



## **Expressway Camera Act Annual Report 2021-2022**

### **Overview:**

On February 4, 2019, USPS worker, Tamara Clayton, was traveling on I-57 and Cicero Avenue when she was fatally shot. This unfortunate expressway shooting sparked a movement within the community, Illinois State Police (ISP), Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), local police agencies, and the Governor's office. On January 1, 2020, the Tamara Clayton Expressway Camera Act was enacted. IDOT provided the ISP with a grant to purchase automated license plate reader (ALPR) cameras and equipment to help investigate expressway shootings. The cameras are authorized to be used in the investigations of offenses involving vehicular hijackings, aggravated vehicular hijackings, terrorism, motor vehicle theft, or any forcible felony, including, but not limited to, offenses involving the use of a firearm; to detect expressway hazards, highway conditions; and to facilitate highway safety and incident management. By December 2022, the initial IDOT grant will result in approximately 300 cameras being installed on every expressway within Cook County (I-90 Kennedy, I-290 Eisenhower, I-55 Stevenson, I-94 Dan Ryan, Bishop Ford, and I-57). These cameras are strategically located in high violent crime areas, where shootings, aggravated vehicular hijackings, or firearms trafficking have occurred.

Due to the program's success, on June 6, 2022, Governor J.B. Pritzker signed an extension of the Tamara Clayton Act, which meant installing cameras in 21 more counties in Illinois and Jean-Baptiste Pointe DuSable Lake Shore Drive in Chicago. An additional \$20 million will be used from the Road Fund within IDOT to purchase more cameras and equipment. The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority has partnered with the ISP by buying and installing its ALPRs in strategic tollway locations. The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority has proposed 14 additional locations in Cook, Kane, Lake, Will, DuPage, Dekalb, and Lee Counties. These purchases are outside any grant funding provided by IDOT.

### **Functionality:**

An ALPR is designed to capture an image of a vehicle's rear license plate. The software then compares the license plate number against law enforcement databases such as the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), the Law Enforcement Agency Data System (LEADS), the Illinois Secretary of State (SOS), and National Amber Alerts. An ALPR "alert" occurs when a vehicle's license plate number has been positively compared to the abovementioned vehicles listed in the databases.

### **Program:**

All the data collected through the ALPR cameras are stored on the Law Enforcement Archival Reporting Network (LEARN). Per policy, ISP Troopers and Investigators have been trained to



access and use LEARN from Vigilant Solutions Software. The ISP will manage the program from a deployment perspective, while IDOT will provide funding and procurement assistance. Currently, the ISP utilizes the Vigilant Solutions LEARN ALPR system. The ALPR system, software, associated databases, and data will be the sole property of the ISP and are intended for use in law enforcement and public safety functions.

**Statistics:**

**Cost of Installation**

Cook County\* \$6,542,134.92

**Cost of Yearly Maintenance**

Cook County\* \$1,438,338.42

**Number of Inquires where the Investigation involved criminal offenses**

1,606,938

**Number of LE Incidents/Hits searched within stored data**

1,378

\*= ISP direct ALPR Project; does not include the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority