General Announcements: MCAC License Plate Recognition/Reader (LPR) Program

Approximately of the law enforcement agencies in Maryland currently use automated License Plate Recognition, or LPR systems (License Plate Readers). These systems are able to recognize, read, and compare motor vehicle license plates against various "hot lists" such as a database of stolen and wanted vehicles (e.g., NCIC).

As of 31 January 2011, the MCAC has networked approximately the agencies using LPR technology and integrated the data into a central server housed at the MCAC. When a license plate number is captured by an MCAC-networked LPR system, the number is compared with NCIC wanted vehicle data. If the license plate is associated with a wanted vehicle, notifications are sent to the law enforcement agency who entered the license plate number as wanted and to the agency that owns the LPR. Any license plate captured by an MCAC-networked system is archived for one year and then destroyed in accordance with the MCAC's LPR data retention policy.

The MCAC LPR system can be used to conduct historic queries (dating back one year from the date of the query) for license plate numbers.

An MCAC bulletin describing the MCAC's LPR program is available for review by clicking here.

Currently, the MCAC's Request for Service Section processes requests for LPR queries. The RFS form is located here. For tracking purposes and to ensure that queries are related to an investigation, agencies requesting a query must include a case number for each request. Please follow the instructions on the RFS form for submitting your request. If your case is within the program or you believe your case to be especially sensitive, please contact SSA prior to submitting your request.

For additional information about the LPR program or to discuss any special concerns you might have about your use of LPR data in your case, please contact SSA.

Expires: 3/9/2011

Created at 2/9/2011 11:06 AM by
Last modified at 2/10/2011 12:06 PM by

FBI-2681-ALPRS