



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DAVID CROWLEY

MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Date: September 1, 2026

To: Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson-Bovell, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, Milwaukee County Sheriff Denita Ball, Milwaukee County District Attorney Kent Lovern, Wisconsin State Public Defender Angel Johnson, Milwaukee County Department Leaders

From: Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley

Subject: Directive to Limit Flock Camera Operations on County Property

Background

Milwaukee County recognizes the meaningful role new technologies can play in advancing public safety and supports equipping public safety partners with effective tools to protect our communities. At the same time, powerful surveillance technology carries real risks when it operates without clear rules, oversight, and accountability. Documented instances of misuse of Flock camera networks by law enforcement personnel, both within Wisconsin and nationally, demonstrate the risks of this technology going unchecked. While there have been no such instances within the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, these cases make clear the value of establishing safeguards proactively, before a breach of public trust can occur.

Executive Action

Residents deserve transparency, oversight, and accountability when these technologies are used. To this end, Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley is directing the following:

1. **Limitations on Use of Flock Cameras.** The usage of Flock cameras on County property shall be limited in accordance with binding standards to be developed with enforceable consequences for misuse. These standards include restrictions on:
 - a. Permissible Data Uses
 - b. Authorized Personnel
 - c. Data Retention
 - d. Data Access and Sharing
2. **Evaluation of Current Usage Policy.** The Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), as an independently elected constitutional office, has worked in collaboration with the Information Management Services Division (IMSD), as directed by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, to develop a comprehensive policy framework governing the use of facial recognition technologies to ensure such use does not encroach upon individuals' civil rights and



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liberties. The County Executive requests that IMSD reviews MCSO's proposed standards against this established framework to confirm that MCSO's usage of any surveillance technology, including Flock cameras, is appropriate and consistent with the standards developed under Section 1.

3. **Community Engagement and Transparency.** Milwaukee County shall implement a public-facing portal to provide residents with information regarding the deployment and use of Flock camera systems.
4. **Call to Municipalities.** The County Executive commends the City of Milwaukee for its decision to limit the use of Flock camera systems and calls on municipal leaders throughout Milwaukee County to reevaluate their own use of this technology.

David Crowley
Milwaukee County Executive