

**Subject: License Plate Readers**  
**Related Department: POL**

**FY 2027 Proposed Budget**  
**Budget Work Session Follow-up**

**4/6/2026**

The following information is provided in response to a request made by Mr. Karantonis at the work session on March 19, 2026, regarding the following question:

*As seen in the FY 2027 Proposed budget book on page 459, as the Flock license plate readers render more queries, 4,655 in FY 2025, what does the department get/ do with this information?*

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<b>Supporting Measures</b>	<b>FY 2022 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2023 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2024 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2025 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2026 Estimate</b>	<b>FY 2027 Estimate</b>
Number of times the License Plate Reader (LPR) system was queried by ACPD personnel to assist in an investigation	1,549	3,848	4,439	4,655	4,500	4,500

Prior to the implementation of flock cameras, ACPD relied on Electronica San Giorgio Automatic License Plate Recognition (ELSAG) devices installed on Department vehicles, which served a similar function and operated under the same department policy linked below.

In the fall of FY 2025, Flock Safety License Plate Recognition (LPR) cameras were installed across Arlington County. The Flock Safety LPR system provides officers with real-time alerts when stolen vehicles, stolen license plates and vehicles associated with wanted persons, missing persons, or felony criminal incidents pass by the cameras. This technology is an additional tool designed to provide officers with efficient, real-time information to help identify, prevent, and solve criminal activity.

Each search within Flock Safety’s operating system requires a recorded justification, which is regulated by [department policy](#) and verifiable through audits.

The Flock Safety LPR system, through legislative changes in FY 2025, requires data only to be shared with other Virginia law enforcement agencies. Audits are conducted by the Criminal Investigation Sections Commander and reviewed by the Department’s Office of Professional Responsibility.

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For FY 2028, ACPD will reflect data collected in accordance with the Code of Virginia [§2.2-5517](#). ACPD's supporting measures will be updated to include total queries of the system, purposes for queries, and instances of unauthorized access.