

Surveillance Technology at CPD

Cincinnati Police Department

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Presentation Agenda

- **Review of Surveillance Technology & Use Cases**
 - License Plate Readers
 - Cameras
 - Body Worn Cameras
 - Drones
- **Overview Table**

Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

Started use in 2008 with Motorola cameras; in 2025 most vehicles equipped with ALPRs

- **Motorola ALPR (stationary)**
- **Axon ALPR (vehicle-mounted)**
- **Current Usage**
 - Hot List Flags: Real-time notices
 - Investigations: Retrospective searches
- **Retained for 1 year, unless flagged as evidence**

ALPR – Use Cases

- **2024 Homicide in Avondale**

- Victim was shot in her vehicle by vehicle passing by. She was pregnant with her 3 kids in car. ALPR used to identify the vehicle and its eventual recovery
- Offender plead guilty.

- **2024 Package Theft in Price Hill**

- Victim's Ring doorbell cam caught unique markings on back of minivan. ALPR identified vehicle and owner.
- Warrant issued. Offender eventually arrested, prosecuted and sentenced 2 years in KY for same offense.

- **2025 Elder Abuse/Stolen Identity**

- Suspect opened a credit card in Victim's name and bought a Tesla. ALPR identified and helped locate the vehicle.
- Offender arrested.

Cameras

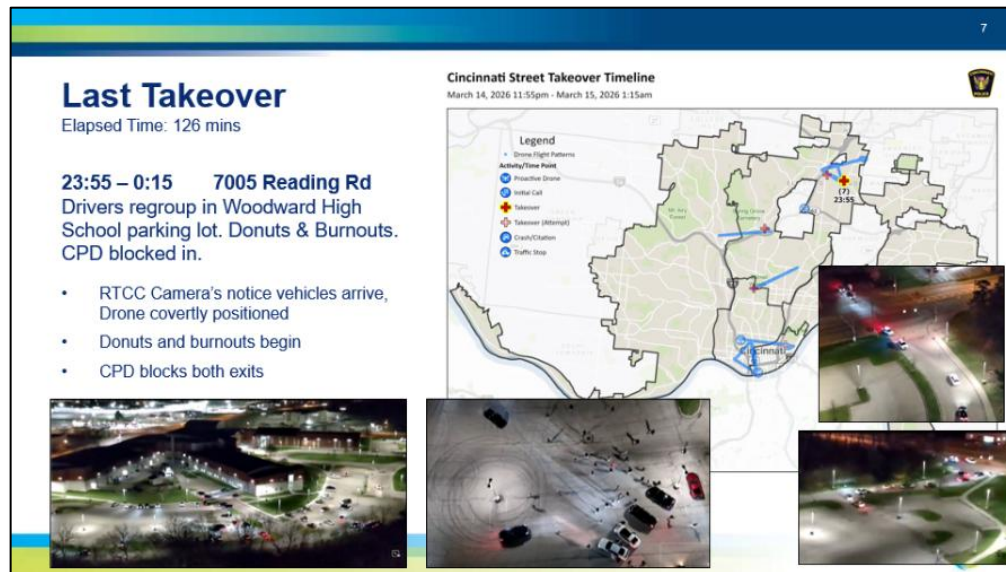
Video cameras began in 2000s; FUSUS community cameras launched in 2024.

- **Genetec City Cameras**
- **FUSUS Community Cameras**
 - Option 1: Community give Live access to CPD – does not archive footage
 - Option 2: Community can “register” – no live/archived footage, only location
- **Current Usage**
 - Real-Time Monitoring: Crime Center is operational 24/7
 - Investigations
- **Retained for 14 days, unless flagged as evidence**

Cameras – Use Case

- Street Takeover in March 2026

Crime Center, including Real-Time and Drone teams, was activated. Drones were following as group moved. Drone lost movement, but RTCC picked up movement in Woodward toward school parking lot. Drones and patrol vehicles staged to box in drivers.



Body-Worn Cameras (BWC) & Mobile Vehicle Recorder (MVR)

Officers were equipped with BWC in 2015. Some vehicles were equipped with MVR in 2007 and then equipped in patrol vehicles in 2025.

- **Both Axon products**
- **Current Use**
 - Surveillance of Officer Interactions
 - Investigations/In Court
 - Citizen's Complaint Authority
- **Retained for minimum 90 days, unless saved as evidence**



Drones

Handheld drones have been used since 2017. DFR drones began in 2025 and expanded in early 2026.

- **Skydio Drone as First Responder (DFR)**
- **Hand-held Drones**
- **Current use** (next slide)
- Default launch and return flight is at **horizon view**
- **Retained for 90 days, unless flagged as evidence**



Default Horizon POV

Drones – Current Uses

1. Assess active scene and advise incoming officers

- First on-scene 70% of flights dispatched to
- Top 3 Call Types: ShotSpotter, suspicious person, physical disturbance

2. Clear calls with no PD vehicle needed (Unable to Locate, Gone on Arrival, etc)

- About 20% of calls with drone response did not need additional PD

3. Locate fleeing subjects or vehicles

- Continue line of sight on crimes-in-progress

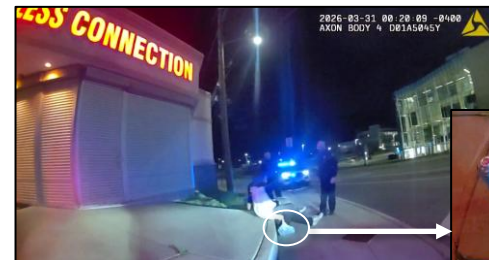
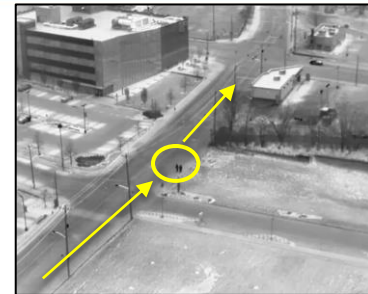
4. Proactive patrolling in approved hot spots

- High-visibility and assistant chief approved
- I.e. Fountain Square, City Parks before closing and periodically through night

Drone – Use Case 1

(Maintain Line of Sight)

- **CFS comes in at 0:09**
 - Driver on I-75 reports graffiti
- **Drone arrives at 0:14**
 - Follows subjects from underpass to MLK & Reading
- **Primary units arrest subjects at 0:16**
- **Secondary units respond to underpass at 0:24**



Drone – Use Case 2

(Locate Suspect/Safety)

- Officers chase fleeing suspect (in DUI crash)
- Drone responds with officers



Drone POV

Drone – Use Case 2

(Locate Suspect/Safety)

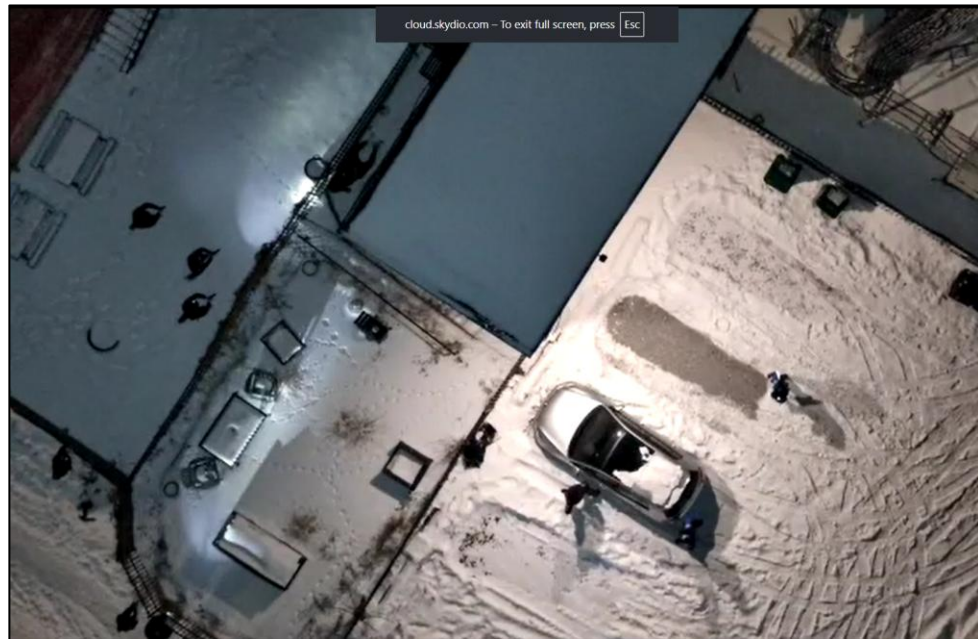
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- Drone responds with officers
- **Locate subject hiding**



Drone – Use Case 2

(Locate Suspect/Safety)

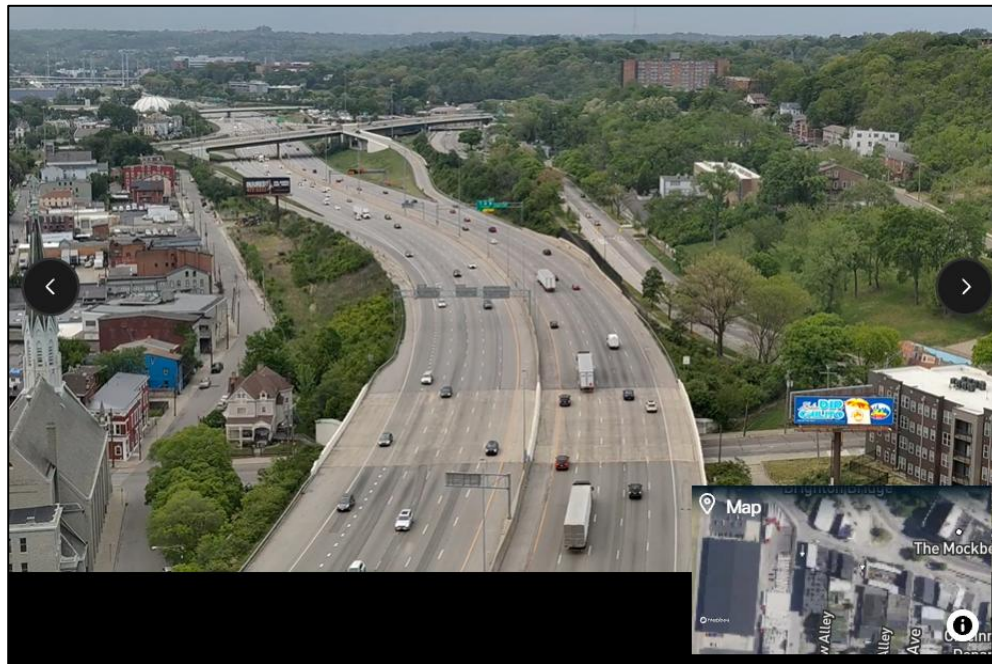
- Officers chase fleeing suspect (in DUI crash)
- Drone responds with officers
- Locate subject hiding
- **Drone makes commands and spotlights scene for officers' use**
- **Officers make arrest, no injuries**



Drone – Use Case 3

(Cancel Police Vehicle Unit)

- **Traffic Hazard CFS comes in at 7:50pm**
 - Driver reports blown tire in middle of I-75 South of Hopple
- **Drone flies up/down I-75 at 7:58**
 - Unable to locate hazard
 - Cancel call at 8:08pm



Surveillance Technology Overview

Name	Retention Schedule*	Saved in Searchable Database?	Shared with outside Agencies?
Stationary ALPR (Motorola)	1 year	Yes	Upon Request Only
Vehicle Mounted ALPR (Axon)	1 year	Yes	Upon Request Only
City Cameras (Genetec)	14 days	Limited to date/time and location	Upon Request Only
Community Cameras (FUSUS)	No Saved Video	No	No
Body-Worn Cameras (BWC) & Mobile Vehicle Recorder (MVR) (Axon)	90 days	Limited to date/time and officer	Upon Request Only
Drone Video (Skydio)	90 days	Limited to date/time and officer	Upon Request Only

Note: Future vendor for Stationary ALPR has not been selected, nor has any contract been established.

** Clips of video or still shots can be archived as evidence and follow standard evidence access and retention schedules. These will be kept until case and/or potential litigation is expired.*

Thank you

