# Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

An overview of public safety technology, legal compliance, privacy safeguards, and operational policy in the City of Monterey Park.

**Monterey Park PD**

**Public Information Briefing**

# What Tech Does MPPD Use?

- Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)
- Motion activated, Non-Video, Single-Image Cameras
- MPPD began using in 2020
- Started with 6 cameras & now we currently have **34 cameras**
- **Falcon Camera vs. Condor Cameras**

# Falcon Camera



# Condor Camera

**Not used in MPK**



# What are ALPRs Used For?

- **Investigative Tool:** Used to assist criminal investigations and enhance situational awareness.
- **Stolen Vehicles:** Helps quickly locate stolen automobiles and wanted suspect vehicles.
- **Missing Persons:** Assists in identifying vehicles tied to active AMBER and Silver Alerts.
- **Objective Evidence:** Provides time-stamped, location-based data to confirm or rule out investigative leads.

# What ALPR Captures vs. Excludes

## What ALPR Captures

Fixed snapshots of passing vehicles from public roadways

- License plate number converted into searchable text
- Date, exact timestamp, and camera location
- Vehicle visual characteristics (make, model, color)
- Direction of travel across public right-of-way

## What ALPR Excludes

Explicit restrictions embedded in hardware & policy:

- **NO** identification of driver or passengers
- **NO** continuous video or neighborhood monitoring
- **NO** Pan-Tilt-Zoom (PTZ) active surveillance
- **NO** facial recognition or biometric scanning

# **MPPD Policy 439:**
# Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

Purpose of ALPRs is to capture **license plate images** while recognizing privacy rights

Must be used for **legitimate law enforcement purposes** only

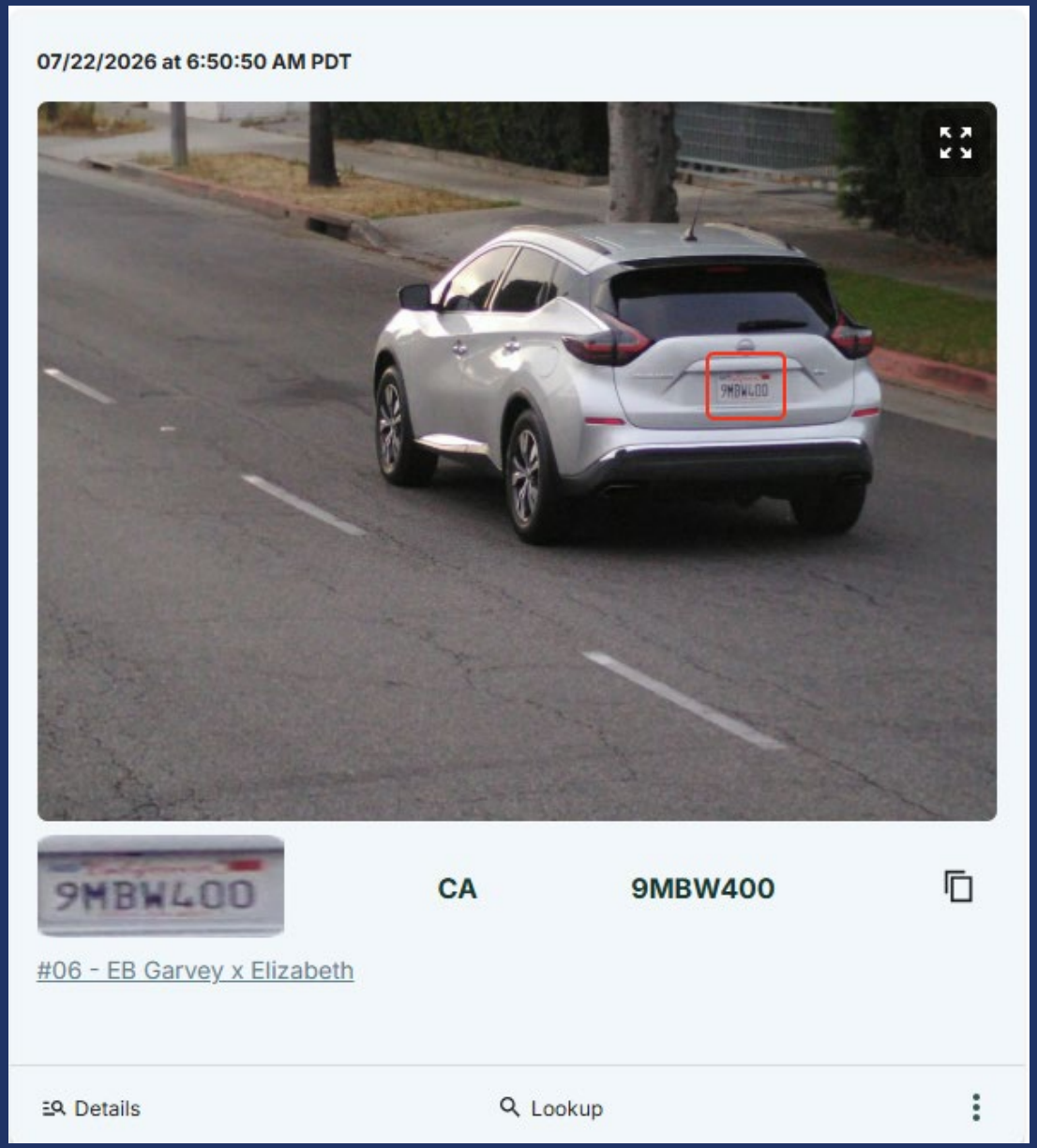
Members receive **department approved training** before using ALPR technology

Data/images are purged after 30 days

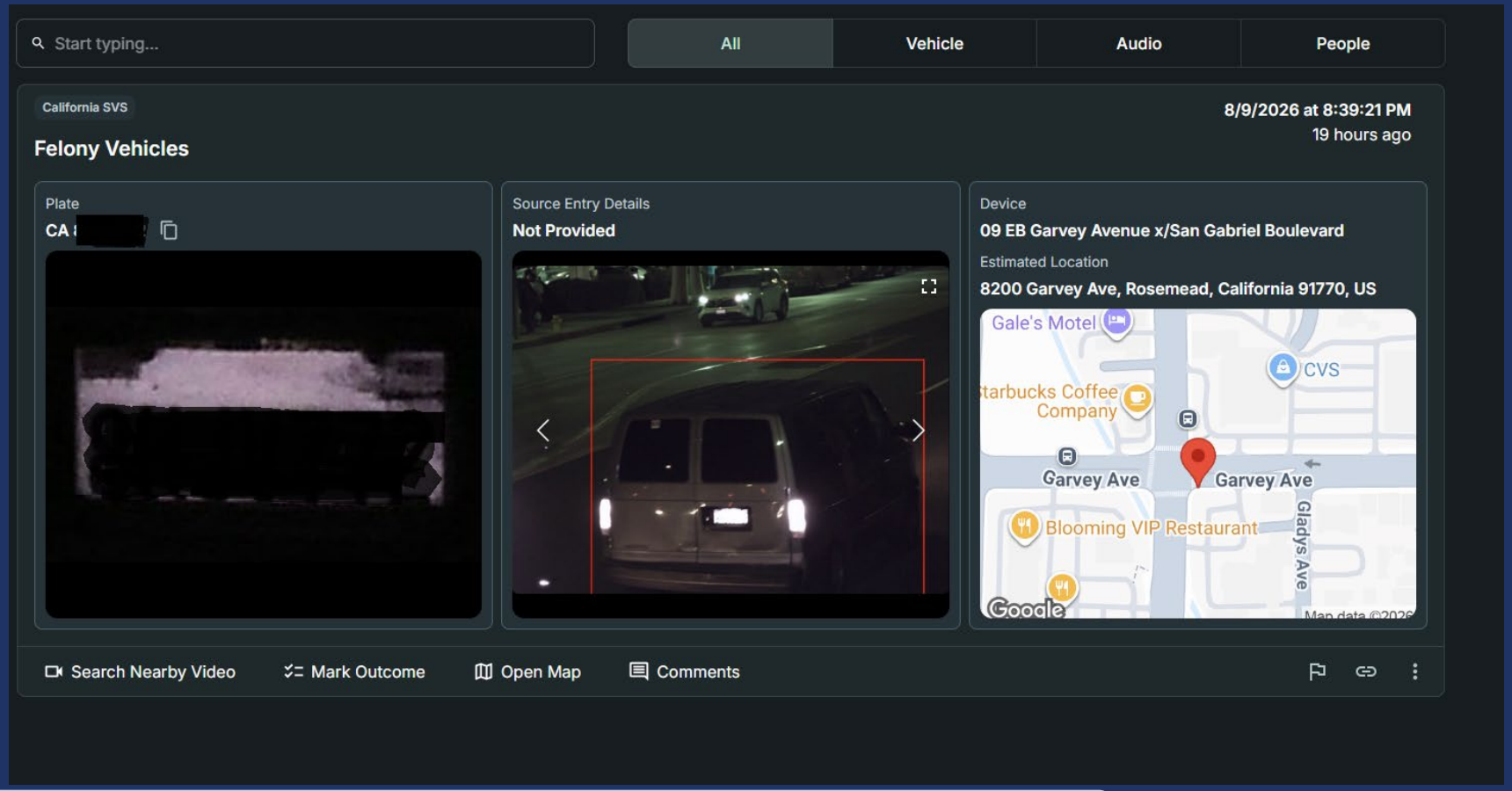
ALPR Searches are **audited monthly** by MPPD Management

# Law Enforcement: Patrol

- Alerts
- Photographs of License Plate & Vehicle
- Location
- Crime associated with Vehicle/License Plate
- Vehicle Description



# Law Enforcement: Felony Vehicle Example

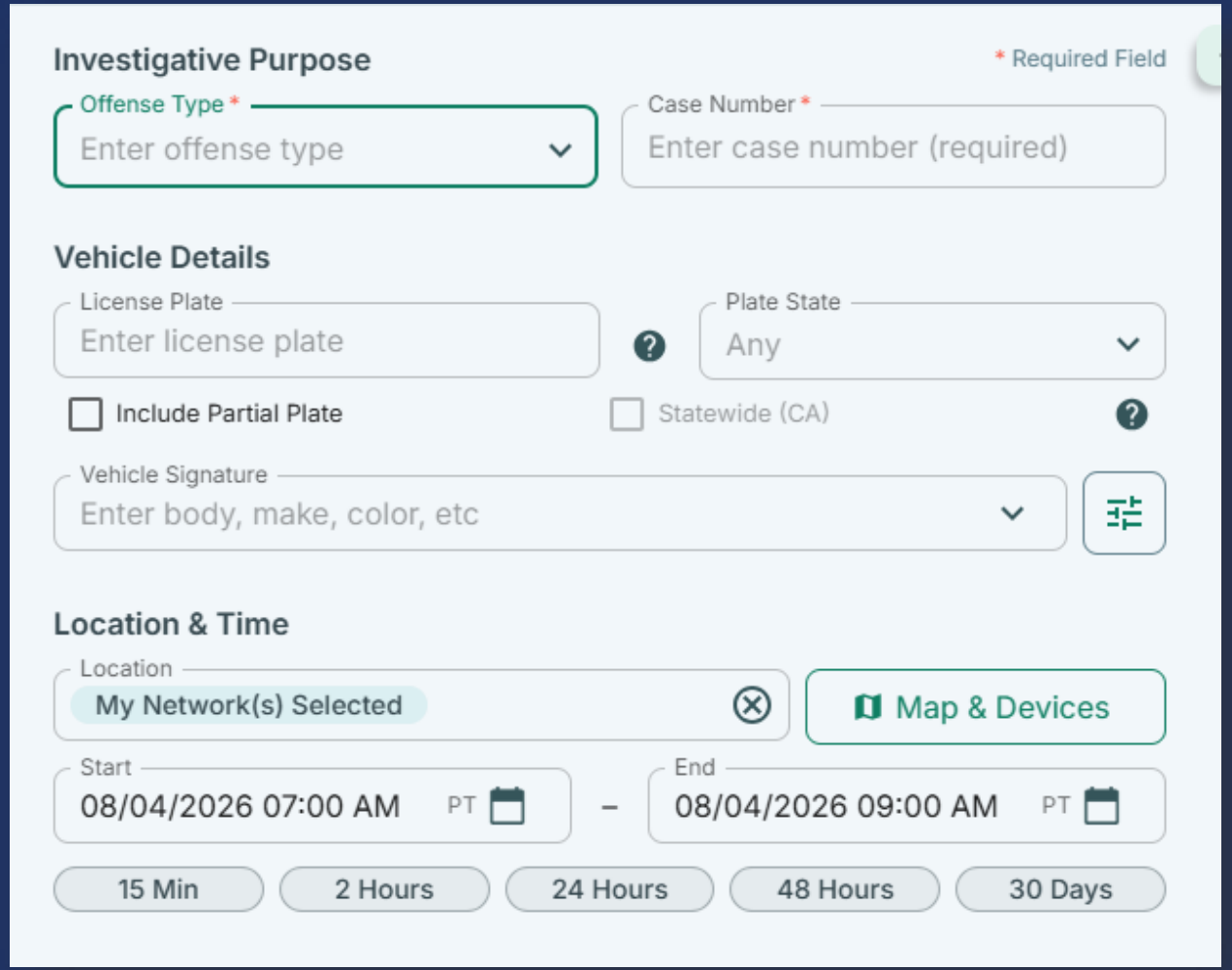


# Law Enforcement: Detectives

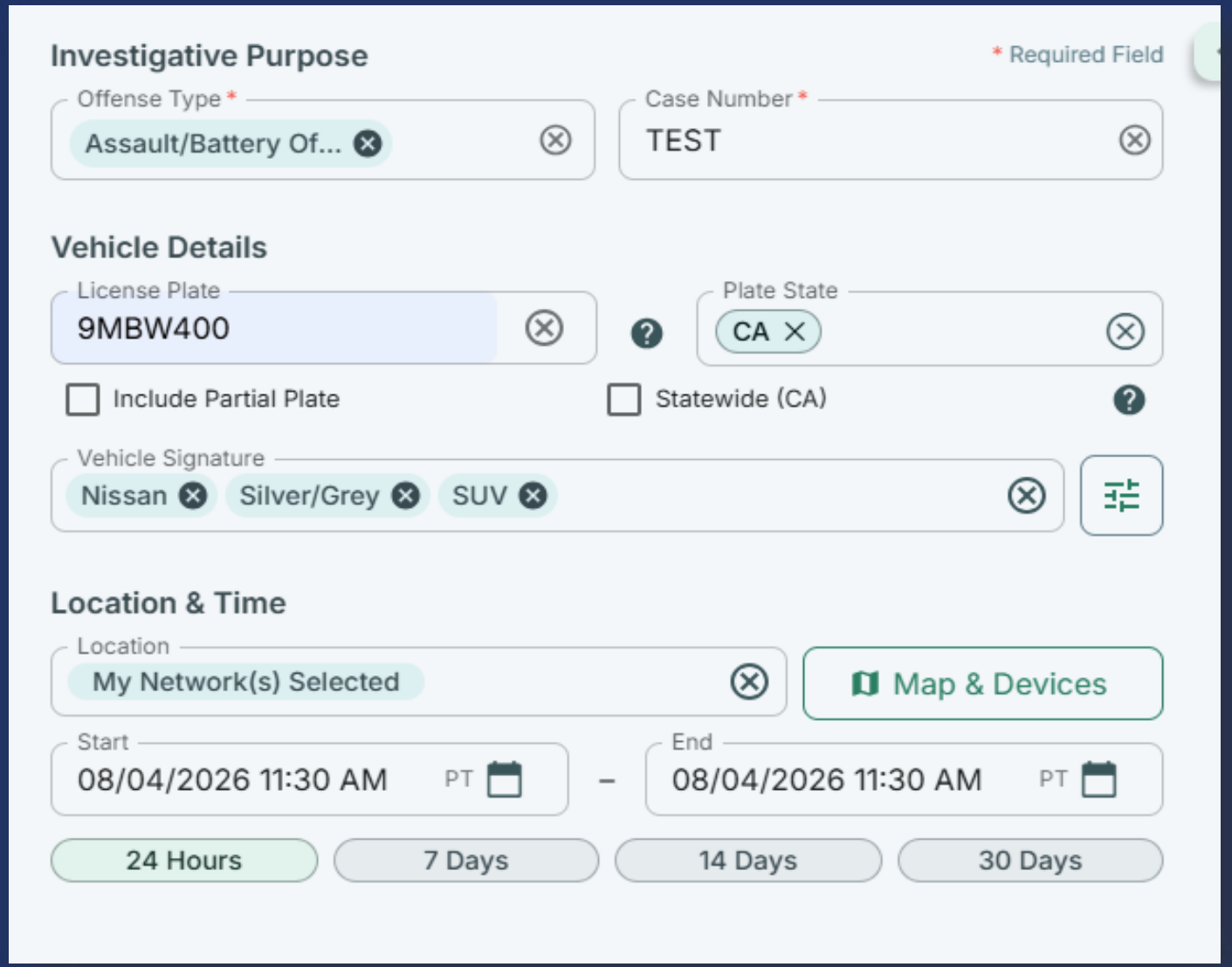
- Call for service
- Preliminary Investigation
- Canvas area for private surveillance cameras – RING, Arlo, Etc.
- Utilize ALPRs in an attempt to identify the suspect vehicle

# Law Enforcement: **Investigations**

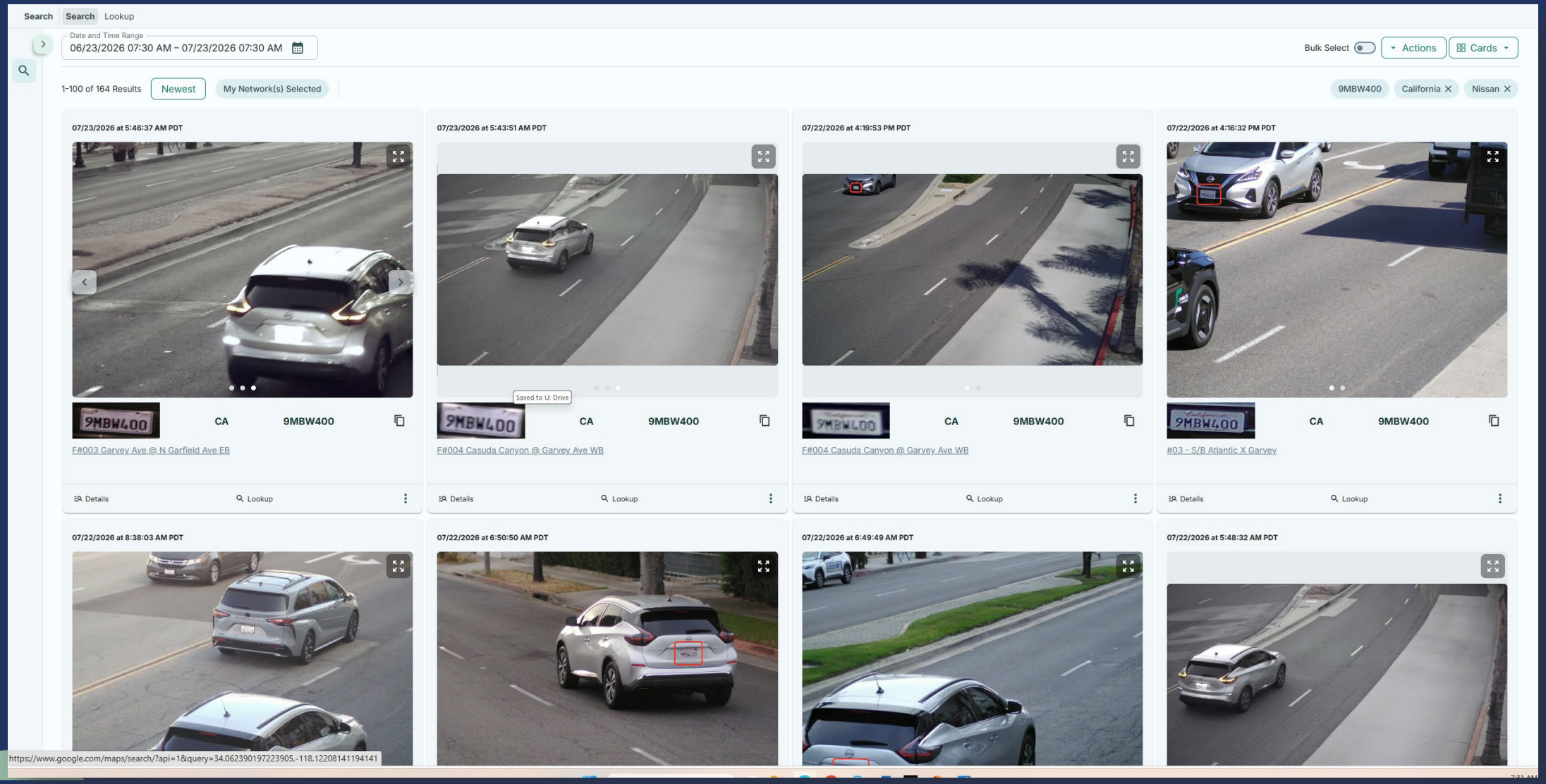
Must be used for legitimate law enforcement purposes **only**.



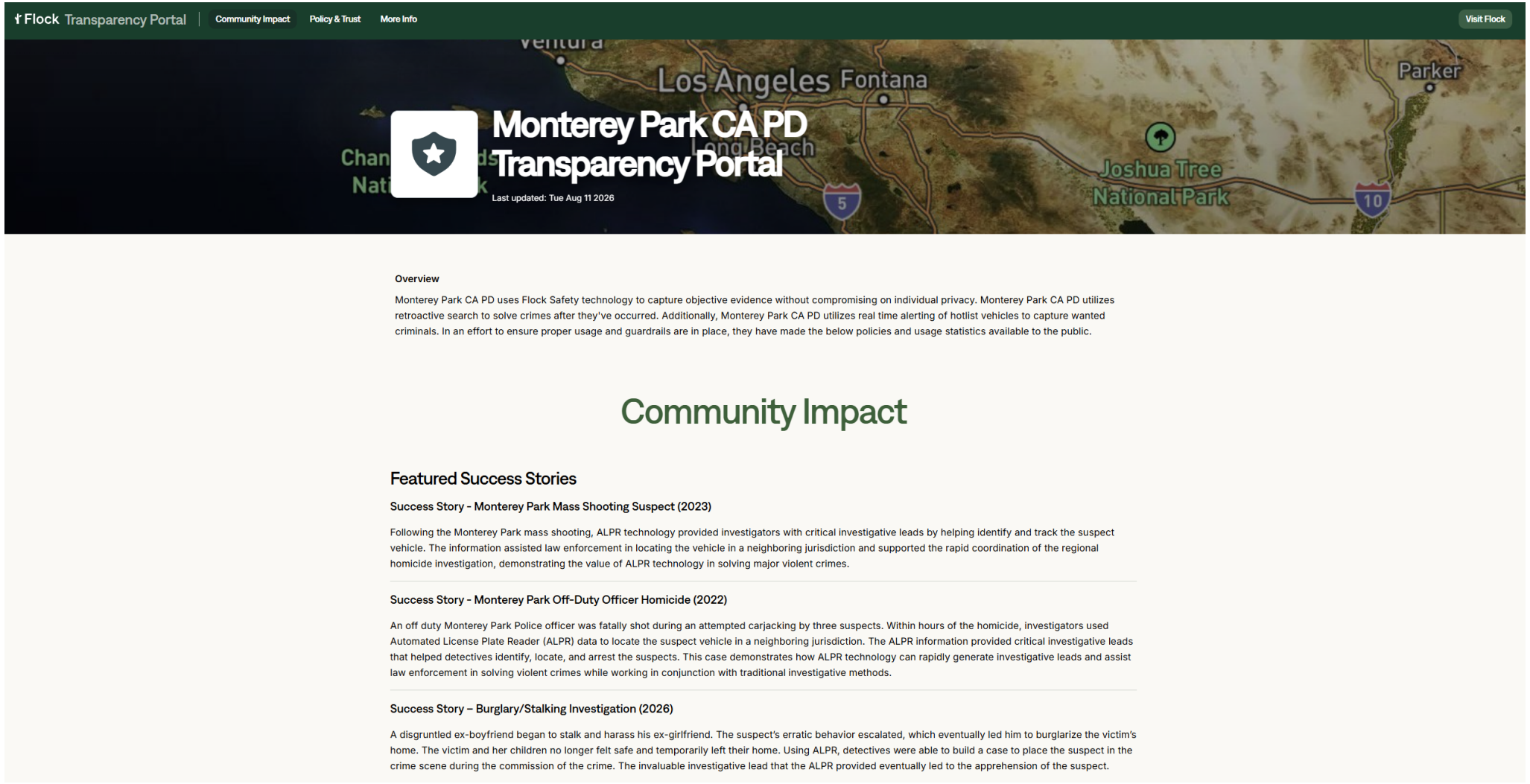
# Law Enforcement: Investigations Example



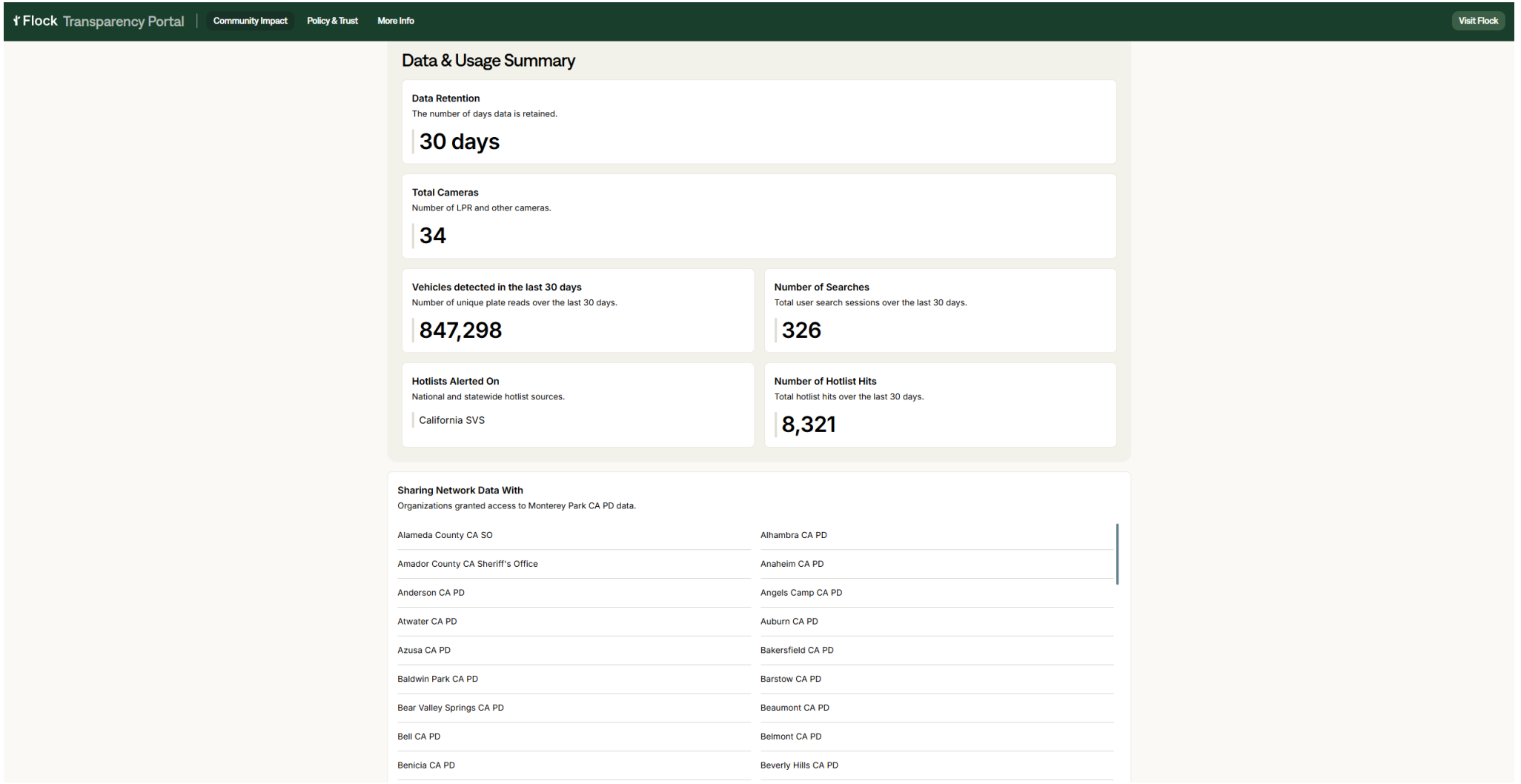
# Law Enforcement: Investigations Example



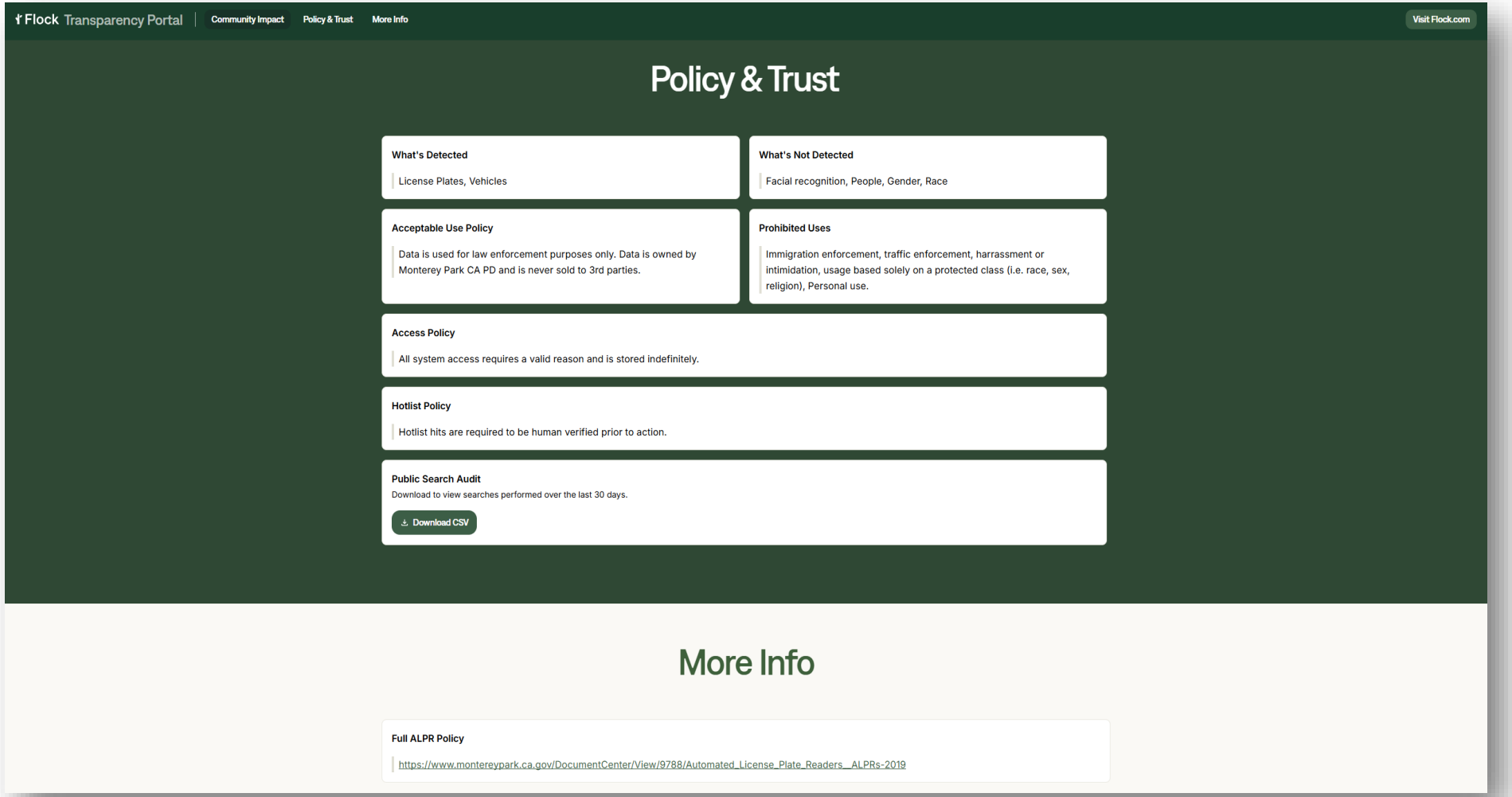
# Transparency Portal



# ALPR Transparency Portal



# ALPR Transparency Portal



# Public Search Audit Log

| | A | B | C | D | E | F |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | id | userId | searchDate | networkCount | offenseType | |
| 2 | ab83a86d-8ae1-4641-b051-d5a144cc4717 | *** | 2026-06-28T00:13:01.777Z | 354 | Burglary/Breaking & Entering | |
| 3 | b0c0f0c7-ffa6-48a3-87a3-2e23f670a276 | *** | 2026-06-28T00:31:40.281Z | 1 | Burglary/Breaking & Entering | |
| 4 | 060faad6-6cb7-477a-95bc-c81b389c458b | *** | 2026-06-28T01:28:18.914Z | 354 | Motor Vehicle Theft/Stolen | |
| 5 | 5bfb215a-b4b9-452f-8de3-75b55294ea5a | *** | 2026-06-28T01:32:12.135Z | 1 | Burglary/Breaking & Entering | |
| 6 | e78b4e53-8591-43cb-a7e7-60ee5a396095 | *** | 2026-06-28T03:24:30.278Z | 354 | Burglary/Breaking & Entering | |
| 7 | b01ce345-8cec-413e-80bc-1da0845a2530 | *** | 2026-06-28T04:00:18.972Z | 605 | Burglary/Breaking & Entering | |
| 8 | b90adb34-2517-4c59-b1cf-f0daf1c5715e | *** | 2026-06-28T16:13:25.751Z | 605 | Burglary/Breaking & Entering | |
| 9 | b30cacd9-aa38-4e03-a0dc-9a9e3cfdc8e9 | *** | 2026-06-28T21:05:00.205Z | 354 | Criminal Motor Vehicle Offense ( | |
| 10 | 45c37ee4-6b90-45e4-a2b2-1c5e35dd743e | *** | 2026-06-29T13:09:55.516Z | 1 | Larceny/Theft Offenses | |
| 11 | d11159e1-fa0b-45c3-9618-10f55df5366d | *** | 2026-06-29T14:07:26.731Z | 354 | Stolen Property Offenses | |
| 12 | 8ccc8cb1-5641-4465-8aeb-2890f6b988f9 | *** | 2026-06-29T17:20:10.105Z | 354 | Burglary/Breaking & Entering | |
| 13 | 6e8b48eb-2480-490d-9007-e90cf6707c15 | *** | 2026-06-29T21:28:39.213Z | 1 | Threats/Harassment | |
| 14 | 750bc742-e0d2-4a74-bc67-540f03ca239e | *** | 2026-06-29T23:01:28.864Z | 1 | Threats/Harassment | |
| 15 | 78996cc3-aaa3-4244-9822-843abf63fb23 | *** | 2026-06-30T00:12:35.178Z | 1 | Robbery | |
| 16 | 1a7935f1-81b2-42f2-bd61-96991c5b5108 | *** | 2026-06-30T00:21:29.837Z | 1 | Robbery | |
| 17 | 32d38165-1ac5-45af-b63e-d95cd82ca20b | *** | 2026-06-30T13:57:30.420Z | 1 | Larceny/Theft Offenses | |
| 18 | b4848ccf-2a42-4a04-878d-d2a3f553ca02 | *** | 2026-06-30T14:41:23.283Z | 1 | Larceny/Theft Offenses | |
| 19 | 24e42d98-0bc4-4569-afb2-81590d73f051 | *** | 2026-06-30T15:20:56.437Z | 354 | Robbery | |

# Authorization and Access Controls

| User / Agency Level | Real-Time Alerts | Investigative Search | Requirements & Limits |
|---|---|---|---|
| Patrol Officers | Authorized | Prohibited | Receive immediate alerts for stolen, felony or missing person vehicles only. |
| Detectives & Dispatchers | Authorized | Authorized | Requires verified case report number and criminal offense code. |
| Federal & ICE Agencies | Blocked | Blocked | No access or sharing; MPPD opted out of Nationwide Lookup tools. |
| Third Parties / Commercial | Blocked | Blocked | ALPR data is never sold or shared for commercial purposes. |

# Safeguards Against Misuse

**Mandatory Staff Training:** All authorized personnel undergo required instruction on lawful ALPR usage and legal limitations.

**Case-Linked Searches:** System requires mandatory entry of an active Police Report File Number and Criminal Offense Code prior to executing a query.

**System-Level Blocks:** System configurations automatically block federal immigration enforcement-related searches in compliance with state law.

**Strict Enforcement:** Personal or non-investigative searches are strictly forbidden and subject to disciplinary action or prosecution.

# Privacy and Statutory Compliance

MPPD operates ALPR in full compliance with California Civil Code (SB 34) and the California Values Act (SB 54).

MPPD Policy #439 governs system operations and is in full compliance with California state law.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Data Sharing & ICE

**Does MPPD share Flock data with federal immigration authorities?**

No. Under the California Values Act (SB 54), MPPD does not share ALPR data with federal immigration authorities or out-of-state law enforcement agencies without a court order or subpoena.

## Audit Requirements

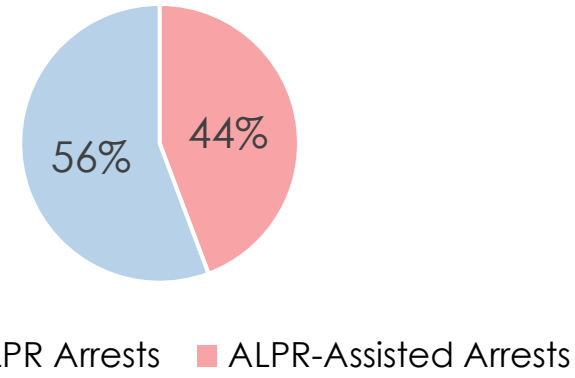
**Why require "Offense Code & Case #" instead of optional "Reason"?**

Mandatory offense codes and case file numbers bind every search to an official police report, enabling objective supervisory audits and preventing vague entries.

# ALPR Usage Statistics

## ALPR-Assisted Arrests

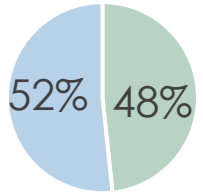
July 10, 2026 - August 10, 2026




| July 10,2026- August 10, 2026 | |
|---|---|
| **Arrest Category** | **Total** |
| Non-flock Arrests | 31 |
| Flock-Assisted Arrests | 39 |
| Total Arrests | 70 |

## Detective Case Inquiry

July 10, 2026 – August 10, 2026




| July 10, 2026 - August 10, 2026 | |
|---|---|
| **Case Category** | **Cases** |
| Cases with ALPR Inquiry | 72 |
| Cases without ALPR Inquiry | 77 |
| Total Cases Assigned | 149 |

# ALPR Use in Investigations

**Burglary/Stalking Investigation (2026)**

A disgruntled man began to stalk, harass and burglarize the home of his ex-girlfriend. The victim and her children no longer felt safe and temporarily left their home. Using ALPR, detectives were able to build a case to place the suspect in the crime scene during the commission of the crime. The invaluable investigative lead that the ALPR provided eventually led to the apprehension of the suspect.

**Robbery Investigation (2026)**

A 90-year-old woman was walking home when 3 suspects approached her and began robbing her by force. Video footage depicted the suspect vehicle having a distinct white sticker on the rear window of the vehicle. Using ALPR, detectives located the vehicle with the identical sticker. Using this lead, detectives were later able to identify the suspect vehicle license plate and eventually the suspects themselves. The suspects were later arrested for robbery.

# ALPR Use in Investigations

**Critical Missing Person Investigation (2026)**

An elderly male with dementia was reported missing by his wife. The elderly male left his residence in his vehicle during early morning hours to get fast food and never returned home. The missing person's license plate was entered into ALPR, and the missing person's vehicle was detected by ALPR cameras in Riverside County. With the use of ALPR, we were able to continue to monitor the missing person's vehicle whereabouts and officers eventually located the elderly missing person in the Long Beach area. The elderly male said he had gotten lost and forgot how to get back home. The use of ALPR cameras allowed law enforcement to locate the missing person and reunite him with his family.

**Assault with a Deadly Weapon Investigation (2025)**

MPPD officers received multiple calls for service regarding a male shooting at passing vehicles. Further investigation revealed that the suspect and his girlfriend were engaged in a verbal argument. As the suspect and his girlfriend argued, the suspect retrieved a firearm and shot at a passing vehicle, striking an uninvolved victim's driver's side door. The suspect then entered the vehicle with his girlfriend and fled the area. With the assistance of ALPR, the vehicle was identified, which provided an investigative lead to identify the suspect who committed the shooting. The suspect was later arrested, convicted, and sentenced to 18 years in prison.

# MPPD ALPR Webpage

For more information please visit:

https://www.montereypark.ca.gov/ALPR

# Questions?