



2021 ANNUAL SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY REPORT

Dayton Police Department

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Director and Chief of Police

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TO THE CITY COMMISSION AND COMMUNITY

Purpose

In an effort to ensure transparency and oversight to protect the civil rights and liberties the Dayton City Commission passed the Surveillance Technology Ordinance which requires an Annual Surveillance Technology Report to be provided to the Commission to inform the public on the use of such technologies.

Report Elements

- A general description of how the Surveillance Technology was used, including general locations and neighborhoods where technology or equipment was deployed.
- A general description of whether and how often data acquired through the use of the Surveillance Technology was shared with outside entities, the type(s) of data and general justification for the disclosure(s).
- A summary of community complaints about the Surveillance Technology item.
- The results of any internal audits required by the Surveillance Use Policy and information about violations of the Use Policy.
- Information including crime statistics, where applicable, that help the Commission assess whether the Surveillance Technology has been effective at achieving its identified purposes.
- An analysis of any discriminatory or other adverse impacts the use of the surveillance technology may have had on the public's civil rights and civil liberties.
- Total costs, to the extent possible, including personnel, maintenance, and other ongoing costs, for the Surveillance Technology and anticipated funding for the technology as needed.
- Any requested modifications to the Surveillance Technology Use Policy applicable to the item.
- Aggregate information concerning technology or tools exempted.

A digital copy of this report is available on the City of Dayton Website.

Deployed Technologies

The following is the surveillance technology deployed during 2021, as well as the details of their use.

1) ShotSpotter

ShotSpotter is a gunshot detection technology that uses microphones to record and triangulate the location of gunshots. The recordings are then sent to ShotSpotter's dispatch center where an operator listens to the recording and verifies the sound is a gunshot. ShotSpotter notifications are sent to the Montgomery County Regional Dispatch Center, which sends Dayton Police officers to the location of the gunshot to investigate.

Impact on Crime

As a result of responding to ShotSpotter alerts, the Police Department arrested 36 individuals, seizing 28 firearms in the process.

Costs

The Police Department paid \$195,000 for ShotSpotter in 2021. The funding came from the Community Development Block Grant.

Assessment

The Police Department is pleased with the results of this technology. The area it has been deployed in has seen a 28% drop in Part 1 violent crime since ShotSpotter use began.

Data Sharing

Shotspotter data is shared with the Montgomery County Dispatch Center on a regular basis in order to deploy police resources.

2) Downtown Dayton Cameras

In 2013, the Police Department was given 25 Axis security cameras from the University of Dayton Research Institute at no cost. These cameras are placed throughout the downtown area. Officers in the Central Patrol Division can view the footage from the cameras on a monitor in their roll call room. Members of the Strategic Planning

Bureau are also able to log in to the cameras so they can be monitored during incidents of interest.

Impact on Crime

The most vital deployments of this camera system were during the Honorable Sacred Knights (HSK) rally in 2019, and during the civil unrest that occurred on May 30, 2020. The cameras are used as needed during protests, and at the request of other law enforcement personnel to find footage of specific criminal incidents or described suspects in specific criminal incidents.

Costs

The Police Department paid \$2500 to Milestone Systems to cover software maintenance costs for 2021 - 2023.

Assessment

Overall, the Police Department is pleased with the performance of the technology. However, the system is obsolete, and replacement parts for some of the hardware are no longer being manufactured.

Data Sharing

The data from the Downtown Dayton Cameras is not currently shared with other agencies and retention is managed pursuant to public records law.

3) Body Worn Cameras

The Dayton Police Department purchased 240 Body 2 Body Worn Cameras from Axon Enterprise and deployed them in March 2021. In October, we purchased an additional 155 Flex 2 and Body 2 Body Worn Cameras. These cameras are designed to be worn by Police personnel to record interactions with citizens. The recordings are then uploaded to the Evidence.com server where they can be viewed by supervisors, investigators, and court personnel.

Impact on Crime

Footage from Body Worn Cameras was used in administrative investigations, officer involved shootings, and criminal investigations.

Costs

As the hardware for the Body Worn Cameras was purchased this year, the Police Department incurred several one-time costs. The total cost in 2021 for both hardware purchases, as well as software licenses was \$315,211.

Assessment

The quality of the audio and video provided by the cameras is excellent, and we believe it is an effective tool in providing transparency to the public.

Data Sharing

The footage is shared with the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office for prosecution, the Public Defender's Office upon request, and the general public pursuant to public records requests on a regular basis.

4) Mobile Vehicle Recorders

The Police Department has Axon Enterprise Fleet 2 Mobile Vehicle Recorders in its marked vehicles. The system has a camera that faces ahead of the cruiser to record officer interactions with drivers on traffic stops, as well as a camera in the backseat of the cruiser to record footage of subjects being transported by officers. These recordings are uploaded to the Evidence.com server where they can be viewed by supervisors, investigators, and court personnel.

Impact on Crime

The system works in tandem with the Body 2 Body Worn Camera system. Footage from the MVR system was used in administrative investigations, officer involved shootings, and criminal investigations.

Costs

The costs for the Fleet 2 system in 2021 was \$287,706.

Assessment

The quality of the audio and video provided by the MVRs is generally excellent. However, there was an issue of cameras not recording throughout the year until Axon technicians came to Dayton in October, and determined the problem was caused by an issue involving how a grounding wire in the vehicle was installed. After the grounding wire issue was resolved, this problem has almost entirely disappeared.

Data Sharing

The footage is shared with the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office for prosecution, the Public Defender's Office upon request, and the general public pursuant to public records requests on a regular basis.

5) Mobile License Plate Readers

The Mobile License Plate Readers (LPR) are attached to the outside of 5 Dayton Police Department cruisers. The cameras scan the license plates of other motor vehicles it drives past and notifies the driver of the cruiser if any of the plates are entered into the LPR database as being wanted in connection with a crime. The license plates are also saved in a database that can be searched later if a user is looking for a specific vehicle.

Impact on Crime

Only 1 Mobile LPR was in use for the year. The user advised since August of 2021, he has used the system to recover 2 stolen vehicles, and 1 stolen license plate.

Costs

The Mobile LPR system costs the Police Department nothing, as it is paid for through a Homeland Security grant. Under the Police Department's current contract with Axon, it is scheduled to receive Mobile LPRs to its marked vehicle fleet in 2022, upon receiving City Commission approval. The cost for the program is included in the existing contract, covered in the Body Worn Camera section of this report.

Assessment

The technology itself is effective. However, the system we currently use is obsolete, and would be a far more useful tool if it were in widespread use.

Data Sharing

The data is shared with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office through a direct link to a server that stores the information. The current system which consists of one operable license plate reader was purchased through Montgomery County Emergency Management Agency and they selected Montgomery County Sheriff's Office to manage the server.

6) Unmanned Aerial Surveillance (UAS)

Presently, the Bomb Squad and SWAT team are the only units in the Police Department in possession of UAS devices. The devices are only to be deployed at the scene of specific incidents, e.g., an active shooter scene. This program was not utilized in 2021.

Impact on Crime

The devices can be used to provide intelligence for making tactical decisions during volatile situations while still maintaining a safe distance from the threat. This reduces the likelihood of a violent outcome by allowing officers to de-escalate the situation from a safe distance.

Costs

The one-time cost to purchase the Department's UAS units was \$26,000. There have been no additional costs related to this program.

Assessment

The UAS program will see limited use, but will play a vital role in gathering information to peacefully bring an end to dangerous situations.

Data Sharing

The Police Department does not have data sharing agreements with other jurisdictions involving the UAS program.

Aggregate Information Concerning Exempted Technology

The Police Department has deployed exempted technology on approximately 12 occasions throughout 2021.

Results of Dayton Police Internal Audits

The Dayton Police Office of Inspections and Audits conducted an internal audit of surveillance technologies employed by the Department. The audit recommendations are as follows:

- Research new LPR program that is managed by the Department
- Replace malfunctioning downtown cameras
- Train officers on Small Unmanned Aerial Systems

The Dayton Police Department has received no citizen complaints about the use of the technology documented in this report, nor any recommendations for changes to their use and policy.

KA/aeg/pts