

TO: Chair Patton and The House Judiciary Committee

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of SB434

FROM: Lt. Casey Slaughter, Wichita Police Department

DATE: 03/08/2022

## **LPR Technology Legislation Summary:**

ALPR technology has been an effective tool for law enforcement and homeland security operations for almost two decades. The Wichita Police Department successes have been extensive with arrests and successful prosecutions of fugitives, homicide suspects, known drug traffickers, recoveries of stolen vehicles and license plates, recovery of kidnapping victims, leads in violent crime investigations and the seizure of large amounts of illegal drugs. In the last 14 months, the WPD ALPR program resulted in the following statistics:

- 1. 286 Stolen vehicles recovered totaling \$2,867
- 2. 110 Stolen license plates recovered.
- 3. 299 Arrests. A majority are felony.
- 4. 35 Guns siezed
- 5. Large amounts of various drugs seized.
- 6. Multiple homicide suspects and robbery suspects arrested, and a kidnapping victim recovered with both suspects arrested.
- 7. Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs were confirmed and identified in the Wichita area.

ALPR technology also provides public safety benefits for regional and national Amber and Silver alerts, allowing law enforcement officers to be aware of urgent matters involving abducted or missing persons.

ALPR data is a significant benefit to law enforcement investigations, even carrying weight in criminal trials. Investigators can review data for specific periods of time and possibly decipher important information, such as confirming a homicide or trafficking suspect at a scene, discovering vehicles that always travel together and identifying possible key witnesses.

Law enforcement users recognize the concerns of privacy advocates regarding the use of ALPR technology but are confident the policies and practices already adhered to by Kansas Law Enforcement agencies more than sufficiently limit these concerns. This legislative request is our effort ensure the privacy rights of the public are protected. In designing the language for this bill, specific consideration was given to how ALPR data would be treated under the KORA laws. This

bill specifically exempts Records of a public agency that contain captured license plate data or that pertain to the location of an automated license plate recognition system.

LT. Laglan