



128 DORRANCE STREET, SUITE 220
PROVIDENCE, RI 02903
401.831.7171 (t)
401.831.7175 (f)
www.riaclu.org

July 30, 2012

Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell
Rhode Island State Police
311 Danielson Pike
Scituate, RI 02857

BY FAX AND MAIL

Dear Colonel O'Donnell:

As part of a coordinated nationwide ACLU effort to examine the privacy implications of the increased use of this technology, we are seeking to determine the extent to which city police departments in Rhode Island are making use of Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs), also known as Automatic Vehicle Identification, Car Plate Recognition, or License Plate Recognition technology.

Please consider this an open records request pursuant to the Access to Public Records Act, R.I.G.L. §38-2-1 et seq., for certain documents in this regard.

Specifically, if your Department currently uses, has procured, has applied for funding or has otherwise sought to purchase ALPRs, I am requesting any and all documentation related to that procurement, purchase, use or application. This includes, but is not limited to, copies of any grant applications filed, any written policies and procedures regarding the use of ALPRs, any documents relating to the storage of, and access to, ALPR data, and any records regarding the sharing of collected ALPR data with any organization or agency outside of your Department.

If the Department does not use and has not sought to purchase ALPRs, please inform me in writing that you have no documents responsive to this open records request.

As provided for by APRA, we are willing to pay reasonable copying costs for the requested documents. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Hillary Davis
Policy Associate



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July 30, 2012

Colonel Marco Palombo, Jr.
Cranston Police Department
5 Garfield Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920

BY FAX AND MAIL

Dear Colonel Palombo:

As part of a coordinated nationwide ACLU effort to examine the privacy implications of the increased use of this technology, we are seeking to determine the extent to which city police departments in Rhode Island are making use of Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs), also known as Automatic Vehicle Identification, Car Plate Recognition, or License Plate Recognition technology.

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July 30, 2012

Colonel Stephen M. McCartney
Warwick Police Department
99 Veterans Memorial Drive
Warwick, RI 02886

BY FAX AND MAIL

Dear Colonel McCartney:

As part of a coordinated nationwide ACLU effort to examine the privacy implications of the increased use of this technology, we are seeking to determine the extent to which city police departments in Rhode Island are making use of Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs), also known as Automatic Vehicle Identification, Car Plate Recognition, or License Plate Recognition technology.

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July 30, 2012

Chief Paul King
Pawtucket Police Department
121 Roosevelt Avenue
Pawtucket, RI 02860

BY FAX AND MAIL

Dear Chief King:

As part of a coordinated nationwide ACLU effort to examine the privacy implications of the increased use of this technology, we are seeking to determine the extent to which city police departments in Rhode Island are making use of Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs), also known as Automatic Vehicle Identification, Car Plate Recognition, or License Plate Recognition technology.

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July 30, 2012

Chief Joseph Tavares
East Providence Police Department
750 Waterman Avenue
East Providence, RI 02914

BY FAX AND MAIL

Dear Chief Tavares:

As part of a coordinated nationwide ACLU effort to examine the privacy implications of the increased use of this technology, we are seeking to determine the extent to which city police departments in Rhode Island are making use of Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs), also known as Automatic Vehicle Identification, Car Plate Recognition, or License Plate Recognition technology.

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July 30, 2012

Major James J. Mendonca
Central Falls Police Department
160 Illinois St.
Central Falls, RI 02863

BY FAX AND MAIL

Dear Major Mendonca:

As part of a coordinated nationwide ACLU effort to examine the privacy implications of the increased use of this technology, we are seeking to determine the extent to which city police departments in Rhode Island are making use of Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs), also known as Automatic Vehicle Identification, Car Plate Recognition, or License Plate Recognition technology.

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July 30, 2012

Chief Thomas S. Carey
Woonsocket Police Department
242 Clinton St.
Woonsocket, RI 02895

BY FAX AND MAIL

Dear Chief Carey:

As part of a coordinated nationwide ACLU effort to examine the privacy implications of the increased use of this technology, we are seeking to determine the extent to which city police departments in Rhode Island are making use of Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs), also known as Automatic Vehicle Identification, Car Plate Recognition, or License Plate Recognition technology.

Please consider this an open records request pursuant to the Access to Public Records Act, R.I.G.L. §38-2-1 et seq., for certain documents in this regard.

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Hillary Davis
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July 30, 2012

Captain Gary T. Silva
Newport Police Department
120 Broadway
Newport, RI 02840

BY FAX AND MAIL

Dear Captain Silva:

As part of a coordinated nationwide ACLU effort to examine the privacy implications of the increased use of this technology, we are seeking to determine the extent to which city police departments in Rhode Island are making use of Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs), also known as Automatic Vehicle Identification, Car Plate Recognition, or License Plate Recognition technology.

Please consider this an open records request pursuant to the Access to Public Records Act, R.I.G.L. §38-2-1 et seq., for certain documents in this regard.

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July 30, 2012

Colonel Hugh T. Clements, Jr.
Providence Police Department
325 Washington St.
Providence, RI 02903

BY FAX AND MAIL

Dear Colonel Clements:

Please consider this an open records request pursuant to the Access to Public Records Act, R.I.G.L. §38-2-1 et seq. This request seeks records regarding automatic license plate readers (ALPRs), also sometimes referred to as Automatic Vehicle Identification, Car Plate Recognition or License Plate Recognition equipment and/or software.

We request copies of the following documents:

1. All policies, practices and procedures for using ALPR technology, and for storing, accessing and sharing data obtained through ALPR technology;
2. All records regarding the sources of funds used to pay for ALPR technology;
3. All materials and fact sheets supplied by vendors describing any ALPR products purchased by your Department and the technical capabilities of the ALPR units;
4. All records regarding the number of ALPR units acquired; the number of vehicles equipped with ALPRs; and for any stationary deployments, the number and physical location of ALPR units;
5. All records regarding the types of data obtained through use of the ALPRs and the storage of this data, including how long data is stored and the number of individual license plate scan records that are stored;
6. All records addressing access to ALPR data by departmental employees, including who may access the data, the procedures in place for doing so, and who must authorize access; the purposes for which the data may be accessed; and any auditing mechanisms in place that document access to the data;
7. All records regarding the sharing of ALPR data with third parties, including: the types of data shared, and with whom; the procedures third parties must follow in order to access the data; any restrictions placed on third parties in further sharing the data; and any formal agreements in place for sharing the data with third parties;

8. All records regarding obtaining ALPR data from third parties, including which databases your Department can access; and

9. All training materials used to instruct police officers in ALPR deployment, data management, or operation of automated records systems that contain ALPR data.

As provided for by APRA, we are willing to pay reasonable copying costs for the requested documents. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Hillary Davis
Policy Associate



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July 30, 2012

Thomas H. Mongeau
Administrative Manager
Rhode Island Department of Public Safety
Public Safety Grant Administration Office
1 Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

BY FAX AND MAIL

Dear Mr. Mongeau:

Please consider this an open records request pursuant to the Access to Public Records Act, R.I.G.L. §38-2-1 et seq. This request seeks records regarding automatic license plate readers (ALPRs), also sometimes referred to as Automatic Vehicle Identification, Car Plate Recognition or License Plate Recognition equipment and/or software.

Specifically, I am writing to obtain copies of the following records created from January 1, 2006 to the present:

1. All records regarding all federal funds your agency has sought, received, or distributed for ALPR equipment or systems. ALPR equipment or systems include ALPR units, databases containing ALPR data, and programs used to analyze ALPR data;
2. All records regarding which police departments or other agencies have received or purchased ALPR equipment or systems using funds from grants managed, arranged or assisted by your office, and their applications for such equipment or systems;
3. All records regarding any requirements imposed by federal granting agencies with respect to ALPR equipment or systems, and any records describing any requirements imposed upon state and local police by your agency with respect to ALPRs;
4. All records regarding any regional databases, data mining programs or other computerized management systems into which ALPR data from two or more police departments or public safety agencies is deposited, including any training materials, policies, internal guidelines or procedures that govern access to, use of or auditing of said systems, including any federal guidelines or regulations which may be applicable to any such program;
5. All records regarding the purchase or sale of ALPR data to any entity; and

6. All records regarding data sharing agreements that include ALPR data with any agency of the federal government, including but not limited to memoranda of understanding/agreement between your agency and any division or department of the U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Aviation Administration and Department of Defense.

As provided for by APRA, we are willing to pay reasonable copying costs for the requested documents. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Hillary Davis
Policy Associate