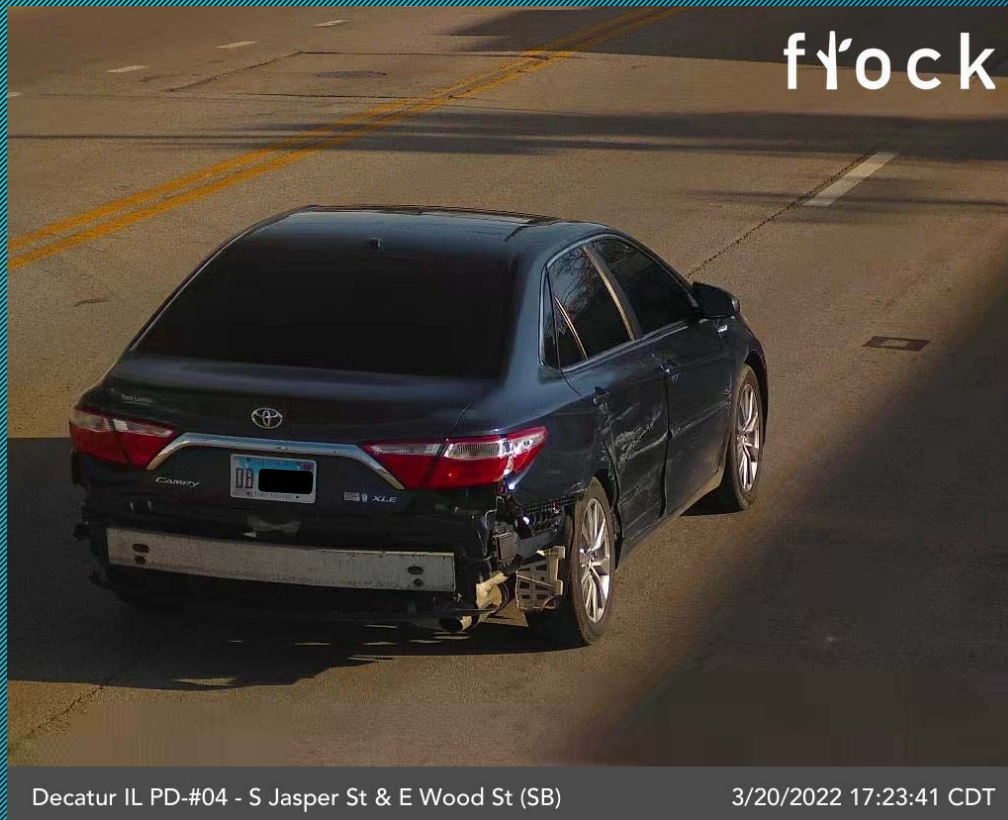
What They Do

- Recognize, photograph, & interpret license plates in real time.
- Check through local, state, and federal hotlists.
- Automate without human involvement/bias.
- Capture and disseminate actionable data in real time.

What They Capture

- Vehicle license plate by state and type
- Vehicle make and model
- Vehicle color
- The focus of the cameras are the vehicles and registration, not on the driver or passenger.

Example of Image Capture



Decatur IL PD-#04 - S Jasper St & E Wood St (SB)

3/20/2022 17:23:41 CDT

Example of Installation Types



**Solar &
Existing Pole**



**Electric &
Existing Pole**



**Solar &
Flock Pole**

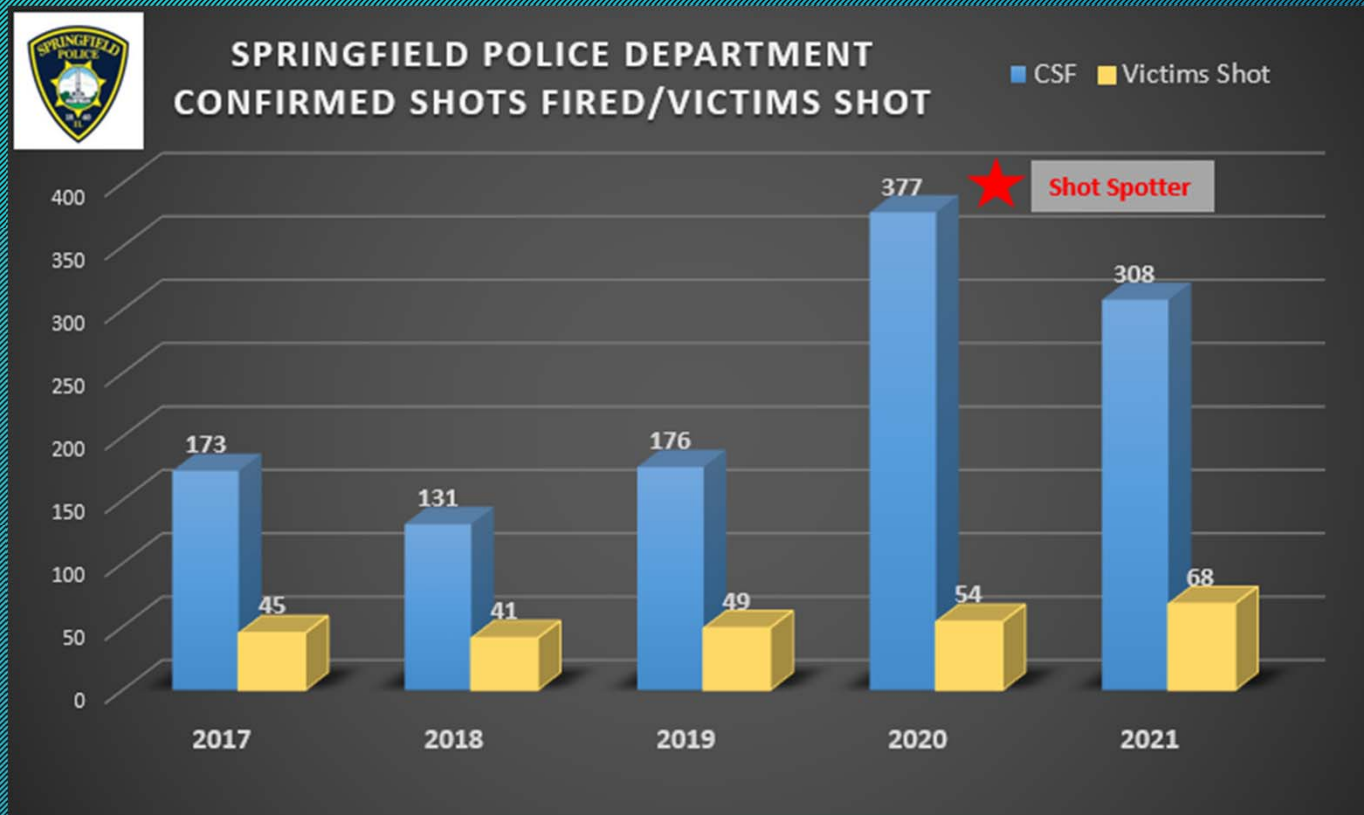
How They Are Used

- “HOT LIST”
 - ✓ LEADS - State of Illinois
 - ✓ NCIC - Federal
 - ✓ Local hot list
- Does NOT check Secretary of State
- Investigations, searching for suspect vehicles after the crime, either a specific vehicle or a make/model/type of vehicle

Why They Are Used

- Many of our crimes involve a mobile component
 - Shootings
 - Armed Robberies
 - Retail Thefts
 - Residential and Commercial Burglaries
 - Hit and Run Accidents

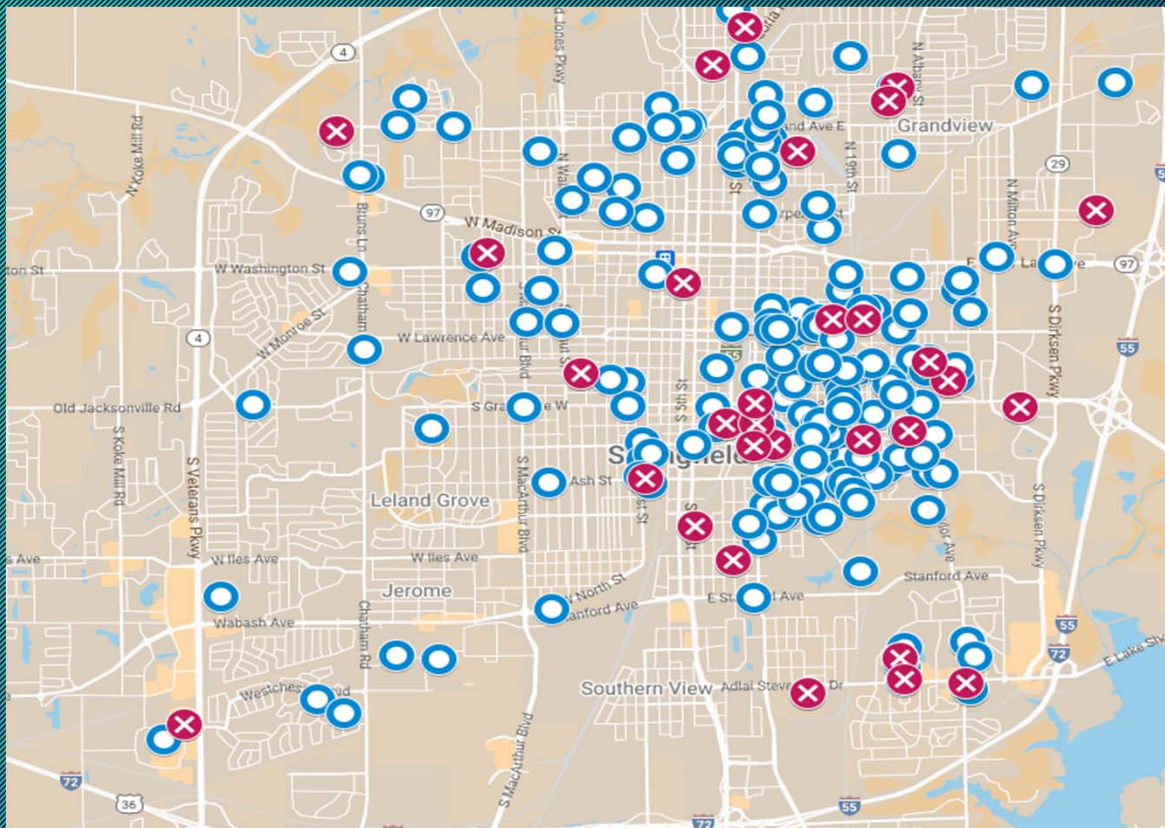
Springfield Shooting Incidents 2017-2021



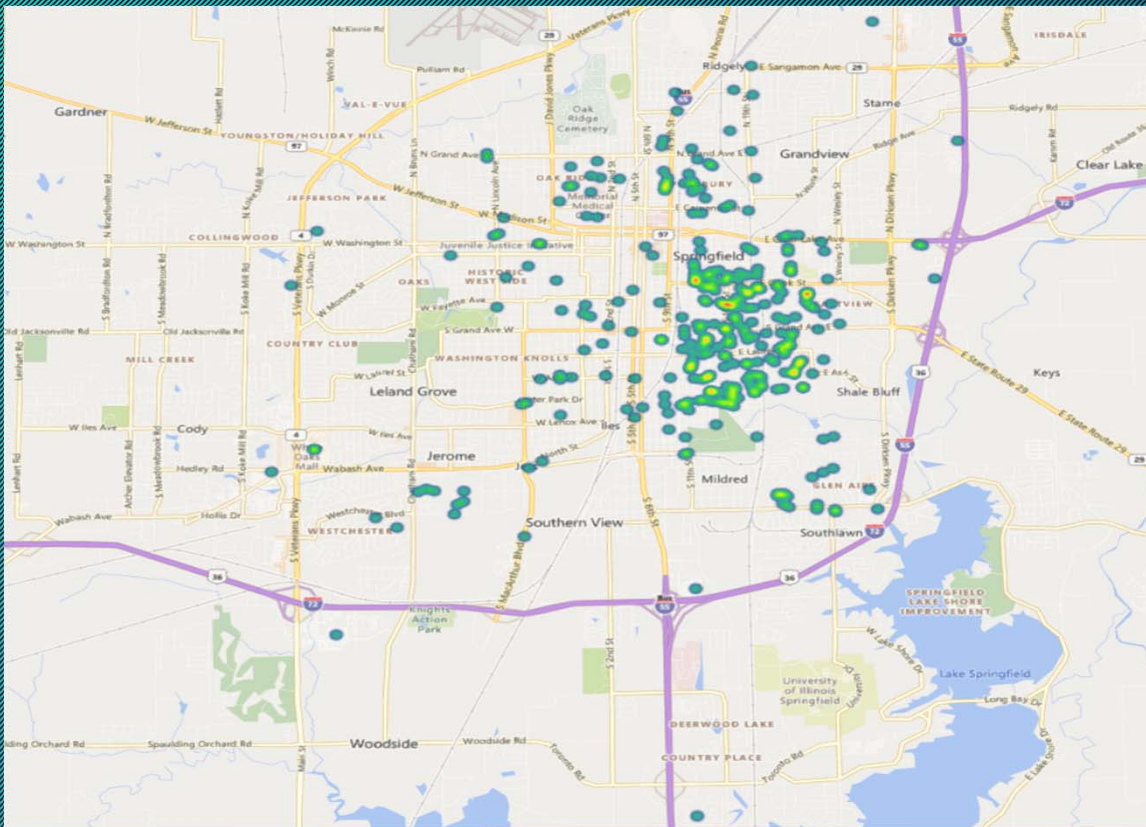
BLUE =
CONFIRMED
SHOTS FIRED

YELLOW =
VICTIMS
SHOT

Blue = GSW Victims vs Red = GSW Homicides
2017-2021



Confirmed Shots Fired & Commercial Armed Robberies 2021



Policy Considerations

SPD General Order OPS-08 Automated License Plate Reader

Purpose

It is the purpose of this policy to provide Springfield Police Department personnel with guidelines and principles for the use, collection, access, dissemination, retention and purging of ALPR data to ensure that the information is used for legitimate law enforcement purposes only and the privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties of individuals are not violated.

Policy

It shall be the policy of the Springfield Police Department to properly and appropriately utilize the ALPR cameras and system to increase public safety by providing a mechanism to assist in minimizing threats and risk of harm to the citizens and their property. Proper use of the ALPR system will increase Departmental efficiencies through real time response capability in crimes involving the use of vehicles. The use of the ALPR system will also assist in post-incident investigations.

Other Flock Agencies

- Jacksonville
- Decatur
- Bloomington
- Champaign
- Chatham
- Rantoul

Storage of Data

- No data stored on the camera
- All data is uploaded to a secure Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) compliant cloud server
- City of Springfield owns the data
- No data is sold to a third-party

Information Safeguards

- ALPR and data defined as “for official use only”
- Restrict usage by having authorized readers and authorized users (different roles)
- Audit queries of the ALPR dataset
- Purge data after 30 days (rolling) unless needed for court
- Verification of “HIT” before action taken by officer
- Require that ALL users receive training before use
- Misuse of system/data shall be subject to discipline

Placement Considerations

- City Wide Deployment
- Based on historical crime data
- Taking into consideration:
 - Traffic Volumes/Flows
 - Road limitations/Construction
 - Understanding of how people use road/likely paths
- Cameras can be shifted if crime trends shift

Transparency

- SPD General Order OPS-08 will be available online at <https://public.powerdms.com/SpringfieldIL/documents/2010886> for anyone to review (currently in the final phase of review)

SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT			
<input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> DIVISION DIRECTIVE	DIRECTIVE NUMBER 22-039	OPS-08
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GENERAL ORDER	<input type="checkbox"/> NOTICE	<input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL ORDER	<input type="checkbox"/> LEGAL NOTICE
ISSUE DATE 04/xx/22			
SUBJECT: AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER	DISTRIBUTION A, B	REVISION DATES	EFFECTIVE DATE 04/xx/22
REFERENCES:			RESCINDS: NEW

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III. DEFINITIONS

A. Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR): Any device that automatically scans the license plates of vehicles and using machine learning, interprets the alphanumeric values on the plate.

B. Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) system: A system that includes ALPR hardware and software that processes license plate images in full or in partial to index scanned license plates into a data system for searching and retrieval.

C. Law Enforcement Purposes: The investigation and detection of a crime or violation of law, excluding minor traffic enforcement. Examples include the searches for missing persons, vehicles involved in criminal activity, or hit and run accident investigations.

D. ALPR system Administrator: The Commanding Officer of the Field Operations Division will act as the ALPR system Administrator.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. The Procedures of SPD will ensure the proper use of ALPR systems for the protection of the people and property of the City of Springfield, while maintaining the highest respect for the privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties of those who data is collected by the system.

Springfield IL PD

Transparency Portal

Last Updated: Mon Apr 25 2022

Overview

Springfield IL PD uses Flock Safety technology to capture objective evidence without compromising on individual privacy. Springfield IL PD utilizes retroactive search to solve crimes after they've occurred. Additionally, Springfield IL PD utilizes real time alerting of hotlist vehicles to capture wanted criminals. In an effort to ensure proper usage and guardrails are 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 Springfield IL PD and is never sold to 3rd parties.



Prohibited Uses

Immigration enforcement, traffic enforcement, harassment 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

Officers will verify all ALPR activations prior to taking enforcement action.

Usage



Data retention

30 days



Number of owned cameras

84



External Law Enforcement Organizations with access

Jacksonville IL PD



Hotlists Alerted On

NCMEC Amber Alert



Vehicles detected in the last 30 days

90,290



Hotlist hits in the last 30 days

0



Searches in the last 30 days

3

Provided by [Flock Safety](#)