



COUNTY of VENTURA

**PUBLIC SAFETY RACIAL EQUITY ADVISORY GROUP
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
1911 WILLIAMS DRIVE, OXNARD, CA
THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

MEETING PARTICIPATION:

Topic: PSREAG Meeting

**Location: Ventura County Behavioral Health
Large Training Room
1911 Williams Drive, Oxnard, CA**

Members of the public may join in person or by Zoom link below:

Join Zoom Webinar:
<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1615382699>

SUBMITTING WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public who wish to make either general public comment or comment on a specific agenda item prior to the meeting may do so by **9:00 AM on the Thursday of the monthly meetings** in one of the following ways:

- a. Completing the public comment form at the bottom of the PSREAG webpage:
venturacounty.gov/PSREAGcomment
- b. Emailing belonging@venturacounty.gov. Please include the following information in your email:
 - i. Meeting date
 - ii. Agenda item number and title (if applicable)
 - iii. Your full name (optional).

During the public comment period, all comments received by the deadline will be submitted for the record.

OPENING

- 1. CALL TO ORDER (5 MIN)**
 - a. Welcome
 - b. Spotlight a Group Norm
 - c. Roll Call & Confirm Quorum
 - d. Review Agenda

- 2. APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES (5 MIN)**

- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES (7 MIN)**
 - a. Updates by Co-Chairs
 - b. Member questions

- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND/OR FOR OTHER ITEMS WITHIN PSREAG SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION (10 MIN).**
 - a. PSREAG members, please reserve your comments for specific agenda items or for the allotted time for Member and Staff Comments at the end of the agenda.
 - b. All public comments regarding public safety and racial equity are welcome and encouraged. However, please note that the PSREAG does not investigate complaints regarding individual incidents involving law enforcement. Formal complaints should be submitted to the involved law enforcement agency.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 5. PSREAG MEMBER COMMENT PROCEDURES (7 MIN)**
 - a. Updates by Co-Chairs
 - b. Member questions

- 6. AD HOC UPDATES DISCUSSION (8 MIN)**
 - a. Remark(s) by ad hoc member(s)
 - b. Member Discussion

- 7. POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE REPORT FROM TRAFFIC STOPS AD HOC (22 MIN)**
 - a. Member Discussion
 - b. Possible vote

- 8. POSSIBLE ACTION TO FORM NEW AD HOC COMMITTEES ON AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE READERS & SURVEILLANCE, PSREAG BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS, ICE ACTIVITY & PUBLIC SAFETY, AND/OR CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION (18 MIN)(18 MIN)**
 - a. Member Discussion
 - b. Possible Vote

9. CHAIR REPORT & CALL FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (2 MIN)

- a. Presentation by Co-Chairs
- b. Group Discussion

10. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS AND STAFF (10 MINUTES)

- a. Opportunity for comments and announcements from members and staff

11. ADJOURN

If new materials about an agenda item are shared after the agenda packet is posted, they will be added to the Ventura County PSREAG website at venturacounty.gov/PSREAG before the meeting—subject to staff’s ability to post the documents prior to the meeting.

If you need language interpretation or help with an audio, visual, or other disability so you can review an agenda or take part in a Ventura County Public Safety Racial Equity Advisory Group meeting, please contact the County Executive Office at least 48 hours before the meeting to ask for support. You can request help in any of these ways:

- By email: belonging@venturacounty.gov
- By phone: (805) 654-2605
- By mail: Community & Belonging Division, County Executive Office, 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009-1740



COUNTY of VENTURA

PUBLIC SAFETY RACIAL EQUITY ADVISORY GROUP

MEETING MINUTES

1911 WILLIAMS DRIVE, OXNARD, CA

THURSDAY, March 5, 2026

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

MEETING PARTICIPATION:

Topic: PSREAG Meeting

Location: Ventura County Behavioral Health
Large Training Room
1911 Williams Drive, Oxnard, CA

Members of the public may join in person or by Zoom link below:

Join Zoom Webinar:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1615382699>

SUBMITTING WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public who wish to make either general public comment or comment on a specific agenda item prior to the meeting may do so by **9:00 AM on the day of the meeting** in one of the following ways:

- a. Completing the public comment form at the bottom of the PSREAG webpage:
venturacounty.gov/PSREAGcomment
- b. Emailing belonging@venturacounty.gov. Please include the following information in your email:
 - i. Meeting date
 - ii. Agenda item number and title (if applicable)
 - iii. Your full name (optional).

During the public comment period, all comments received by the deadline will be submitted for the record.

OPENING

1. CALL TO ORDER (5 MIN)

- a. Welcome
- b. Spotlight a Group Norm
- c. Roll Call & Confirm Quorum

1. Black Lawyers of VC – Cynthia Gonzalez
 2. Conejo Valley Interfaith Association- Bob Bland and Willie Lubka
 3. Future Leaders of America- Hannah Quiroz
 4. Latinx Bar Association- Vanessa Valdez
 5. MICOP - Vanessa Teran & Rio Lorenzo
 6. One Step A La Vez- Maria Robles
 7. Santa Paula Latino Townhall – Christina Eilar
 8. VC Probation- Chief Ron Miller
 9. VC Public Defender – Brooke Lautz
- d. Review Agenda

2. APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES (5 MIN)

Minutes from 03/05/2026 approved by unanimous vote

3. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND/OR FOR OTHER ITEMS WITHIN PSREAG SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION (10 MIN).

- a. PSREAG members, please reserve your comments for specific agenda items or for the allotted time for Member and Staff Comments at the end of the agenda.
- b. All public comments regarding public safety and racial equity are welcome and encouraged. However, please note that the PSREAG does not investigate complaints regarding individual incidents involving law enforcement. Formal complaints should be submitted to the involved law enforcement agency.

No public comment given online or in person.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. AD HOC UPDATES DISCUSSION (10 MIN)

- a. Remark(s) by ad hoc member(s)
 1. **Know Your rights Report Submitted**
 2. **Traffic Stop ADHOC met with Sheriff Dickie and Chief Aguilar subcommittee meeting coming soon**
 3. **Recruitment ADHOC- met to discuss about application process for joining PSREAG**
- b. Member Discussion

- 5. DISCUSSION ON REQUESTS TO FORM NEW AD HOC**
 - a. Member Discussion
Two members will possibly be assigned to follow up comments
 - b. Possible vote
No Vote

- 6. DISCUSSION ON REQUESTS TO FORM NEW AD HOC COMMITTEES (40 MIN)**
 - a. Member Discussion

- 7. CHAIR REPORT AND CALL FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (5 MIN)**
 - a. Presentation by Co-Chairs
 - b. Group Discussion

- 8. MEMBER & STAFF COMMENTS (10 MINUTES)**
 - a. Opportunity for announcements from members and staff

- 9. ADJOURN**
7:25 PM

If new materials about an agenda item are shared after the agenda packet is posted, they will be added to the Ventura County PSREAG website at venturacounty.gov/PSREAG before the meeting—subject to staff's ability to post the documents prior to the meeting.

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PSREAG: AGENDA ITEM #7: POSSIBLE ACTION TO FORM NEW AD HOC COMMITTEES

APRIL 2, 2026

The proposed ad hoc committees were identified during the March PSREAG meeting. The information below reflects input submitted individually by PSREAG members to staff for the purpose of informing future public discussion.

- **Automatic License Plate Reader & Surveillance**

Key Questions, Issues or areas of exploration:

- “What the information from these license plates is being used for?”
- “Who is collecting this data, where is the data being stored and who has access to it. The data collected should not be shared or sold to any third party.”
- “how VCSO and local law enforcement use license plate readers and other surveillance tools, what information is collected, and how and with which state/federal agencies it is shared”

Desired outcomes, deliverables or impacts:

- “Ad hoc could realistically look into the different uses that are being used in this. And how they can make it safer.”
- “A report on the threat to public safety and privacy because of these cameras.”
- “comprehensive report on local practices, recommendations for ways to restrict/expand the practice (dependent on report)”

- **PSREAG Budget Recommendations**

Key Questions, Issues or areas of exploration:

- “A question would be about the limit and how much is being used for specific things.”
- “This should focus on getting a PSREAG budget to cover staff time and resources to conduct the research needed to build recommendations for the board of supervisors”
- “if we can demonstrate to the county why we need more money and for what purpose”

Desired outcomes, deliverables or impacts:

- “realistically, none”
- “I think this is a moot point and, in a year when our county has a budget shortfall, risks the existence of the entire PSREAG”
- “Proposed budget”

- **ICE Activity & Public Safety**

Key Questions, Issues or areas of exploration:

- “This topic has a lot of potential as this allows us to look into a more personal level with our community.”
- “I think a couple realistic impacts that this group can do is allow us to be able to discuss more about ice enforcement in the county.”
- “I would just have you all keep in mind that this is a topic that types a while and is quite personal.”
- “how the county can limit federal immigration enforcement and its impacts”

Desired outcomes, deliverables or impacts:

- “I think a couple realistic impacts that this group can do is allow us to be able to discuss more about ice enforcement in the county.”
- “I would just have you all keep in mind that this is a topic that types a while and is quite personal.”
- “unknown. the county has little power here, in my opinion”

- **Civilian Oversight Commission**

Key Questions, Issues or areas of exploration:

- “Should such an commission be established? Who should be on it? Bylaws? Limits? Expected challenges? Benefits? How to overcome challenges? Legality? Success of other oversight commissions? Costs? Would PSREAG still be needed”
- “Sheriff collaboration with ICE, affordable housing, harm reduction for drug users, youth drug use prevention, natural disaster emergency preparedness that fully includes undocumented immigrants, equitable policing (stop disproportionately stopping and arresting people of color) and build community trust between communities of color and police”
- “models of civilian oversight to recommend to BOS”

Desired outcomes, deliverables or impacts:

- “Report, recommendation, and vote on that within 6 months”
- “A list of concrete policy recommendations and public budget reallocations.”
- “a report listing various options for civilian oversight with a recommendation on what fits our county best”

- **Other Ad Hoc Committee’s Proposed**

- “How to invest public funds to increase public safety for youth.”
 - “Investigate where in the public county budget can funds be reallocated to invest in youth wellness, youth development, afterschool programs, and safety.”
 - List of policy recommendations and report on the proposed budget reallocations.
- Bylaw revision
 - “Review bylaws, add rules re: what is required to be a CBO member, what to do in case of disruption/failure to follow PSREAG norms, and how to

remove members permanently from PSREAG”

- “the spirit of the PSREAG is about collaboration, not a platform for individual organizations to insist upon their priorities, especially if they otherwise have not contributed to any ad hoc committee or PSREAG work product in the past”
- “revised bylaws for PSREAG membership to approve”

Chair's Report

Public Safety Racial Equity Advisory Group County of Ventura

Meeting Date: April 2, 2026

Agenda Item: Chair's Report

Presenters: Don Aguilar and Christina Eilar, Co-Chairs

Action: Informational Only — No Discussion / No Action

Purpose

The Chair's Report provides informational updates to the Public Safety Racial Equity Advisory Group, including items submitted for consideration, the status or disposition of such items, upcoming meetings, events, or trainings, administrative or procedural notices, and other relevant matters within the Group's subject matter jurisdiction that do not require discussion or action by the Group at the time of presentation.

Chair's Report

1. Agenda Item Submissions

The chairs received the following request(s) for agenda consideration:

- See attached emails for requests.

2. Upcoming Meetings, Events, or Trainings

No items to report at this time.

3. Informational Announcements

- Chairs received recommendation from County Counsel regarding public comment procedure during PSREAG meetings.
- The Community & Belonging Office notified Chairs of reduced capacity to present topics at PSREAG meetings.

Agenda-Setting Meeting Notice

The Co-Chairs and County staff will convene an agenda-setting meeting on **Friday, April 10, 2026** to develop the agenda for the next regular meeting. Agenda requests should be submitted to staff by the close of business on **Thursday, April 9, 2026**, one day prior to the agenda-setting meeting. We kindly ask for members to use the submission form to ensure all requests are clear and organized to review at the same time: <https://forms.office.com/g/SW2C7DhPjD>



Re: Request to Submit Video for Public Comment

From oxnard.lawtina <oxnard.lawtina@proton.me>

Date Fri 2/27/2026 8:33 PM

To Cazares, Gabriela <Gabriela.Cazares@venturacounty.gov>

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@venturacounty.gov.

PLEASE DISREGARD PREVIOUS EMAIL AND USE THIS ONE INSTEAD.

Dear Ventura County Public Safety Racial Equity Advisory Group Chair and Co-Chair,

I am reaching out to request that the video link and this email be submitted as part of public comment for the upcoming meeting. Currently, there does not appear to be a way to submit video content through the public comment portal on your website, so I wanted to ask if your office could assist in including it.

https://www.icloud.com/iclouddrive/0belktLeHB_kQeMhF2qbGu20A#BabiesNConcentration_Camps

Many children remain in ICE custody today. I want to share a snapshot of what our families are living through right now.

Our children are being detained, traumatized, and subjected to conditions that amount to abuse. This is a violation of basic human rights. Keeping children in detention centers is never acceptable. Ever.

All children are our children.

Immigration enforcement has become a system of human trafficking and modern-day concentration camps. Families are torn apart. Children are terrorized. Communities are living in constant fear. We do not know when this government will stop targeting and harming our children.

This is no longer a so-called "public health emergency." This is a humanitarian crisis. And our leaders are failing to act.

So I am asking:

Why is the County so adamant about delaying the meaningful work this group was created to do?

Why are the Co-Chairs assisting in this delay?

Why do you refuse to place the issue of a Sheriff Oversight Commission on the agenda as an action item?

Why are members being denied the opportunity to contribute to and shape the monthly agenda?

Transparency, accountability, and justice are not optional. Our families deserve better. Our children deserve protection. And this body has a responsibility to act, NOW!

Silence and delay are choices. And right now, those choices are harming our community.

SHAME ON YOU!!

-Vanessa Valdez, LBA President

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

On Friday, February 27th, 2026 at 8:05 PM, oxnard.lawtina <oxnard.lawtina@proton.me> wrote:

Dear Ventura County Public Safety Racial Equity Advisory Group Chair and Co-Chair,

I am reaching out to request that my video and this email be submitted as part of public comment for the upcoming meeting. Currently, there does not appear to be a way to submit video content through the public comment portal on your website, so I wanted to ask if your office could assist in including it.

https://www.instagram.com/reel/DUrZIL8iVdr/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=NTc4MTIwNjQ2YQ==

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Silence and delay are choices. And right now, those choices are harming our community.

SHAME ON YOU!!

-Vanessa Valdez, LBA President

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.



Request for Public Safety Meeting Regarding ICE Activity at Courthouse

From oxnard.lawtina <oxnard.lawtina@proton.me>

Date Fri 2/27/2026 8:56 PM

To Cazares, Gabriela <Gabriela.Cazares@venturacounty.gov>

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@venturacounty.gov.

PLEASE INCLUDE IN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dear Chair and Co-Chair of the Ventura County Public Safety Group,

I am writing to formally request that PSREAG arrange a public safety meeting with the Court Executive Officer and the Presiding Judge of the Ventura Superior Court, similar to the meeting held last year with Sheriff Fryhoff.

There has been a noticeable increase in ICE activity in our community, including at the courthouse, and residents are deeply concerned. We are demanding transparency and clear answers about what is taking place and how these actions impact the safety, rights, and well-being of our community.

Here is a link of a video that was shared with me and I would like to add as my public comment to be shared at the meeting,

https://www.icloud.com/icloudrive/03cUZOCO5nwN0p6hPOoWiFCmg#Screen_Recording_2026-02-27_at_8.42

Many serious issues have been brought to our attention, and community members deserve the opportunity to ask questions and receive honest, direct responses. Court leadership serves the public, and it is their responsibility to engage with the community and address these concerns openly.

We respectfully request that this meeting be scheduled as soon as possible so that our community can be informed, heard, and reassured.

Thank you for your time and attention to this urgent matter. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Vanessa Valdez, LBA President

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.



Request to Include Submitted Video as Public Comment

From oxnard.lawtina <oxnard.lawtina@proton.me>
Date Sun 3/1/2026 8:28 AM
To Cazares, Gabriela <Gabriela.Cazares@venturacounty.gov>

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@venturacounty.gov.

Dear Members of the Public Safety Racial Equity Advisory Group,

I respectfully request that the video we are submitting be included as part of the official public comment for our upcoming public safety meeting.

Due to the current limitations of the public comment submission process on the website, I am unable to upload my video directly. This video reflects my public comment and perspectives on matters affecting our community, and I would greatly appreciate it being shared with the Committee and entered into the public record.

https://www.icloud.com/iclouddrive/07fXH9kOqKBRfGr6LCGBja0fg#Screen_Recording_2026-03-01_at_8.16

Please let me know if any additional steps are required on my part to ensure this request is processed.

Sincerely,
Vanessa Valdez

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.



Public Comment – Agenda Setting and Transparency

From oxnard.lawtina <oxnard.lawtina@proton.me>
Date Sun 3/1/2026 9:58 PM
To Cazares, Gabriela <Gabriela.Cazares@venturacounty.gov>

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@venturacounty.gov.

Dear Chairs and County Staff,

In regards to your email dated February 10, 2026, requesting that we submit the "Agenda Item Request Form by a specific deadline

IS NOT HAPPENING!!

You cannot make unilateral decisions like this without the group's feedback or knowledge. This is not how this body is supposed to operate. The Chairs do not dictate what items will be placed on the agenda. You are supposed to consider what the group wants first and then try to put those items on the agenda. That has not been happening.

The fact that you are now expecting us to accept this is appalling and offensive. A couple months ago, former Chair Cynthia Gonzalez stated that the Chairs meet with county counsel to decide what items go on the agenda.

Then, during our February 2026 meeting, it became clear that the Chairs were attempting to implement this practice without any discussion with the group, and more importantly, without our vote through the "Agenda-Setting Meeting Notice" process.

To our surprise, we received a "Chair Report" for the first time since this group commenced, and it was improperly combined with future agenda items. These are two separate matters and should have been placed on the agenda as independent items. If County Counsel was present at this so-called "Agenda-Setting Meeting" and failed to recognize this, then that is yet another serious error. That would make at least the third significant mistake made in this process.

The Latinx Bar Association does not agree with County Counsel, county staff and the Co-Chairs holding private "Agenda-Setting Meetings." Our community is living through a humanitarian crisis. We deserve leaders who are transparent, accountable, and willing to fight for our community, not leaders who operate behind closed doors.

Whether you are meeting with County Counsel or County staff does not change your obligations under the Brown Act. Under guidance from the California Attorney General's Office, private meetings may be used only for legal or administrative support, not for deciding, shaping, or blocking agenda items.

If you are meeting with Ventura County Counsel or staff to determine what this body is allowed to discuss, that is improper and may violate open-meeting laws.

Legal advice is allowed.

Administrative support is allowed.

Secret decision-making is not.

Agenda-setting belongs to this body, not to a small group meeting behind closed doors. Going forward, any changes to the agenda-setting process must be discussed publicly, placed on the agenda, and approved by this group.

We demand that the agenda-setting process be placed on the agenda immediately. For over a year, the Latinx Bar Association has repeatedly requested that the Sheriff Oversight Commission be placed on the agenda. Every single one of those requests has been ignored. The community came out in August and shared their stories and made similar demands.

Therefore, we demand a written explanation for why the requests made by the Latinx Bar Association over the past year have not been placed on the agenda. We also demand a written explanation for why the Chairs have been engaging in ex parte meetings with County Staff and Counsel to decide what this body is allowed to discuss.

This body was created to serve the community, not to silence its members. Transparency is not optional. Accountability is not optional. And neither is respecting this group.

-Vanessa Valdez, LBA President

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.



Immediate Request to Place Jaime Alanis Resolution on Next Agenda

From oxnard.lawtina <oxnard.lawtina@proton.me>
Date Sun 3/1/2026 11:25 PM
To Cazares, Gabriela <Gabriela.Cazares@venturacounty.gov>

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@venturacounty.gov.

PLEASE INCLUDE THIS AS A PUBLIC COMMENT

Dear Co-Chairs,

During the September 4, 2025 PSREAG meeting, it was stated by former chair, Cynthia Gonzalez, that members were not allowed to make a motion to have the Jaime Alanis Resolution considered for next month's agenda. I want to respectfully clarify that this statement was incorrect under the Ralph M. Brown Act (Gov. Code §54954.2(a)).

Under the Brown Act, members of a legislative body have the right to make motions during a properly noticed meeting to place items on a future agenda. Such motions are procedural, not substantive discussion of a non-agenda item, and are explicitly allowed even if the proposed topic is not identical to a current agenda item. In this case, the Jaime Alanis Resolution is directly related to the August 28 Special Meeting debrief, making it fully compliant with the Brown Act for placement on a future agenda.

Importantly, the chair cannot lawfully refuse to allow a member to make such a procedural motion. Denying a member this right, as was done on September 4, violates statutory authority under the Brown Act and improperly restricts member participation.

For these reasons, I am formally requesting that the Jaime Alanis Resolution be placed on the March PSREAG agenda. This resolution is essential as a launchpad for meaningful solutions addressing the needs of families in our community who have been traumatized and terrorized by government actions over the past year.

I trust you will take this action promptly to ensure compliance with the Brown Act and proper procedural practice.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Valdez,
LBA President

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.



Oxnard Police Department Suspends Use of Flock Safety Automated License Plate Readers

From oxnard.lawtina <oxnard.lawtina@proton.me>

Date Sun 3/1/2026 10:07 PM

To Cazares, Gabriela <Gabriela.Cazares@venturacounty.gov>

 1 attachment (1 MB)

260227-oxpd-news-release.docx;

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@venturacounty.gov.

Hello,

Please see attached information released by OXPd. I believe Ventura has also issued a similar notice.

-Vanessa V.

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.



FEBRUARY 27, 2026

NEWS RELEASE – Oxnard Police Department Suspends Use of Flock Safety Automated License Plate Readers (02/27/26)

NEWS RELEASE

DATE: February 27, 2026, 5:00 PM

SUBJECT: Oxnard Police Department Suspends Use of Flock Safety Automated License Plate Readers

PREPARED BY: Jason Benites, Chief of Police

CONTACT: Cody Collet, Investigative Services Bureau Commander
(805) 385-7620 | cody.collet@oxnardpd.org

The Oxnard Police Department (OPD) has suspended its operation of Flock Safety's (Flock) fixed-position Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR).

The purpose of ALPR's is to assist in criminal investigations, including addressing violent crimes, stolen vehicles, missing persons, and other serious offenses. OPD views ALPR technology as a highly valuable and effective tool in addressing crime. OPD deployed nineteen (19) Flock Safety fixed-position ALPR cameras across the city.

Flock's ALPR system captures images of license plates and vehicle characteristics, but does not capture images of drivers or passengers. The ALPR data is then stored in an encrypted cloud environment for thirty (30) days before its deletion. Authorized personnel from agencies that use Flock ALPR technology can query the data for the purpose of locating instances when and where a vehicle was detected by an ALPR camera. Agencies may authorize other entities to access their information, creating a shared network environment.

California law prohibits sharing of ALPR data with entities outside of California. This includes federal law enforcement agencies. Because of this, OPD's "National Lookup" feature on the Flock system was turned off at the very beginning of its Flock ALPR deployment, which began in December of 2023.

Earlier this year, some California agencies across the state discovered that due to a vendor-based issue, their Flock Safety National Lookup feature had inexplicably been turned on during a period of time in February through March of 2025. Flock Safety confirmed that a review of agency audit logs within the Flock platform revealed that during a period in 2025, some California law enforcement agencies' camera networks became accessible to out-of-state law enforcement agencies. This meant that agencies outside of California, including federal ones, were able to include them in their queries. The issue affected multiple California law enforcement agencies, including within Ventura County. Flock Safety recently advised OPD and Ventura County law enforcement leadership that in order to address the issue, the National Lookup feature was disabled for all California agencies in March of 2025.

When OPD heard about this vendor-related issue that occurred with the Flock Safety platform, it initiated an audit of its Flock Safety ALPR data for calendar year 2025. In 2025, OPD's Flock system received over 5 million queries.

The audit revealed that even though OPD's Flock Safety security settings had been set to "California only" access, a vendor-enabled "nationwide query" allowed agencies from outside of California, which also include federal agencies, to query OPD's data without OPD's knowledge or approval. The audit did not find unauthorized access during the February to March period. The audit noted that in May of 2025, the US Department of Veterans Affairs Police Department at Loma Linda Medical Center, a federal law enforcement agency, conducted two (2) nationwide queries that included OPD in its search. Both queries were related to criminal investigations, and had no connection to immigration enforcement.

Given the circumstances, the Oxnard Police Department has suspended its operation of Flock Safety's fixed-position Automated License Plate Readers.

Police Chief Jason Benites: "The Oxnard Police Department relied on Flock Safety's established security protocols. We were disappointed when Flock Safety's shortcoming, the cause of which remains without explanation, allowed unauthorized data sharing. In meetings with company representatives this week, Flock Safety has taken full responsibility for the error in the platform, and has assured us that it has made changes to both safeguard it, and ensure it remains fully compliant with all California laws and regulations. They have assured us that they disabled the National Lookup feature for all California law enforcement agencies."

He added, "We recognize the tremendous benefits of ALPR technology as an investigative tool that helps reduce crime and improves community safety. However, all technology used must comply with California law and our own standards. Proper guardrails must not only be in place, but they must work reliably. As a result of the Department's internal review, along with similar findings reported by other California agencies, the Oxnard Police Department has decided to suspend the use of its

Flock Safety fixed-position ALPR cameras. This suspension will remain in place until we are fully confident that our data is secure and that appropriate searching safeguards have not only been established, but have shown a track record that firmly supports the remediation effort.”

Chief Benites added further, “Vendor-related failures of this nature erode our public trust of not just the technology, but the agency that uses it. The decision to suspend the use of Flock Safety fixed-position ALPR technology was made after thorough review and careful consideration. We regret that circumstances necessitated this action. Our action to take pause with this, and let our public know of the issue, reflects our commitment to transparency and our responsibility to safeguard the trust our community places in us.”

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