

Town of Addison Public Safety Data Management Policy Discussion

December 8, 2020

Presented by Paul Spencer, Chief of Police

The logo for the Town of Addison, featuring the word "ADDISON" in blue, uppercase, sans-serif font centered within a white circle. The circle is set against a blue background that is part of a larger graphic design on the right side of the slide, which includes a white diagonal line and a grey triangle.

- On January 9, 2019, the Addison City Council adopted the Town of Addison Public Safety Data Management Policy to provide transparency and accountability for the usage of data collected by license plate recognition and optical cameras.
- The Addison Police Department developed and implemented departmental policy based on the guidance provided by Council.
- System has operated effectively since April 2019

- The Law Enforcement Support Division of the Texas Department of Public Safety identified a Criminal Justice Information Security (CJIS) concern with our License Plate Recognition (LPR) vendor.
 - Essentially, the vendor was distributing the Texas Crime Information Center (TCIC) hotlists to its customers in Texas directly.
 - Direct distribution violates CJIS rules: Texas law enforcement agencies are the sole recipient of these TCIC hotlists.
- Due to these concerns, distribution of the TCIC hotlist to our vendor was terminated.
- The Addison Police Department (APD) lost the ability to receive alerts in the field based on license plate reads for TCIC information (i.e. stolen vehicles, criminal warrants etc.)
- The APD never lost the ability to read plates and collect data for investigative use.

- Texas Department of Public Safety implemented changes to how license plate data are accessed and shared in the State of Texas. *Two important requirements are:*
 - TCIC hotlists are now only available if agencies sign on with the DPS LPR Regional Data Repository.
 - APD must agree to let the State share our data with other law enforcement agencies.
- These changes effectively result in DPS taking control of all license plate data to:
 - Protect access to the data in the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and Texas Crime Information Center (TCIC) databases, and
 - Facilitate the sharing of this data amongst law enforcement agencies in Texas.

- The change takes away the Town's ability to dictate with which Law Enforcement Agencies we can share our LPR data. This was one of the guiding principles Council approved as part of our LPR implementation.

- Town of Addison Public Safety Data Management Policy Number 4:

“The Town will not share plate data with non-law enforcement, third-parties. The Town will also not share data with other law enforcement agencies that do not follow proper retention and access policies or that do not have clear policies in place to ensure such practices are followed.”

PROPOSED REVISION

“The Town will not share plate data with non-law enforcement, third-parties. The Town will comply with the Texas DPS License Plate Depository Recognition Program and abide by their rules.”

- DPS will honor our 45 days retention period.

Benefits of Participating in the DPS LPR Data Repository

- Subject to State of Texas CJIS audits and therefore more secure.
 - Data repository only available to CJIS certified and approved law enforcement agencies.
 - Texas DPS has a Privacy Impact Assessment (policy) in place that follows many of the same philosophical tenets as the Town regarding the collection, storage, management, and use of LPR data.
- Less Burdensome on Addison Police Department staff
 - We no longer must vet every agency which we wish to share data.
- Increases the effectiveness and efficiency of data sharing among law enforcement agencies.
- Once memorandums of understanding are complete, we will regain the ability to get field alerting based on the TCIC hotlists from the State of Texas.

Questions?

