Black Mountain Police Department
106 Montreat Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711
(828)419-9350
(828)669-8143 fax

Memo

To: All Staff

From: Steve R Parker- Chief

Date: August 13, 2026

Re: Directive 26-0001 – Flock Camera's

Effective immediately, this email establishes revised directives governing the operation, access, and use of the Flock Safety camera system.

Flock is a highly effective law-enforcement tool. However, agencies nationwide have faced scrutiny due to alleged or confirmed misuse of license plate reader systems. The Department will ensure that all use of Flock remains professional, lawful, accountable, and consistent with public trust.

1. Unauthorized or Personal Use is Strictly Prohibited

Flock shall not be used to track, search, monitor, or otherwise query family members, friends, significant others, acquaintances, or any other individual for personal or otherwise unauthorized purposes.

All system activity must be supported by a legitimate law-enforcement purpose and must comply with applicable law and Department policy.

Any employee who misuses system access or authority may be subject to criminal investigation, administrative investigation, disciplinary action, termination, and/or decertification, as applicable.

Intentional misuse of this system will not be tolerated.

2. Hot List Entries

Any vehicle added to a Flock hot list must meet the following requirements:

- Be supported by a legitimate law-enforcement purpose;
- Be approved by a supervisor prior to entry; and
- Be documented on the appropriate activity sheet or log.

Due to the sensitive nature of active investigations, Investigations personnel may obtain and document supervisory approval via email in lieu of including sensitive investigative details on the general activity sheet. All approvals must be retained in accordance with Department records requirements.

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3. Verification of Flock Hits

A Flock alert constitutes an investigative lead and does not, by itself, confirm the current status of a vehicle.

Prior to initiating enforcement action based on a Flock hit, officers shall request Dispatch verification of the vehicle and registration information and confirmation of the relevant status through appropriate law-enforcement databases. Officers remain responsible for ensuring that all enforcement actions are supported by appropriate legal authority.

4. Monthly Audits

Beginning August 2026, the Flock Administrator will conduct a monthly audit at the start of each month. The audit will assess system activity for compliance with Department policy, legitimate law-enforcement purpose, required approvals and documentation, and any indicators of improper use.

Any identified concerns will be forwarded through the chain of command for review.

Flock is a significant investigative resource that supports the identification of wanted persons, recovery of stolen vehicles, development of investigative leads, and resolution of criminal cases.

All personnel are directed to use Flock strictly for legitimate law-enforcement purposes and in accordance with applicable law and Department policy.

The objective is to effectively enforce the law, protect the community, and maintain public trust.

Thank you,

Steven K Parker