

Fighting Flock - talking points & demands

3–4 minutes

Talking points

- **Surveillance does not make us safer:** Flock cameras have been used to target and harm Black and brown people, activists, immigrants, abortion seekers, LGBTQIA+ folks, and journalists.
- Real-world, documented harms of Flock:
- Cops are using Flock data to [surveil protestors](#).
- Flock leaves the backdoor and side-door access for [ICE](#) and [CBP](#), aiding in immigration raids.
- Texas Sheriff [used Flock data](#) to prosecute a woman for self-administering an abortion.
- Law enforcement officers [in Kansas](#) used the database to stalk ex-romantic partners, including one police chief who tapped Flock cameras 228 times to spy on an ex-girlfriend and her new partner.
- Law enforcement agencies are notorious for quoting Flock marketing materials and cherry picking data points to sell lawmakers on surveillance. **But “public safety” efforts that come at the expense of the safety of marginalized groups in our communities are completely unacceptable.**
- Like all surveillance tech, license plate scanners are inaccurate. A Flock representative [has acknowledged](#) their scanners misread license plates 1 out of 10 times. These errors have real-world consequences, forcing people into dangerous interactions with police and sometimes leading to false arrests that can forever alter the course of someone’s life.

- Over two dozens cities have taken a stand against ALPRs and turned their Flock cameras off and/or canceled their contracts. These include [Eugene, OR](#), [Evanston, IL](#), [Scarsdale, NY](#), [Oak Park, IL](#), [Guthrie, OK](#), [Austin, TX](#), and [Denver, CO](#).
- ALPRs are always-on surveillance systems that collect and store information on everyone who drives. [Far fewer than 1%](#) of scanned cars are connected to any sort of wrongdoing, but ALPRs still store everyone's detailed travel history. This infringes on our Fourth Amendment privacy rights and [breaks other laws](#) that are supposed to protect us from police overreach.
- ALPRs are sold by private companies that profit off fear. In spite of a well-orchestrated corporate media campaign by ALPR vendors, there is actually [no conclusive](#) evidence that ALPRs reduce crime.

A note on demands:

The ultimate goal is to get rid of the Flock cameras (and any other ALPRs) in your area. Having the mayor and/or city councilors cancel your town's current Flock contract - or let it lapse - is a direct and effective step towards that goal. In contexts in which city officials are resistant to canceling the contract, organizers across the country have had success pushing lawmakers to "turn the cameras off" — an impactful intermediary step that gives you more time to build the pressure needed to enact lasting policy change.