BLACK MOUNTAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

BACKGROUND

- Automatic License Plate Readers have been in use for over 25 years throughout the country
- Technology invented in the United Kingdom in 1970's
- In the Mid 2000's began to be widely use by big cities like New York
- Flock is one of many companies utilizing ALPR technology, other examples include Verkada, Axion, Motorola, Genetec

BACKGROUND

- Flock has been in use in Black Mountain since 2023
- Currently operate 5 cameras
- Since September 2025 we have received 2,501 hotlist alerts
- Average approximately 25,000 plate reads daily

Types of Alerts

- Missing Persons
- Wanted Persons
- Silver/Amber and Blue Alerts
- Stolen Vehicles
- Stolen License Plates
- Domestic Violence Protective Order Extreme Risk
- Gang Member/Suspected Terrorist
- Sex Offender

WHAT WE ARE NOT BEING ALERTED ON

- Vehicle Inspection Violations
- Vehicle Equipment Violations (Headlamps, Taillights, etc.)
- Vehicle Insurance Violations
- Vehicle Registration Plate Violations
- Speeding
- Occupants in the vehicle
- Immigration status alerts
- Pedestrians walking or traveling pass the camera in real time (Facial Recognition)

OFFICER PROCESS

Officer receives an alert or hit through text on their department phone or on their MDT computer in the patrol vehicle detailing the type of hit.

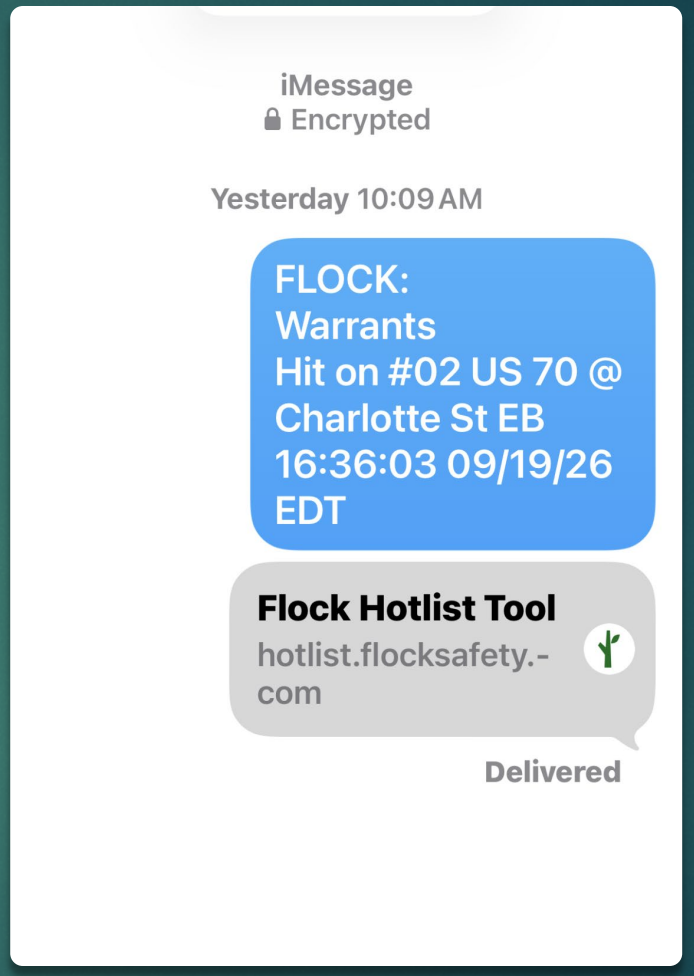
If Officer locates the vehicle, they verify the hit with NCIC (National Crime Information Center)

If the hit is verified with NCIC the officer will initiate a stop based on what the hit is for.
(Not stopping for Gang/Terrorist, Sex Offender, or Domestic Violence unless some other circumstance exist.)

Officer takes appropriate action based on circumstances of stop.

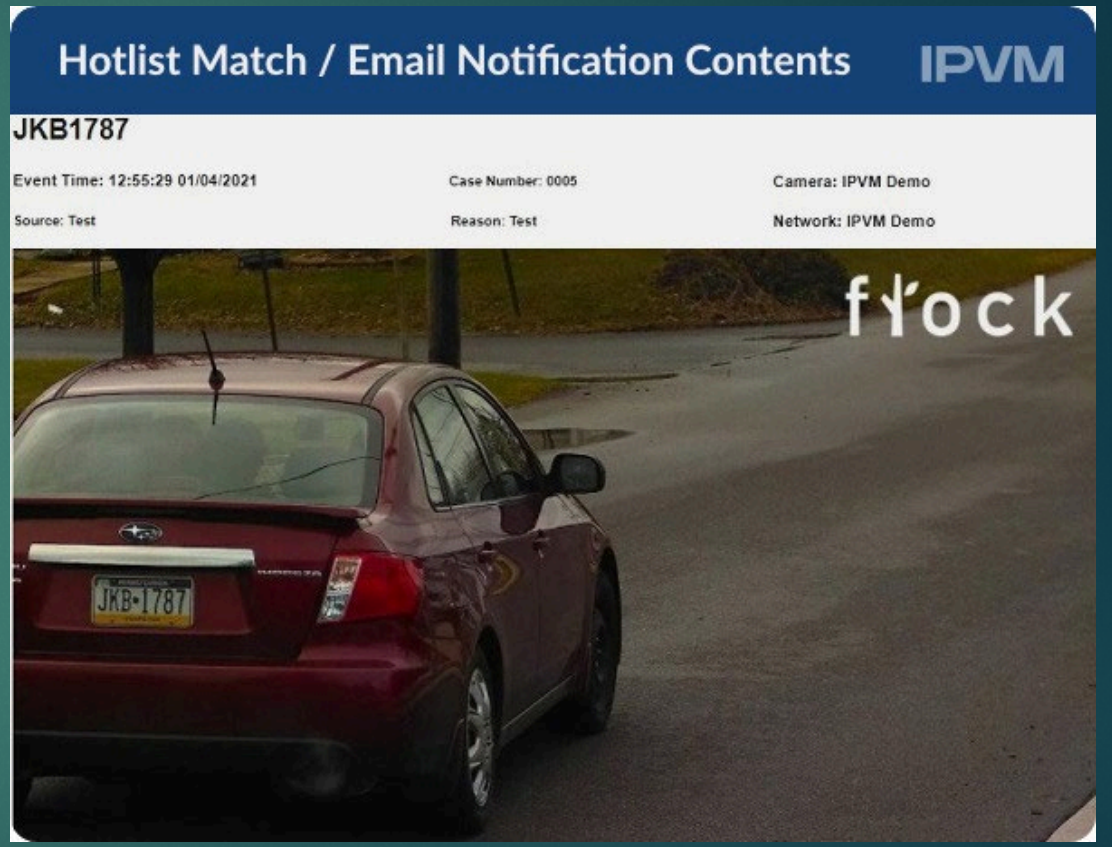
Notification

What the Officer Sees



Notification

What the Officer Sees



Safeguards

- Black Mountain Police Department policy and directives outlining the use of Automatic License Plate readers (Policy in place since 2023)
- Required verification process prior to stop
- 30 day retention period
- Require that the use is tied to a specific criminal investigation which is documented when the search is completed.

Safeguards

- Required supervisor approval to be added to internal department hotlist or conduct a plate search.
- Require a monthly audit, and yearly review of use.
- Creation of a transparency portal accessible to the public.

Safeguards

- No out of state access to our camera network
- No auto approve sharing in-state or out of state
- No Federal share request
- Immigration and Reproductive care searches are not permitted and disabled at the administrative level

Statistics

Since January 2023

- 9 Missing Persons Located
- 24 Stolen Vehicles Recovered
- 18 Stolen Plates Recovered
- 20 Wanted Fugitives Arrested
- 106 Investigations Assisted

Success Stories

- 2023-Located a bank robbery suspect, who fled from police, tried to carjack an elderly motorist and murdered a law enforcement officer while in custody
- 2024-Located a suspect in a murder case from McDowell County
- 2024-Days before Christmas located a suspect who had stolen a trailer donated to a Helen victim with the victim's property still inside
- 2025-Located a suspect in a rash of vehicle break-in's from the Hampton Inn.
- 2026-Helped identify a suspect in motor vehicle theft from Cove Auto, which was then used in a break-in within the town of Montreat
- 2026-Identified suspect in two residential break-in's off Kappa Loop

PUBLIC SEARCH SITES



PublicRecords.us
https://www.publicrecords.us › VIN Number › Vehicle

Vehicle Plate # Check | Vehicle History By Plate

Sponsored Enter Any Local License Plate Number & View Associated Public Records. It's Easy! Search Vehicle Records By Plate Number. Get Informed Now.

Bumper
https://www.bumper.com › VIN_Lookup › Results

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Sponsored Research a Vehicle by Vin Number, License Plate, Year, Make or Model. Search Today! Check for Storm Damage, Accidents, & Theft Records. Results at a Low Cost Price.
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Service catalog: Vehicle History Reports, Search Vehicle Records, Unlock Car History

License Plate Search | VIN Search | Lookup Vehicle History

BeenVerified
https://www.beenverified.com › VIN_Lookup › Results

VIN/License Plate Car Lookup | Search Cars By License Plate

Sponsored Smart Research Starts Here: Explore Available Title Records By VIN Or License Plate Number. Premium Car Search With VIN Lookup. See Available History, Title Records, Accidents & More
Quick & Easy To Use · 100,000,000+ Searches · Best Customer Support · Searches
Service catalog: Car Report, VIN Lookup, Vehicle Records, VIN Decoder

Vehicle Specifications | Market Value

InfoTracer
https://infotracer.com › license-plate

Free License Plate Search | Search License Plate For Free

Sponsored License Plate Search. Find Vehicle Owner, Specifications, Information & More. Search To Uncover Owner's Name & Contact Info, VIN, Vehicle History & More
Information Categories, Vehicle Specifications, Public Records, Owner Details and more
4.5/5 ★★★★½ (4,309 reviews)
"Extremely professional and helpful!" - from consumer review

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OPERATED BY AN INDEPENDENT PUBLIC RECORDS COMPANY

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SEARCH VEHICLE HISTORY BY LICENSE PLATE

VEHICLE SEARCH MAY CONTAIN PUBLIC DMV RECORDS, CAR HISTORY, TITLE STATUS, VEHICLE RECORDS, AND ACCIDENT RECORDS.

Public Use of License Plate Readers

- Electronic Toll Collection
- High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Enforcement
- Ticketless Parking Garages
- Digital Permit Enforcement
- Automated Gate Control
- Access Control/Security
- Public Parking Enforcement

Transparency Hub

FLOCK SAFETY - BLACK MOUNTAIN NC PD TRANSPARENCY PORTAL