

September 3, 2026

The Honorable Brandon Storm
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
Capitol Annex, Room 204
702 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, KY 40601

The Honorable Daniel Elliott
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee
Capitol Annex, Room 313
702 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Chairman Storm, Chairman Elliott, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on the responsible deployment of Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) technology in Kentucky. As a global public safety leader, Motorola Solutions supports policies that enhance community safety while protecting individual privacy and civil liberties.

Unfortunately, there is a lot of misinformation and a lack of understanding in the current political environment as to what ALPR entails, its true purpose, and best practices for its positive use. ALPR technology is a vital analytical tool for public safety, helping law enforcement locate missing children and elderly, recover stolen vehicles, and investigate violent crime, narcotics, and human trafficking. For example, Motorola Solutions' ALPR technology has been used successfully by our partners in law enforcement across the country to:

- Rescue kidnapped children where time is of the utmost importance.
- Disrupt auto burglary rings.
- Locate vulnerable missing elderly individuals and return them to safety.
- Identify and stop a serial hit-and-run suspect who began intentionally targeting female pedestrians.

However, ALPR is not—and must never become—a tool for mass surveillance or tracking law-abiding citizens. Responsible ALPR, like Motorola Solutions provides, identifies vehicles in public spaces by license plate characters, without using facial recognition or other individual-identification mechanisms. It enables law enforcement agencies to conduct ethical, secure searches and efficiently manage ALPR data to support criminal investigations.

In order to ensure our ALPR systems are used responsibly, Motorola Solutions has incorporated a wide array of features and safeguards into our products focused on data security, transparency, and compliance with state and local laws. These include:

- **Default zero data sharing** - Our law enforcement customers own their data and maintain full control of who they share their data with. Motorola Solutions employees do not have access to any law enforcement camera feeds and cannot search any law enforcement retained data.
- **Data sharing dashboard** - Our sharing dashboard enables administrators to see who they are sharing data with and allow for quick and bulk revocation of data sharing.
- **Auditing** - Every action is auditable. Administrators can configure automated reports for data access, user, time, and reason for searches.

State ALPR laws, like HB 58, passed earlier this year in Kentucky, should establish a clear legislative framework that supports responsible, bounded technology use while balancing public safety with civil liberties. For example, this law requires law enforcement agencies in the state to adopt a written policy governing its use of ALPR and limits ALPR data retention to 90 days.

Motorola Solutions agrees with and supports the position of law enforcement agencies from across the United States, including the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), that ALPR policy should be anchored by three core pillars: Data Ownership, Operational Safeguards, and Accountability:

Data Ownership

- **Ownership:** Law enforcement agencies must retain 100% ownership and control over their ALPR data. Vendors must never pool, access, or share agency records.
- **Zero-Trust Default:** Data should only be shared with other law enforcement agencies essential to performing the public safety purpose. The default for data sharing in our ALPR system is “off.”
- **Hardware & Storage Integrity:** Deployments must use CJIS-compliant environments with hardware-level encryption to maintain the chain of custody. Motorola Solutions aligns with industry standards including ISO and NIST, and requires multi-factor authentication for access by all users.

Operational Safeguards

- **Investigative Leads Only:** An ALPR hit is a starting point, not proof of guilt. Officers must independently verify the license plate, state, and warrant status before taking enforcement action.
- **Civil Liberties Protections:** ALPR systems should be tied to documented public safety purposes. Usage targeting individuals engaged in lawful political, religious, or constitutionally protected activity must be strictly prohibited.
- **Retention Limits:** Data should be retained only as long as legally permitted and necessary for legitimate law enforcement investigative needs under local policy, then automatically purged.

Accountability

- **Audit Controls:** Systems should automatically log user activity including law enforcement searches and justifications. Every action in Motorola Solution's system is auditable and subject to routine supervisory audits.
- **Training and Limited Access:** Only trained and authorized individuals should have access to ALPR systems and data, and the number of individuals permitted to access these systems and data should be limited to only those who are necessary.
- **Transparency:** ALPR practices should be shared publicly with communities to build trust in the use of the technology.

Conclusion

Motorola Solutions remains committed to transparency and accountability in the development and deployment of our ALPR products.

Our Responsible Technology Blueprint, available on our website, acts as a guiding framework to help ensure that our innovation and product development aligns with ethical standards. The Motorola Solutions Technology Advisory Committee serves as our internal group that advises on the responsible design of our products like ALPR. Our industry-leading AI labels provide transparency detailing the specific type of AI used in our products, data ownership, intended purpose, and the human controls in place.

Motorola Solutions commends Kentucky lawmakers on the successful passage of HB 58. We offer this testimony to share operational best practices that support the Commonwealth in implementing this new law effectively and transparently.

Thank you,



John Emling

Vice-President, Global Government Affairs & Public Policy