

MEDIA RELEASE

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Gurnee Police Expand the Community Partnership for Safety Program Using High-Tech License Plate Readers

Gurnee – The Gurnee Police Department has partnered with Gurnee Mills to enhance security measures at the area's largest shopping center. Increasing safety for shoppers and employees is a top priority, prompting Gurnee Mills to add the Flock Safety Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) system on September 13, 2022. Since its installation two months ago, Gurnee Police have made seven arrests and recovered four stolen vehicles with the assistance of the ALPR system. Earlier this year, Gurnee Mills participated in the Community Partnership for Safety program by donating money for a new police canine; they are expanding their participation with the installation of the Flock Safety cameras.

The cameras proactively prevent crime by sending a real-time alert to law enforcement when a stolen car or known wanted suspect from a state or national crime database enters the jurisdiction. The system can also send alerts if a vehicle associated with a missing person in an AMBER or Silver Alert is detected.

The ALPR system is just one example of how other Gurnee businesses and neighborhood HOAs can join the Community Partnership for Safety program. The local program encourages Gurnee businesses and residents to work together to reduce crime and maintain a safe community. Those interested in getting Flock Safety cameras for their business or neighborhood are encouraged to contact the Crime Prevention office at the Gurnee Police Department.

"We share an invaluable partnership with Gurnee Mills, and we are grateful for their support as we work together to minimize crime. Using Flock Safety is a crime prevention measure to help stop crimes in progress, provide leads to further our investigations, and discourage future crimes. Gurnee has always been a safe community, and Flock Safety is helping to keep it that way. The amount of success we've seen in the past two months is encouraging, and we hope more businesses and neighborhood HOAs will consider installing the system.," said Chief Brian Smith of the Gurnee Police Department.

Thomas B. Hood
Mayor



Brian M. Smith
Chief of Police

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The cameras are built by Flock Safety, a public safety technology company that helps neighborhoods, communities, and law enforcement work together to fight crime. The cameras aid law enforcement investigating crime by providing objective evidence such as license plates and vehicle characteristics and only storing the information for thirty days. Any law enforcement searches within the ALPR system require justification and are only used to solve and reduce property and violent crime. The cameras are not intended for minor traffic or parking violations, and it does not have facial recognition capabilities.