https://ij.org/the-ij-database-of-alpr-abuse/
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4TH AMENDMENT PROJECT LICENSE PLATE READERS

August 12, 2026

# The IJ Database of ALPR Abuse

*The Institute for Justice has cataloged more than 200 incidents of ALPR abuse, including romantic stalking, wrongful stops and detentions, non-law enforcement use, and other types of misconduct.*

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A Flock camera in Arlington, Virginia.

Automated license plate readers (ALPRs) were sold to American communities as a targeted tool for catching car thieves and finding missing people. What they actually purchased has grown into something far broader and more frightening: an AI-powered network of cameras that photograph and log the movement of every driver who passes, whether or not they are suspected of any crime.

Companies like Flock Safety have now blanketed thousands of communities with ALPRs, quietly assembling powerful mass surveillance systems that can reconstruct where people have been, when, and how often, all without a warrant.

This dragnet surveillance threatens the freedoms the Fourth Amendment was adopted to protect. These concerns aren't just abstractions: every day, innocent people are harmed by officials' abuse and misuse of these ALPRs. Here are just a few examples:

- In Florida, a woman was stalked and pulled over by a sheriff's deputy who saw her at a TV shoot.
- In Texas, a sheriff's deputy used 83,000 Flock ALPRs to find a woman who had allegedly had a medication abortion, at the behest of her abusive partner.
- In Georgia, a police chief tracked his ex-girlfriend and her teenage daughter roughly 600 times.

enforcement use, and other types of misconduct.

Although this is the most comprehensive list publicly available, it may be just the tip of the iceberg. Officers rarely enter specific reasons when they search ALPR databases, and the volume of searches is so large that it would be impossible to figure out whether officers' vague justifications are actually true.

For instance, in litigation against Norfolk, Virginia, IJ discovered that the top three search reasons ("cj," "stolen," and "inv") accounted for nearly one third of 230,000 searches over two years. One officer repeatedly wrote "la la la la," and nobody noticed.

The incidents IJ identified are documented and mapped below. IJ is updating this database regularly, and you can help by letting us know about any incidents we missed.

When the government can track the everyday movements of ordinary people—to their jobs, their churches, their doctors, their protests—it holds a kind of power over private life that the Constitution does not allow.

That is why IJ is fighting back in court, including federal lawsuits challenging ALPR surveillance programs in the cities of Norfolk and San Jose. To learn more, visit plateprivacy.com.

## Database of ALPR abuse

SEARCH

Search incidents

STATE

Georgia

TYPE

All types

SORT

Newest first

92 incidents shown

Error  Non Law-Enforcement Use  Other Misuse  Stalking



**Fulton County, Georgia** Original source

DATE October 2026 TYPE Other Misuse CAMERA Flock

A Fulton County Police Department employee was able to continue accessing the Flock system after resigning, in part because of Flock's lax security policies. The employee's actions are being investigated by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

**Vidalia, Georgia** Original source

DATE October 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Vidalia officer Sanantonio Wilcher was fired and criminally charged for allegedly misusing the Flock system.

**Milton, Georgia** Original source

DATE October 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Milton officer Randy Dula was fired for alleged misuse of the Flock system. Milton's attorney maintains he was checking on his diabetic wife; city officials say there is more to the story but have not yet given specifics.

**Richmond County, Georgia** Original source

DATE October 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Deputy Corey Whitfield was fired and criminally charged for allegedly using Flock cameras for personal reasons.

**Milton, Georgia** Original source

DATE October 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Milton officer Khalil Bouzaine resigned while under investigation for Flock misuse after USA Today reporters flagged an unusual pattern of searches.

**Baldwin County, Georgia** Original source

DATE October 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

criminally charged for unspecified misuse of the Flock system.

**Athens, Georgia** Original source

DATE October 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Athens-Clarke County police officer Tyler Vaughn was fired and criminally charged after allegedly using the Flock system to track the location of an ex-girlfriend.

**Baldwin County, Georgia** Original source

DATE October 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Former Baldwin County deputy Daniel Peavey was criminally charged for unspecified misuse of the Flock system.

**Colquitt County, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Former deputy Bentley Hughes was arrested and is facing multiple criminal charges over alleged misuse of the Flock system.

**Emerson, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Former Emerson officer Anthony Trapani is facing multiple criminal charges after allegedly misusing the Flock system at two separate police departments.

**Peachtree City, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

One of two unnamed Peachtree City officers no longer employed by the agency after allegedly misusing the Flock system. The cases have been referred to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation for possible criminal prosecution, according to reporting by TheCitizen.com.

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

One of two unnamed Peachtree City officers no longer employed by the agency after allegedly misusing the Flock system. The cases have been referred to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation for possible criminal prosecution, according to reporting by TheCitizen.com.

**Gwinnett, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Officer Derric Holmes was fired and charged with six counts of misuse of license plate data for unspecified misconduct.

**Gwinnett, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Officer Matthew Lay was fired and charged with one count of misuse of license plate reader data for unspecified misconduct.

**Clayton County, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Deputy Errol Farrell was arrested and charged with misuse of a license plate reader system after allegedly running improper searches on Flock.

**Hall County, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Hall County deputy Melissa Wood was fired after allegedly using the Flock system to search for a person "known to her."

DATE September 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Investigator Sean Morrow was fired and criminally charged for alleged misuse of the Flock system.

**Richmond County, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Deputy Jose Ferrer was fired and criminally charged for alleged misuse of the Flock system.

**Hahira, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Former officer Daniel Lindsay was arrested and criminally charged for alleged "non-work-related" misuse of the Flock system.

**Hall County, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Deputy Jason Orellana resigned after performing 10 unauthorized Flock searches at the request of a co-worker who did not have access to the system.

**Hall County, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Hall County deputy Taylor McArthur resigned after asking a co-worker to run Flock searches on people she knew.

**Hall County, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Hall County deputy Austin Scott Flanagan resigned after accessing the Flock system multiple times for reasons unrelated to his job. He was also under investigation for making harrassing phone calls.

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

An unnamed Tift County deputy was demoted and had his access to sensitive data systems revoked after running Flock searches on himself.

**DeKalb County, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Error CAMERA Flock

A driver was wrongfully pulled over twice after Flock cameras incorrectly flagged her new car twice for purported insurance violations.

**Hall County, Georgia** Original source

DATE September 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Hall County deputy Brandon Sanders resigned after an internal audit uncovered multiple off-duty Flock searches not connected to any police work.

**Habersham County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Deputy Jonathan Thomas was fired and criminally charged after an internal audit found that he used the Flock system to track the whereabouts of a person he was in a relationship with. After Thomas' arrest, the Sheriff's office announced it was imposing new restrictions on deputies' use of Flock cameras.

**Hall County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Investigator Justin Brown was fired and referred to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation for potential criminal charges after allegedly using the Flock system for non-law enforcement reasons at least twice.

**Hall County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

after allegedly using the Flock system for non-law enforcement reasons at least four times.

**Atlanta, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Georgia Department of Corrections special agent Robert Keim was arrested and charged after allegedly misusing a Flock license plate reader system.

**Covington, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Former officer Michael Canty was arrested for alleged misuse of the Flock system.

**Bibb County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Former deputy Tony Lewis was charged with stalking and other crimes after allegedly using the Flock system to track someone he was in a relationship with.

**Bibb County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Former deputy Coznavian Stubbs was charged with stalking and other crimes after allegedly using the Flock system to track someone he was in a relationship with.

**Bibb County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Former deputy Joseph Callaway was charged with stalking and other crimes after allegedly using the Flock system to track someone he was in a relationship with.

**Coweta County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

of Flock.

**Coweta County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

One of three unnamed Coweta County Sheriff's Office employees who resigned in the midst of an audit into their use of Flock.

**Coweta County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

One of three unnamed Coweta County Sheriff's Office employees who resigned in the midst of an audit into their use of Flock.

**East Point, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Documents viewed by InvestigateTV showed that an unnamed East Point officer used Flock for personal searches, with the police chief describing the incident as a "one-off."

**Union City, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Documents reviewed by InvestigateTV showed that an unnamed officer was forced to resign following an investigation into Flock misuse.

**DeKalb County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

One of five unnamed DeKalb officers suspended for searching Flock without a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

**DeKalb County, Georgia** Original source

One of five unnamed DeKalb officers suspended for searching Flock without a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

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**DeKalb County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

One of three unnamed DeKalb officers suspended for unspecified Flock policy violations.

**DeKalb County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

One of three unnamed DeKalb officers suspended for unspecified Flock policy violations.

**DeKalb County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

**Houston County, Georgia** Original source

DATE August 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

School Resource Officer Sierra Carroll was suspended without pay and is facing potential criminal charges after an internal audit revealed she misused the Flock system to track family members and coworkers.

**Albany, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Isaac Whitus was one of five officers fired by the Albany Police Department and arrested in July 2026 for allegedly misusing Flock cameras.

**Albany, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Brittney Smith was one of five officers fired by the Albany Police Department and arrested in July 2026 for allegedly misusing Flock cameras.

**Albany, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Nicholas Richardson was one of five officers fired by the Albany Police Department and arrested in July 2026 for allegedly misusing Flock cameras.

**Albany, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Jade Jackson was one of five officers fired by the Albany Police Department and arrested in July 2026 for allegedly misusing Flock cameras.

**Albany, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Tytianna Davis was one of five officers fired by the Albany Police Department and arrested in July 2026 for allegedly misusing Flock cameras.

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Deputy Quin'sha Goss was fired and arrested for allegedly using the Flock system for personal reasons over a period of several months.

**DeKalb County, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

DeKalb County Sergeant Kabiru Salawu was fired and arrested after allegedly using Flock cameras for personal reasons.

**Fayetteville, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

One of three unnamed officers fired and under criminal investigation for allegedly using Flock cameras to look up information on themselves, friends or family members.

**Fayetteville, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

One of three unnamed officers fired and under criminal investigation for allegedly using Flock cameras to look up information on themselves, friends or family members.

**Fayetteville, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

One of three unnamed officers fired and under criminal investigation for allegedly using Flock cameras to look up information on themselves, friends or family members.

**Habersham County, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Deputy Christian Brewer was fired and arrested after an internal audit uncovered he used the Flock system to track the whereabouts of a person he was in a relationship with.

**Savannah, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Other Misuse CAMERA Flock

Officer Amber Harpe was fired after giving her husband, an ICE officer, access to the police department's Flock system.

**Savannah, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Officer Matthew Rich was fired and charged with two counts of misuse of a license plate reader system and one count of violation of oath of office.

**Savannah, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Officer Donald Phillips was fired and charged with two counts of misuse of a license plate reader system and one count of violation of oath of office for allegedly making 400 searches of his ex-girlfriend and another person he knew.

**Savannah, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Officer Marquis Dillard was fired charged with two counts of misuse of a license plate reader system and one count of violation of oath of office for allegedly making more than 400 searches of a romantic rival.

**Savannah, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

One of two unnamed staffers put on leave and referred for a criminal investigation over improper Flock use, including searches involving acquaintances and family members.

**Savannah, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Calandic Thomas, a community service specialist with the police department, was fired and charged with two counts of misuse of a license plate reader system for allegedly using Flock to search for the father of her child.

**Henry County, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Henry County officer Patrick Isbell was fired and criminally charged after using license plate reader data "for non-law enforcement purposes."

DATE June 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Deputy Cynthia Jodesty was fired and arrested after she improperly accessed a license plate reader database.

**Cherokee County, Georgia** Original source

DATE June 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Lieutenant Chris Bryant was fired and jailed for allegedly misusing the license plate reader database.

**Cherokee County, Georgia** Original source

DATE June 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Sargeant Mike Creeden was fired and jailed for allegedly misusing the license plate reader database.

**Statesboro, Georgia** Original source

DATE June 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Andrae Wright, a former Effingham County Sheriff's Office employee and investigator with the Ogeechee Circuit District Attorney's Office, was charged with stalking and other crimes for alleged misuse of the Flock system.

**Midgeville, Georgia** Original source

DATE June 2026 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Major Brandon Sellers was fired and criminally charged for misusing Flock camera data.

**Alpharetta, Georgia** Original source

DATE April 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

An internal investigation concluded that Patrolman Dustin Bozzo used the Flock system dozens of times to track the whereabouts of a former romantic partner employed by the police department, as well as another officer who he mistakenly perceived to be a romantic rival. Bozzo resigned and the case is now under criminal investigation.

**Gwinnett County, Georgia** Original source

DATE April 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Unspecified

plate reader system, to monitor the location of an ex-romantic partner.

### Conyers, Georgia

Original source

DATE April 2026 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Paige Forte, a supervisor in the Conyers Police Department's Real-Time Crime Center, was fired and charged after allegedly using the Flock system to monitor her domestic partner's location.

### Statenville, Georgia

Original source

DATE December 2025 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Anna Altobello, a secretary at the Echols County Sheriff's Office, was charged with multiple offenses after allegedly using the Flock system to search for people she knew personally.

### Dunwoody, Georgia

Original source

DATE October 2025 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Officer Jessica Preston was fired after allegedly using the Flock system to look up the license plate of a man her colleague was romantically involved with, at the colleague's request, due to concerns over her safety.

### Sandy Springs, Georgia

Original source

DATE October 2025 TYPE Other Misuse CAMERA Flock

Reserve Sgt. Francis Esposito was fired after transferring Flock data to a private company he also worked for.

### Richmond County, Georgia

Original source

DATE July 2025 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Investigator Curtis Hopkins was one of three Richmond County sheriff's officers arrested in July after allegedly misusing the Flock system more than 100 times each. According to sources interviewed by the Augusta Press, some of the searches allegedly involved tracking women.

DATE July 2025 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Lieutenant John McKenzie was one of three Richmond County sheriff's officers arrested in July after allegedly misusing the Flock system more than 100 times each. According to sources interviewed by the Augusta Press, some of the searches allegedly involved tracking women.

**Richmond County, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2025 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Deputy Joshua Johnson was one of three Richmond County sheriff's officers arrested in July after allegedly misusing the Flock system more than 100 times each. According to sources interviewed by the Augusta Press, some of the searches allegedly involved tracking women.

**Athens, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2025 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

A civilian employee at the University of Georgia police department was demoted and suspended without pay for using the Flock system to investigate off-campus incidents he had a personal interest in.

**LaGrange, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2025 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

LaGrange officer Joseph Randazzo was fired after allegedly searching for the same license plate 781 times over a two-and-a-half month period in 2025.

**Thomaston, Georgia** Original source

DATE June 2025 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

An unnamed Thomaston police officer was fired after using the Flock system hundreds of times to look up individuals they knew. The improper use came to light after a reporter discovered unusual patterns in the department's search data.

**Richmond County, Georgia** Original source

DATE June 2025 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Former Deputy Jaquarius Yarbrough was arrested after allegedly using the Flock system to track the license plate of a

**Athens, Georgia** Original source

DATE June 2025 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Athens-Clarke County Police Department intelligence analyst Nick Barker was fired and referred to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation for potential criminal charges after allegedly tracking his ex-wife multiple times in 2025.

**Chatham County, Georgia** Original source

DATE December 2024 CAMERA Flock

In August 2026, an unnamed Chatham County officer resigned after being questioned about alleged misuse of the Flock system that occurred in late 2024 and early 2025.

**Atlanta, Georgia** Original source

DATE October 2024 TYPE Error CAMERA Flock

Doctoral student Ladavius McNair was wrongfully arrested and spent 30 days in jail after Flock cameras were used to misidentify him as a suspect in a road rage shooting.

**Braselton, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2024 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Police Chief Michael Steffman was arrested after allegedly using license plate readers to stalk and harass multiple people, including a former romantic partner. Steffman resigned shortly before his arrest.

**Braselton, Georgia** Original source

DATE July 2024 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Braselton officer James Keinard was fired and referred for criminal prosecution after allegedly misusing the Flock system in 2024 and 2025 to track people with whom he had a personal relationship.

**Polk County, Georgia** Original source

DATE June 2024 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use CAMERA Flock

Former officer Tracey Royston was arrested and criminally charged after allegedly using another department's Flock

**Dallas, Georgia** Original source

DATE June 2024 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Heidi Taylor, the former 911 director for the Dallas, Georgia police department, was arrested and charged with misuse of a license plate reader system after the Georgia Bureau of Investigation found that she accessed the Flock system "for reasons unrelated to law enforcement between 2024 and 2025."

**Coffee County, Georgia** Original source

DATE April 2024 TYPE Stalking CAMERA Flock

Former Coffee County Sheriff's Deputy Chris Rozar was charged with multiple criminal offenses after allegedly using the department's Flock system to stalk a woman he was romantically interested in. Rozar resigned several weeks into the investigation.

**Cherokee County, Georgia** Original source

DATE October 2023 TYPE Non Law-Enforcement Use

CAMERA Flock

Deputy Jerry Shellhouse was fired and charged for alleged improper use of the Flock system starting in October 2023.

**Methodology**

Incidents of abuse were identified using media reports and public records. Incidents involving vehicle-mounted ALPR systems, speed cameras, red light cameras and toll cameras are not included: only stationary, always-on ALPR systems are included due to the unique risks they pose. Dates reflect when the misuse began, if known, or when it was first publicly reported.

**Category definitions**

Stalking – incidents in which an officer used an ALPR system to track the location of a romantic partner (current, former, or prospective), a romantic rival, or a family member.

Error – incidents in which an ALPR camera misread a vehicle's plate, or an officer misinterpreted ALPR data.

Non-law-enforcement use – incidents in which an officer misused an ALPR system in a personal or otherwise unspecified manner.

# Is Government Tracking Your Every Move?

*IJ is fighting to restore constitutional limits on surveillance — for every American.*

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## FEATURED CASE



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