September 21, 2026



# Flock- Automated License Plate Readers



- Timeline
- Myths vs Facts
- Success of the Program
- Safeguards

# Timeline



**November 6, 2023**

City Council accepts the 2023 JAG Grant and approves funding to purchase ALPR cameras.

**2023 - 2024**

Researched available ALPR providers and technology.

**October 21, 2024**

City Council awards a four-year sole-source contract to FLOCK.

**December 20, 2024**

13 ALPR cameras are operational.

**January 21, 2025**

City Council accepts and appropriates the 2024 JAG Grant to continue funding FLOCK.

# Myth vs Fact

**MYTH**

Flock cameras track people.

**FACT**

Flock cameras **do NOT watch people or track where they go**. They simply capture an image of a **vehicle** as it passes a **fixed camera location.** The images are not routinely reviewed. A trained and authorized officer must conduct a search, and every search must be related to a **legitimate law enforcement purpose.**



*Capture vehicle images at a fixed camera location.*

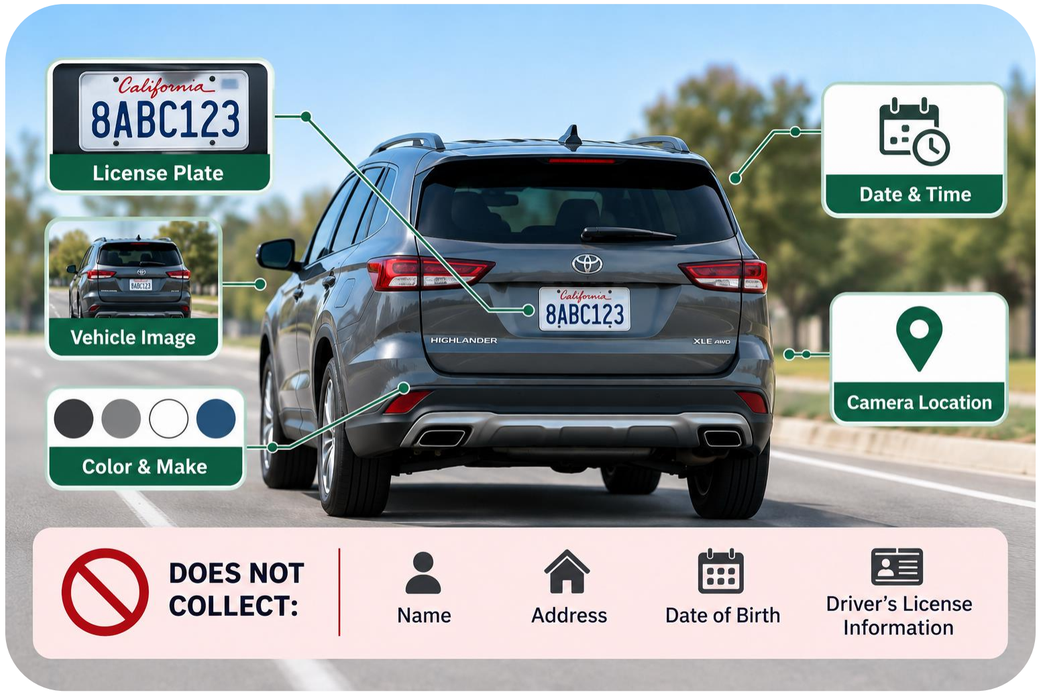
# Myth vs Fact

**MYTH**

Flock cameras collect personal information about every driver.

**FACT**

The cameras record a vehicle's license plate, a photo of the vehicle, its color and make, the date and time, and the camera location. They **do NOT collect** your name, address, date of birth, driver's license information, or other personal information. **The system identifies vehicles in public spaces, not people.**




*VEHICLES. NOT PEOPLE.*

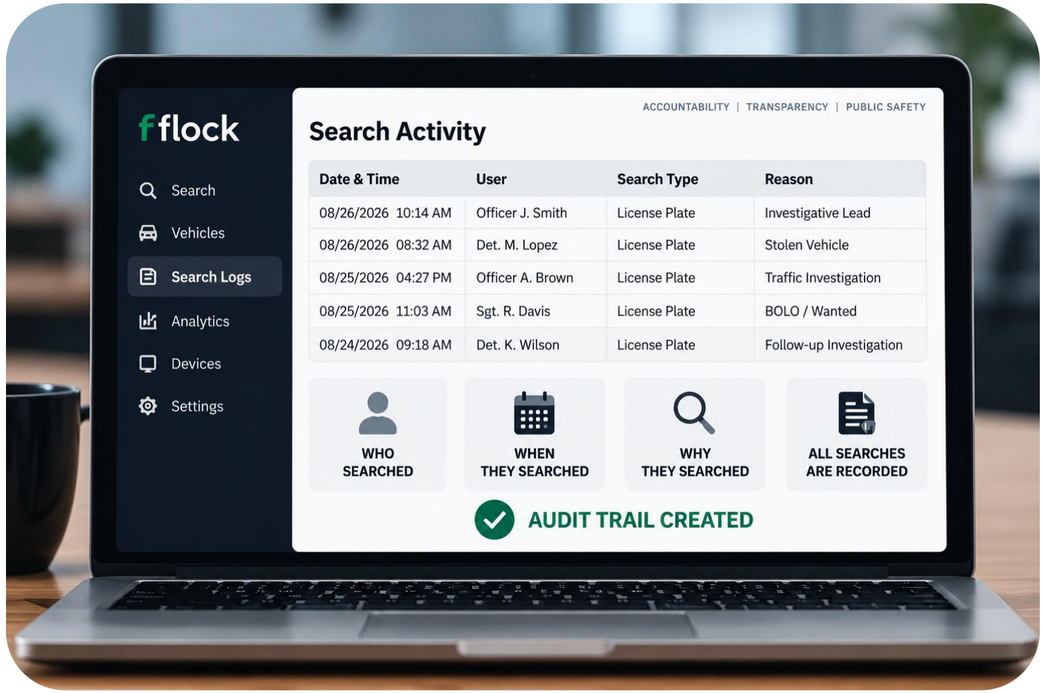
# Myth vs Fact

**MYTH**

Police can search the system whenever they want.

**FACT**

No. **Every search is recorded**, including **who searched, when they searched, and why they searched**. Only **trained and authorized employees** can use the system, and all searches can be reviewed to ensure they follow department policy.




*Every search leaves a record.*

# Myth vs Fact

**MYTH**

Police can see where everyone is in real time.

**FACT**

No. The Visalia Police Department **does NOT use Flock Live cameras.** ALPR cameras are **not GPS trackers.** They only record when a vehicle passes a **fixed camera.** If a vehicle never passes a camera, there is no record. Flock cameras take pictures of vehicles and vehicle license plates **only when they pass a camera.**



*A vehicle is recorded only when it passes a camera.*

# Myth vs Fact

**MYTH**

No one checks how the system is used.

**FACT**

The system is regularly **audited on a weekly basis.** Searches are reviewed to make sure they follow department policy. Any **suspected misuse is investigated,** and policy violations may result in disciplinary action. The Flock system is also equipped with **built-in auditing mechanisms** to alert the agency administrator of any suspicious search activity, excessive searches by a single user, etc.




*Use of the system is monitored & reviewed.*

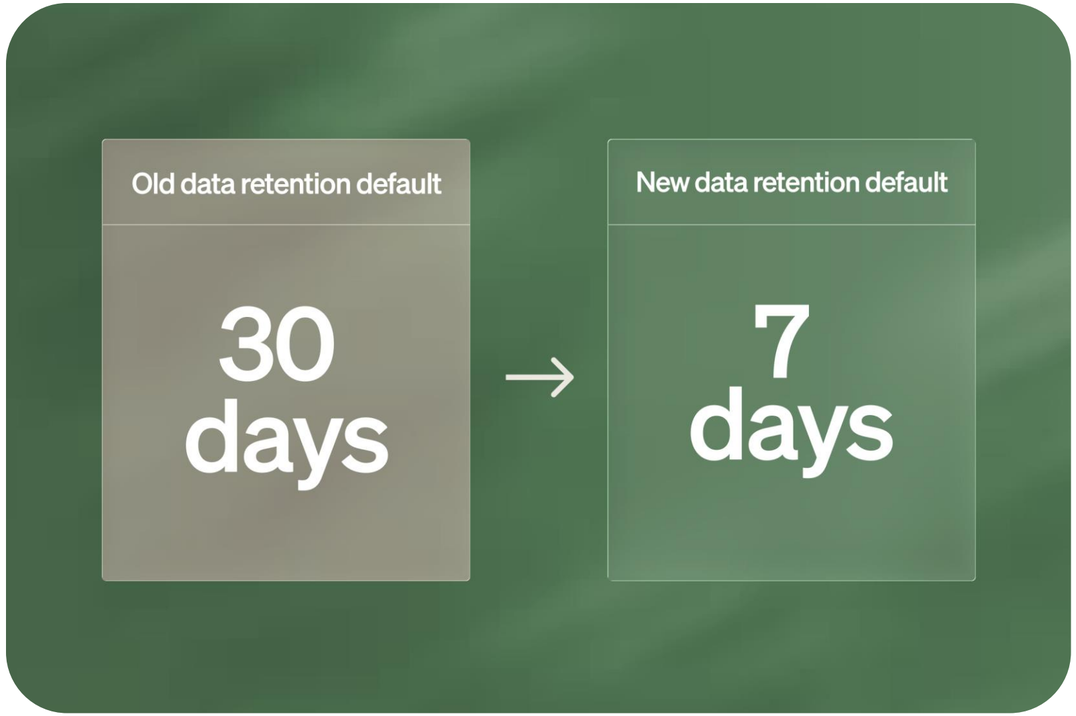
# Myth vs Fact

**MYTH**

The data is kept forever.

**FACT**

The system **only maintains data for 30 days**, at which time the data is automatically deleted – unless a vehicle is entered onto a **"hotlist"** as wanted for a specific crime, missing person, or specific investigation and in those instances, must be attached to a specific case number. Flock has recently changed their standardized retention period from **30 days to 7 days.**



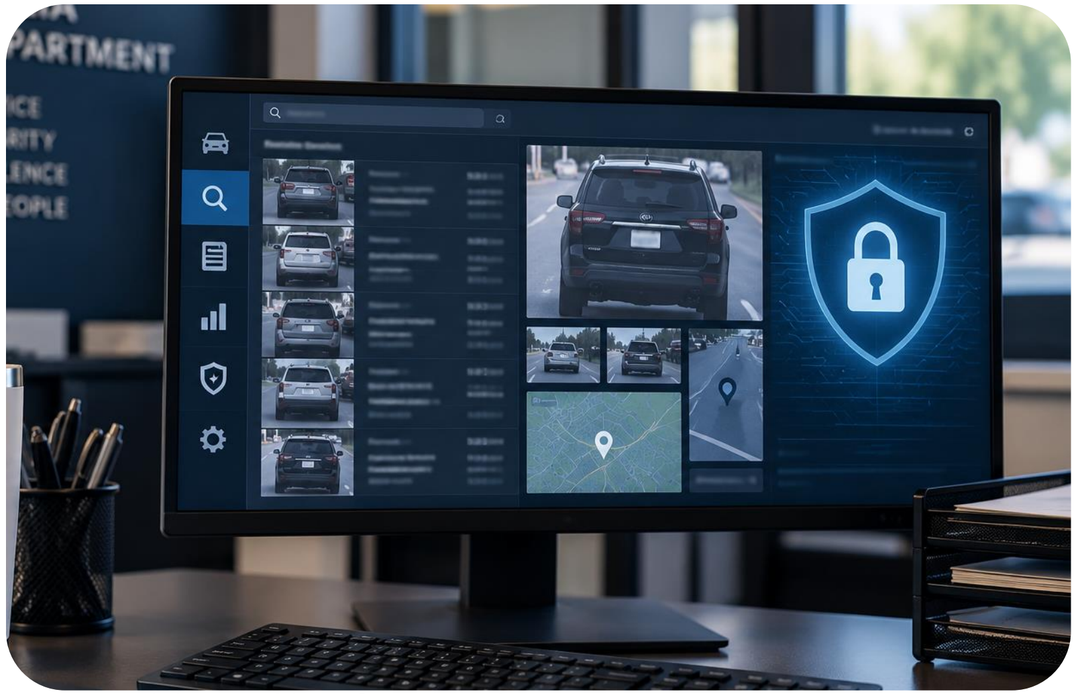
# Myth vs Fact

**MYTH**

Flock sells our information.

**FACT**

No. The **City of Visalia owns the data** collected by its cameras and **does NOT sell it.** The information can only be used for **legitimate public safety and law enforcement purposes.**



*City-owned data. Public safety use only.*

# Myth vs Fact

**MYTH**

The cameras automatically issue tickets.

**FACT**

No. ALPR cameras do **NOT issue citations.** They can alert officers when a license plate may be connected to a stolen vehicle or another legitimate law enforcement notification. Every alert must be **verified by an officer** before any enforcement action is taken. A Flock "hit" is only an **investigative lead** that then requires officers to further develop probable cause or confirm any "hits" before taking any kind of enforcement action.




*The camera may generate an alert, but an officer determines what happens next.*

# Myth vs Fact

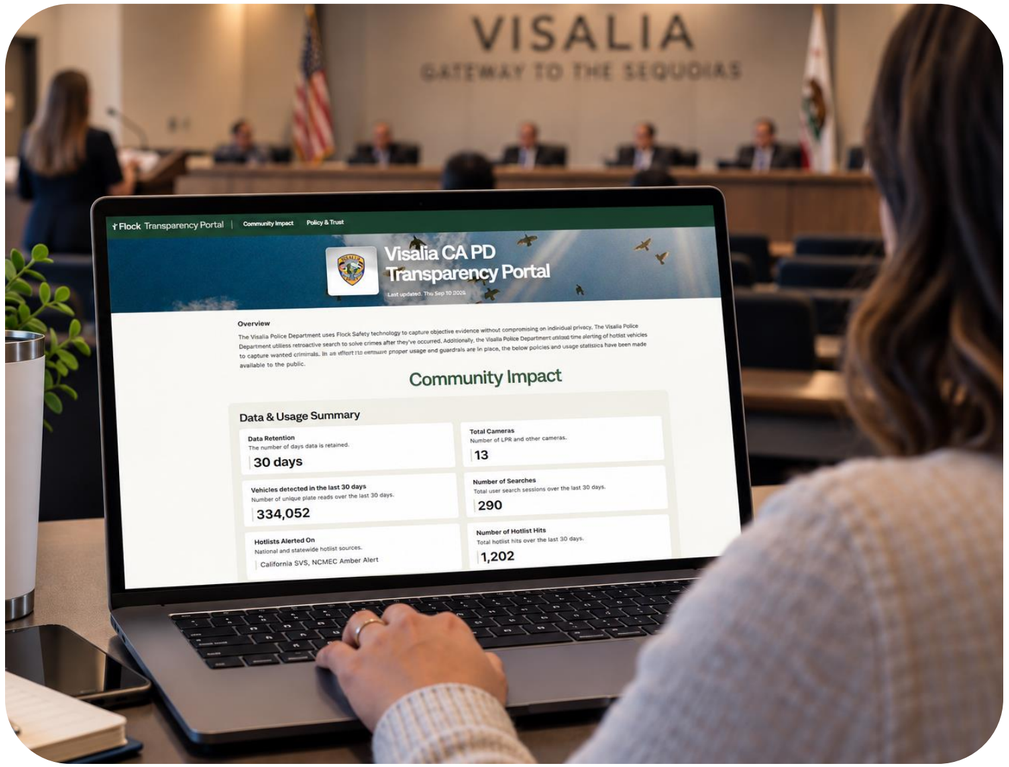
**MYTH**

The Police Department isn’t being transparent.

**FACT**

The Visalia Police Department believes the community deserves to know how this technology is used. Residents can review our **Technology Transparency webpage**, attend **City Council meetings** and provide **public comments.** We believe public safety and privacy can go hand in hand through responsible policies, accountability, and **open communication.**

**View VPD’s Technology Transparency Portal**




https://transparency.flocksafety.com/visalia-ca-pd

# Myth vs Fact

**MYTH**

These cameras don’t help solve crimes.

**FACT**

Since implementing ALPR technology, the Visalia Police Department has used it to **recover stolen vehicles**, **arrest wanted suspects,** and **develop important leads** in criminal investigations.




*ALPR technology provides investigative leads that help officers solve crimes.*

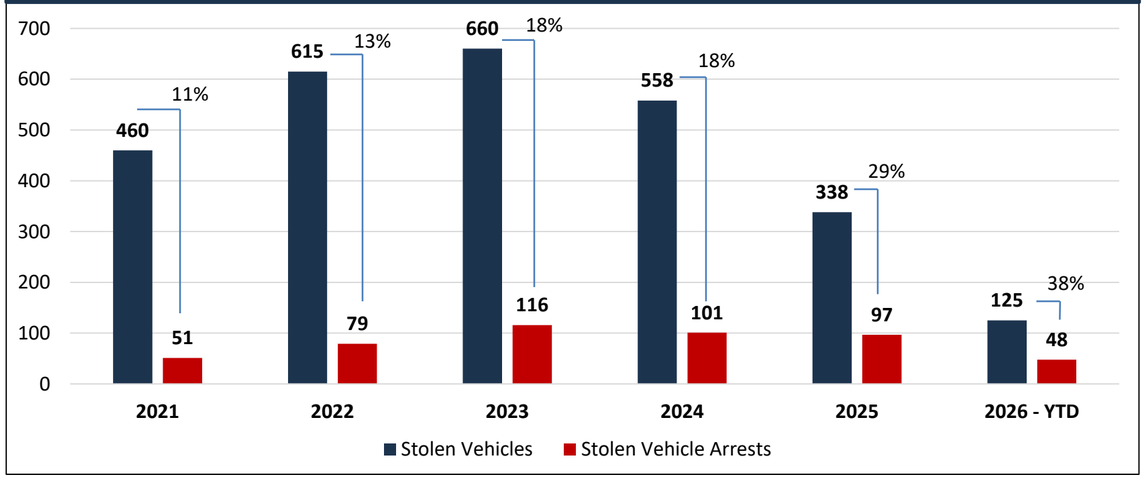
# Stolen Vehicle Statistics

**125**
Stolen Vehicles
2026 - YTD

**48**
Stolen Vehicle Arrests
2026 - YTD

**38%**
% Stolen Vehicle Arrests
2026 - YTD

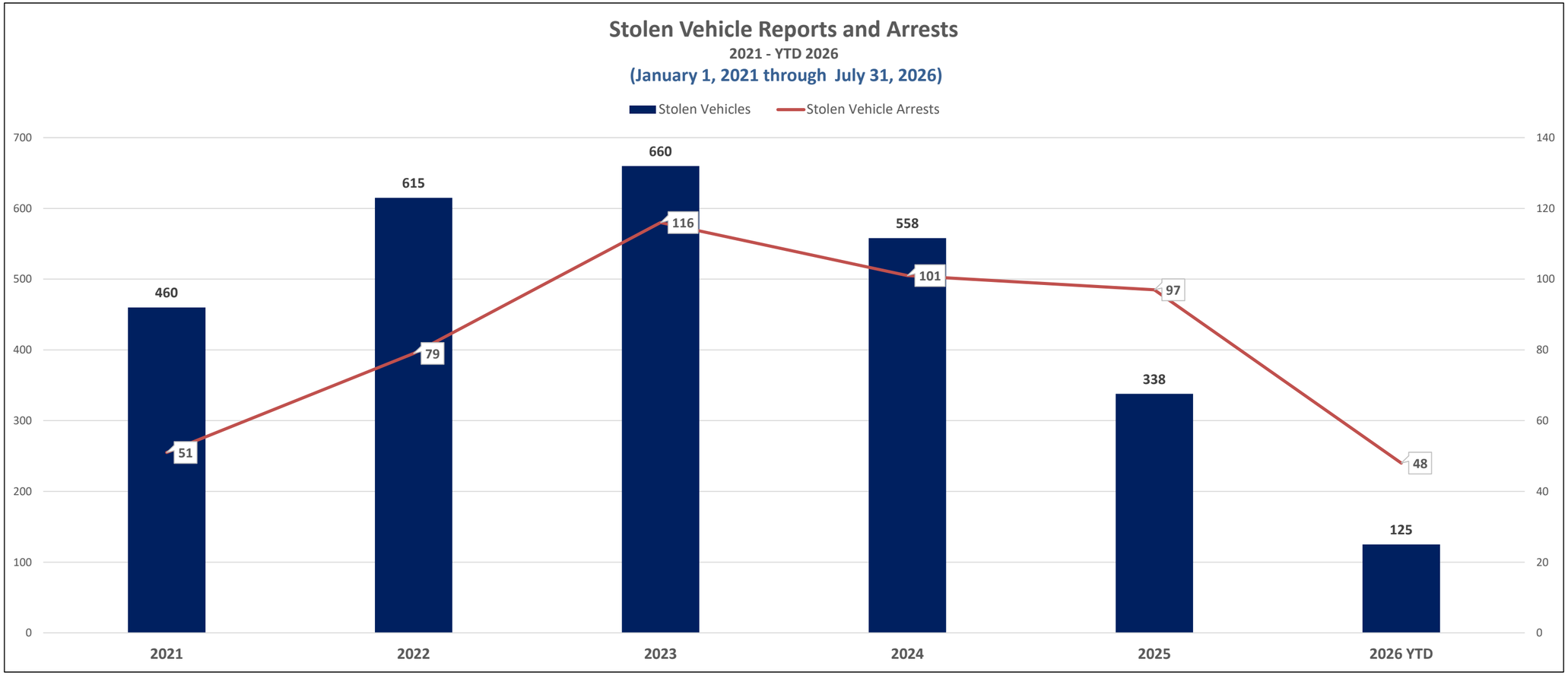
## Stolen Vehicle & Stolen Vehicle Arrests by Year




| FLOCK Alerts | 2025 | 2026 - YTD | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ABC123 | 6,495 | 4,819 | Stolen Plates |
| | 0 | 2,356 | Non-Owned Custom Hotlist Alerts |
| | 0 | 720 | Custom Hotlist Alerts |
| | 190 | 107 | Stolen Vehicles |
| | 20 | 7 | Felony Vehicles |

| FLOCK Associated Arrests | 2025 | 2026 - YTD |
|---|---|---|
| Stolen Vehicles | 84 | 37 |
| Felony Vehicles | 20 | 7 |

# Stolen Vehicle Statistics



# Safeguards

## Organization and Network Audits

- Conducted Weekly
- Single-User Plate Searches
- Searches Beyond 30-Days
- Repeated Searches

## Network Sharing

- **306** Law Enforcement Agencies
- **338** Camera Networks
- Only Sharing with California Law Enforcement Agencies
- Share Request Process

# Thank you.

# Questions?

