ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PROTECTION
ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

November 9, 2026 - Joint Public Hearing

SUBJECT: Automatic License Plate Reader Systems

PURPOSE: Examining automatic license plate reader data collection and usage in New York State.

Automatic license plate readers are systems that utilize a combination of computer software and cameras to scan the license plates of passing vehicles. In the last few years, there has been a proliferation in the use of these systems by private businesses and local law enforcement agencies in New York State for commercial and private operations as well as public safety purposes. However, the increase in utilization of automatic license plate readers has also raised many concerns, including questions about how these systems are being used, who has access to such systems, and the extent to which consumer data is being shared. While some companies have independently taken steps to maintain their own privacy policies for these systems, there are currently no universal minimum standards for consumer data usage and sharing by automatic license plate reader systems in New York State. The purpose of this hearing is to gather input from stakeholders on how automatic license plate readers are being used, what consumer data is being collected, and how such data is being used or shared. The Assembly Standing Committees on Consumer Affairs and Protection, Governmental Operations, and Local Governments are particularly interested in examining approaches to establish standards for the use of automatic license plate reader systems in New York State, including data privacy, information sharing, and other consumer protections and safeguards to ensure that the use of such technology is consistent with both public safety objectives and individual privacy rights.

Submitted Testimonies (organized by panel order):

Panel 1:
NYS Office of the Attorney General, Tyler Nims, Chief of the Law Enforcement Misconduct Investigative Office

Panel 2:
District Attorneys Association of the State of New York, Raymond A. Tierney, Suffolk County District Attorney
NYS Sheriff's Association, Craig D. Apple, Sr., Albany County Sheriff

Panel 3:
Surveillance Technology Oversight Project (STOP), Corinne Worthington, Advocacy & Community Engagement Manager
New York Civil Liberties Union, Daniel Schwarz, Senior Privacy and Technology Strategist
Columbia County Sanctuary Movement, Michael Chameides, Co-Executive Director

Panel 4:
Institute For Justice, Mitchell Smith, Legislative Counsel **(Testimony Not Received)**
Manhattan Institute, Rafael Mangual, Nick Ohnell Fellow
Brendan J. Gilbert, Esq.

Panel 5:
Electronic Privacy Information Center (Virtual), Maria Villegas Bravo, Counsel **(Testimony Not Received)**
Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) (Virtual), Rindala Alajaji, Associate Director of State Affairs

Submitted Testimony (Did Not Testify):

Chamber of Progress
DeFlock
Delton Caraway, Assistant Public Defender, Ontario County
DCJS
Flock Safety
Metropolis Technologies
Motorola
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children
National Policing Institute (NPI)
NYC DOT
NYS Association of Chiefs of Police
NYS Association of Counties
Open Plans
Reinvent Albany