

Surveillance Technology Equipment Reporting by Virginia Law Enforcement Agencies

December 2, 2025

Virginia State Crime Commission



DCJS

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

Background

- COV § 9.1-116.10 enrolled in 2024 requiring all law enforcement agencies (LEAs) to report any procurement of surveillance technology by November 1 to DCJS.
 - List of 17 specific technologies were provided in the Code.
- Code updated in 2025 to also capture use and access of the listed technologies.
 - Added any third-party service or subscription that allows access to any form of surveillance technology or data therefrom.
 - Added requirement to report if the LEA used or accessed surveillance technologies owned or licensed by separate LEA.
 - Added Drones and GPS trackers to survey...

Data Collection

- DCJS developed an online survey for LEAs that met all reporting requirements.
- Developed a guidance document to provide additional information, examples, and answers to FAQs from the 2024 survey.
- Data collection started on September 18, 2025, with an initial notification to **335 LEAs**.
 - Reminders to non-respondents were sent 3x before 11/1, and a final reminder the week after the due date.
 - Closed online survey on November 12th.
- **Received 272 responses out of 335 agencies (81.2%).**
 - In 2024, DCJS received 275 responses (82.1%)

Type	Used	Accessed	Procured	N/A
International mobile subscriber identity catchers	3.3%	2.2%	0.4%	94.1%
Automatic license plate readers	48.2%	7.0%	11.0%	33.8%
Electronic toll readers	0.7%	0.7%	0.0%	98.5%
Closed-Circuit TV	47.8%	5.9%	5.1%	41.2%
Facial recognition technology	2.6%	3.3%	0.7%	93.4%
Other Biometric surveillance technology	1.5%	0.7%	0.0%	97.8%
Mobile DNA capture technology	1.5%	0.7%	0.0%	97.8%
Gunshot detection & location services	4.4%	1.5%	1.5%	92.6%
Xray vans & mobile Xray carriers	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%	99.3%
Video & audio monitoring (body-worn, trail, speed cameras, etc.)	73.5%	1.8%	10.3%	14.3%
Surveillance enabled or capable lightbulbs	1.5%	0.7%	0.4%	97.4%
Tools used to gain access to a computer or network	23.9%	10.7%	2.2%	63.2%

Type	Used	Accessed	Procured	N/A
Social media monitoring software	5.1%	2.2%	1.1%	91.5%
Through the wall radar or similar imaging technology	1.1%	0.4%	0.0%	98.5%
Passive scanners of radio networks	3.7%	0.0%	0.0%	96.3%
Long-range Bluetooth or other wireless scanning devices	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	98.2%
Radio-Frequency ID (RFID) Scanners	5.5%	2.2%	0.7%	91.5%
Software designed to integrate or analyze data	9.9%	0.7%	1.8%	87.5%
Any third-party service or subscription	22.1%	7.7%	1.5%	68.8%
Drones	36.8%	7.0%	7.0%	49.3%
GPS trackers	19.5%	5.5%	3.7%	71.3%
Total	15.0%	2.9%	2.3%	79.8%

Third-party services or subscriptions

- 85 respondents (31.3%) stated they used, accessed, or procured a third-party service or subscription. Those respondents were asked to list those applicable services or subscriptions.
- A wide range of services and subscriptions were provided.
 - Regional Information Sharing System (RISS) or more specifically, the Regional Organized Crime Information Center (ROCIC) were mentioned 50+ times.
 - Flock cameras mentioned 10+ times.
 - Axon and various LPR's were frequently mentioned.
 - Full list can be found in Appendix A of the report.

Assistance from other Law Enforcement Agencies

- **124 agencies (45.6%)** stated they received assistance from Virginia State Police or other law enforcement agencies related to surveillance technology.
 - VSP was mentioned 90+ times.
 - Other agencies include the Federal Bureau of Investigation, US Secret Service, US Marshals Service, Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, US Drug Enforcement Agency, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and multiple local city/county/campus law enforcement agencies.
 - A full list of agencies can be found in Appendix B of the report.

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