

CPOC Recommendation for Flock ALPR Oversight & Investigative Search Reporting

Date: March 12, 2025

I. Purpose & Oversight Objectives

Transparency and accountability are essential when law enforcement employs data-driven technologies. ALPR systems capture and store vehicle data, making it critical that their use is subject to clear policies, oversight, and reporting requirements.

To ensure proper safeguards and accountability, CPOC recommends a structured and transparent oversight framework. The CPOC Recommendation for Flock ALPR Oversight & Investigative Search Reporting establishes clear reporting requirements that allow for an independent review of ALPR usage, particularly investigative search activity. This framework ensures that ALPR searches are conducted in compliance with established policies and that outcomes are reviewed for fairness, effectiveness, and adherence to legal and ethical standards.

Access to investigative search outcomes is critical for CPOC to fulfill its oversight duties. Evaluating *search justifications*, *false positives*, and *case outcomes* enables CPOC to determine whether ALPR searches lead to lawful, unbiased, and effective enforcement actions—or whether their use meaningfully contributes to public safety in Oak Park. Without this information, CPOC cannot accurately assess whether ALPR searches are achieving their intended purpose or being misused. This framework formalizes the reporting structure necessary for maintaining public trust and ensuring that ALPR technology is used responsibly and effectively.

Goals of This Framework:

- Ensure *only authorized agencies* have access to Oak Park's Flock data.
 - Ensure *comprehensive reporting and audits* on Flock search activity, including *investigative search outcomes* and *justification transparency*.
 - Track *search justifications*, *false positives*, and *case outcomes* to assess ALPR effectiveness.
 - Prevent *unauthorized or excessive searches* that may lead to privacy concerns or misuse.
 - Strengthen *public trust and accountability* through *transparency and data-driven oversight*.
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II. System-Level Oversight Reports (Monthly Reviews)

To ensure compliance with Oak Park's policies, OPPD is responsible for generating and sharing the following system-level reports with CPOC each month:

1. **Network Sharing Report** • Lists agencies with direct access to Oak Park's Flock network.
 - Confirms that no out-of-state agencies have unauthorized access.
 2. **Hotlist Sharing Report** • Identifies which agencies have access to Oak Park's hotlists.
 - Verifies that Oak Park's data is not shared beyond authorized entities.
 3. **Network Audit Report** • Tracks which agencies have searched Oak Park's Flock data.
 - Should never include agencies outside Illinois unless explicitly authorized.
 4. **Organization Audit Report** • Provides an overview of all system activity within Oak Park's Flock account.
 - Helps monitor compliance with internal policies and data access controls.
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III. Investigative Search Reporting (Case-Level Analysis)

Investigative search reporting is a core oversight function that ensures ALPR searches are *justified, transparent, and aligned with legal and ethical enforcement practices*.

Key Reporting Metrics:

Metric	Purpose & Oversight Benefit
Case #	Groups multiple searches under a single case for accurate tracking.
# of Searches (Monthly Total)	Ensures OPPD is not conducting excessive or redundant searches on a single case."
Crime Type	Determines whether ALPR searches are used primarily for serious crimes or routine investigations.
Vehicle Involvement	Differentiates between cases with confirmed vehicle involvement vs. those based on descriptions.

Metric	Purpose & Oversight Benefit
<i>Search Justification</i>	Requires OPPD to provide a reason for each search to prevent unnecessary surveillance.
<i>False Positive Tracking</i>	Identifies when Flock data leads to incorrect investigations to ensure accountability.
<i>Date of Last Search on Case</i>	Provides insight into how long investigations remain active.
<i>Outcome</i>	Ensures investigative searches yield meaningful results (e.g., arrest, case closure).
<i>Final Case Disposition</i>	Confirms whether Flock searches led to case resolutions.

Investigative Search Reporting Responsibilities:

- OPPD will generate investigative search reports and submit them to CPOC as part of the monthly review process.
 - CPOC will assess reports to ensure searches align with policies and identify any trends of concern.
 - *False positive rates* will be monitored to evaluate the accuracy and reliability of Flock data.
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IV. Oversight Process & Audit Schedule

Monthly Flock Reports (Standard Review Process)

- OPPD will provide monthly system and investigative search reports to CPOC.
- CPOC will review the data for compliance with policies and address any concerns.

Formal Audit Schedule

- **Audit Frequency:** CPOC recommends a structured audit schedule for investigative search reporting, ensuring that Flock searches are reviewed regularly to assess compliance and impact.
- **Incident Response Protocol:** If an out-of-state agency or unauthorized access is detected, OPPD and CPOC will initiate an investigation and corrective action.
- **Public Transparency:** CPOC will determine if oversight findings should be made public to strengthen community trust.