2025 Crime Review
Automated License Plate Readers

February 24, 2026
RPD Chief Rick Edwards
Public Safety Meeting

CITY OF RICHMOND

Major Crimes Overview

-12%

2024 – 10265
2025 – 9037

Ten-year average of 9705

Major Crimes includes crime categories of:
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Arson, Burglary, Larceny, and Auto Theft.

2025 Violent Crime

Murder
2025 - 54
2024 – 54
Tied with last year for lowest since 2018
= 0%

Non-Fatal Shootings
2025 - 171
2024 – 200
Lowest since 2015
↓ -15%

Robbery / Commercial
2025 - 75
2024 - 57
7-year average of 70
↑ +32%

Robbery / Individual
2025 - 165
2024 - 172
Lowest in over 20 years
↓ -4%

Robbery / Residence
2025 - 9
2024 - 15
↓ -40%

Robbery / Carjacking
2025 - 17
2024 - 28
↓ -39%

Aggravated Assault
2025 - 502
2024 - 500
= 0%

Aggravated Assault/ Domestic
2025 - 187
2024 - 88
Driven by reporting change
↑ +113%

Rape
2025 - 35
2024 - 50
↓ -30%

Total Violent Crime

2025 - 1044
2024 - 964
10-year average is 1150
↑ +8%

Property Crime 2025

Arson
2025 - 47
2024 - 47
0%

Burglary / Residential
2025 - 304
2024 - 412
-26%

Burglary / Commercial
2025 - 166
2024 - 202
-18%

Burglary / Outbuilding
2025 - 74
2024 - 106
-30%

Shoplifting
2025 - 1918
2024 - 1878
+2%

Theft from Building
2025 - 830
2024 - 907
-8%

Theft from Motor Vehicle
2025 - 2228
2024 - 2430
-8%

Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts
2025 - 250
2024 - 326
-23%

All Other Larceny
2025 - 1271
2024 - 1456
-13%

Motor Vehicle Theft
2025 - 858
2024 - 1465
-41%

Theft of Moped / Other Vehicle Type
2025 - 32
2024 - 53
-40%

Total Property Crime
2025 - 7993
2024 - 9301
-14%

CAMERA TECHNOLOGIES FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY

School Zone Speed Cameras

Red Light Cameras

Virginia Code § 46.2-882.1(I) and § 15.2-968.1 respectively, limits the use of camera images and data to enforcing speed-related violations and red-light violations only.

CURRENT CAMERA TECHNOLOGIES FOR INVESTIGATIONS

CCIC Investigations

Flock Falcon
Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR)

Flock Raven
Gunshot Detection

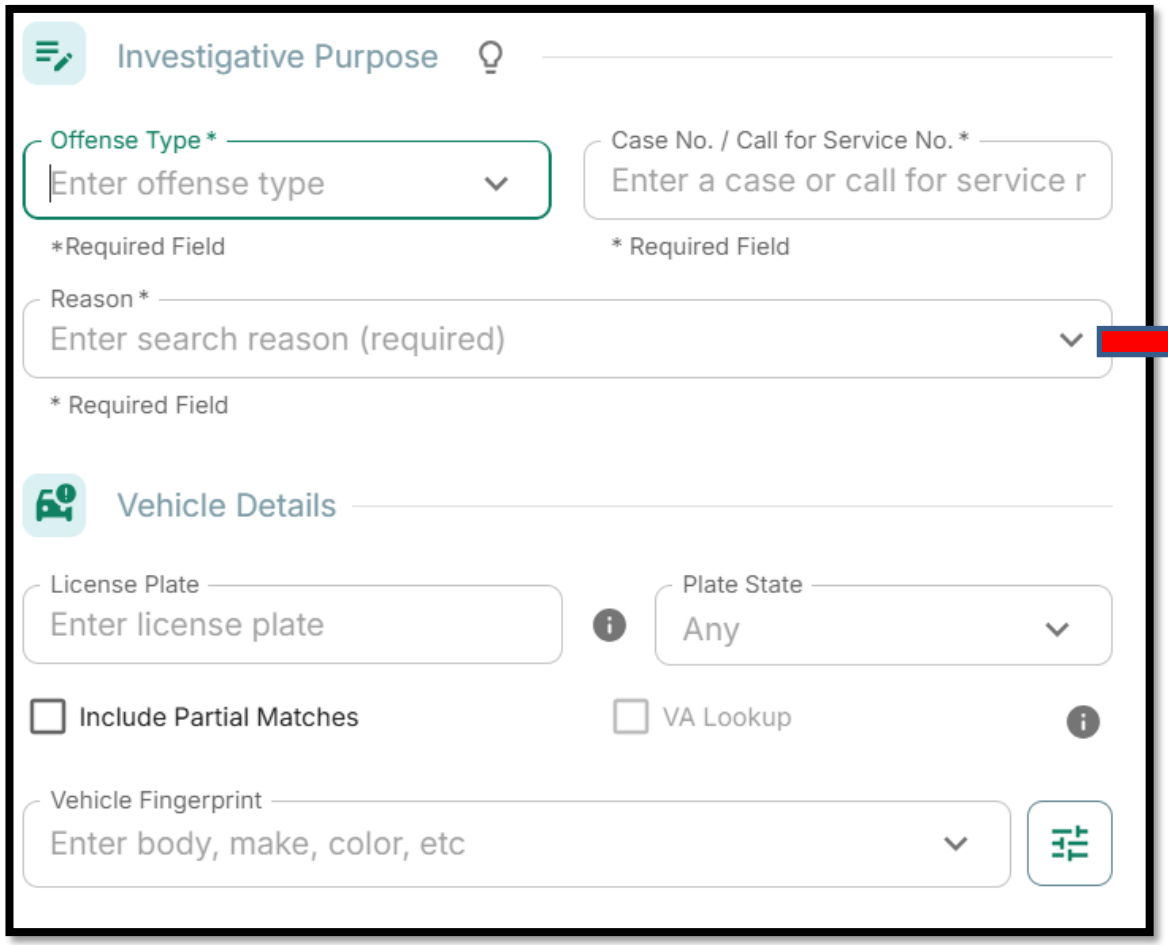
Flock ALPR captures a still photo of a passing vehicle

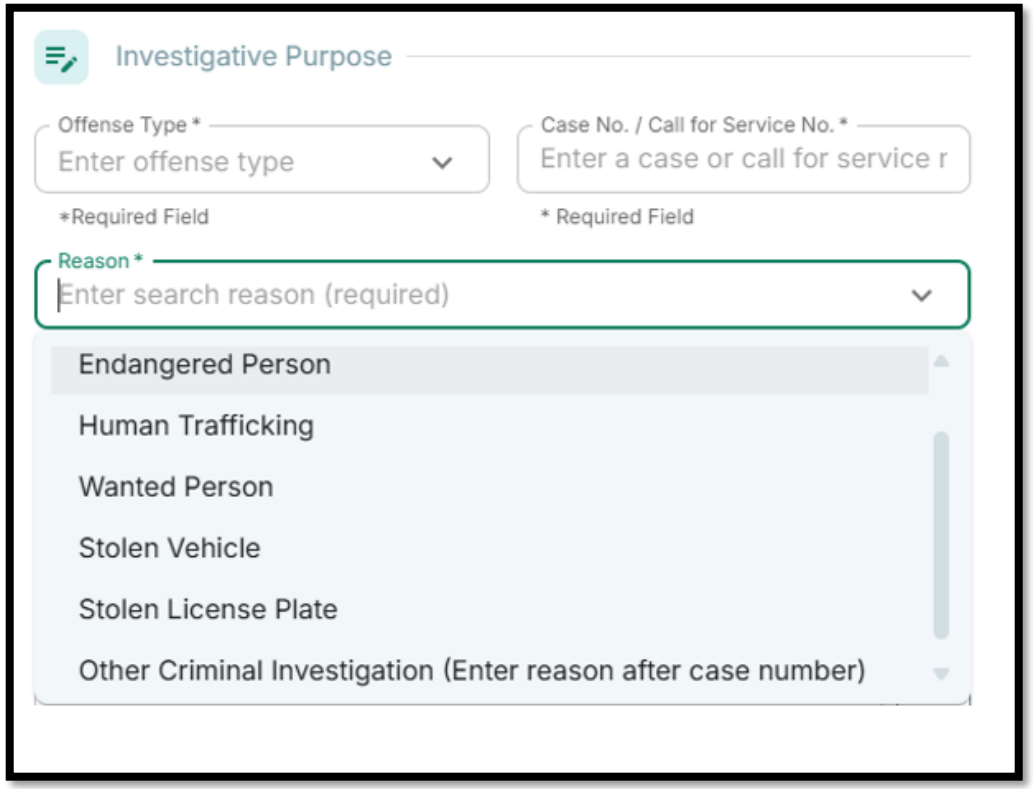
A vehicle “fingerprint”

- License plate
- Location, Time/Date
- Make, body type, color,
- Unique identifiers (stickers, toolbox, etc)
- Type of tag (e.g. temp, standard, missing)

- No personal information
- DMV info not connected to the system
- No images of driver

Flock Search Parameters





ALPR Regulation – HB 2724

Effective July 1, 2025

ALPR Use: Only for defined law enforcement purposes – criminal investigations, wanted parties, missing persons

Violation: Class 1 Misdemeanor instead of only being a violation of agency policy

Retention: 21 days then purged

Data Sharing: Local VA law enforcement agencies ONLY

Audits: Routine mandatory audits of use, required data collection submission to VSP, VSP “model policy” adopted by RPD

ALPR-related Court Decisions in Virginia

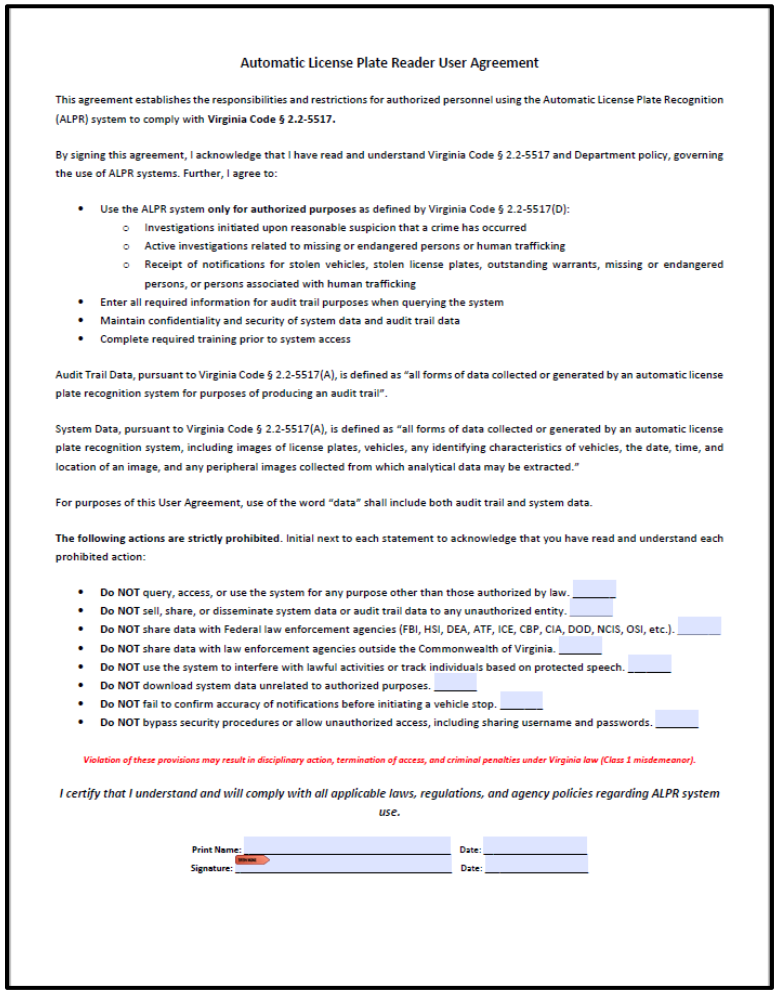
October 11, 2024
Senior U.S. District Judge Robert Payne ruling in Richmond serial robbery case
(U.S. v. Kumiko Martin Jr.)

- ALPR in Richmond was not so widespread as to create an invasion of privacy. Merely *enhances* the ability of police to compile and access information that anyone can see on public roads.

January 27, 2026
Chief U.S. District Judge Mark Davis ruling in civil case (Schmidt v. City of Norfolk)

- Found that the use of automated license plate readers (ALPR) does not constitute an unconstitutional search, does not violate reasonable expectations of privacy. A few "hits" per day did not reach the level of comprehensive tracking.

ALPR Flock User Agreement signed by all RPD operators



Automatic License Plate Reader User Agreement

This agreement establishes the responsibilities and restrictions for authorized personnel using the Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) system to comply with **Virginia Code § 2.2-5517.**

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge that I have read and understand Virginia Code § 2.2-5517 and Department policy, governing the use of ALPR systems. Further, I agree to:

- Use the ALPR system **only for authorized purposes** as defined by Virginia Code § 2.2-5517(D):
  - Investigations initiated upon reasonable suspicion that a crime has occurred
  - Active investigations related to missing or endangered persons or human trafficking
  - Receipt of notifications for stolen vehicles, stolen license plates, outstanding warrants, missing or endangered persons, or persons associated with human trafficking
- Enter all required information for audit trail purposes when querying the system
- Maintain confidentiality and security of system data and audit trail data
- Complete required training prior to system access

Audit Trail Data, pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-5517(A), is defined as "all forms of data collected or generated by an automatic license plate recognition system for purposes of producing an audit trail".

System Data, pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-5517(A), is defined as "all forms of data collected or generated by an automatic license plate recognition system, including images of license plates, vehicles, any identifying characteristics of vehicles, the date, time, and location of an image, and any peripheral images collected from which analytical data may be extracted."

For purposes of this User Agreement, use of the word "data" shall include both audit trail and system data.

The following actions are strictly prohibited. Initial next to each statement to acknowledge that you have read and understand each prohibited action:

- **Do NOT** query, access, or use the system for any purpose other than those authorized by law. _____
- **Do NOT** sell, share, or disseminate system data or audit trail data to any unauthorized entity. _____
- **Do NOT** share data with Federal law enforcement agencies (FBI, HSI, DEA, ATF, ICE, CBP, CIA, DOD, NCIS, OSI, etc.). _____
- **Do NOT** share data with law enforcement agencies outside the Commonwealth of Virginia. _____
- **Do NOT** use the system to interfere with lawful activities or track individuals based on protected speech. _____
- **Do NOT** download system data unrelated to authorized purposes. _____
- **Do NOT** fail to confirm accuracy of notifications before initiating a vehicle stop. _____
- **Do NOT** bypass security procedures or allow unauthorized access, including sharing username and passwords. _____

Violation of these provisions may result in disciplinary action, termination of access, and criminal penalties under Virginia law (Class 1 misdemeanor).

I certify that I understand and will comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and agency policies regarding ALPR system use.

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

The following actions are strictly prohibited. Initial next to each statement to acknowledge that you have read and understand each prohibited action:

- **Do NOT** query, access, or use the system for any purpose other than those authorized by law. _____
- **Do NOT** sell, share, or disseminate system data or audit trail data to any unauthorized entity. _____
- **Do NOT** share data with Federal law enforcement agencies (FBI, HSI, DEA, ATF, ICE, CBP, CIA, DOD, NCIS, OSI, etc.). _____
- **Do NOT** share data with law enforcement agencies outside the Commonwealth of Virginia. _____
- **Do NOT** use the system to interfere with lawful activities or track individuals based on protected speech. _____
- **Do NOT** download system data unrelated to authorized purposes. _____
- **Do NOT** fail to confirm accuracy of notifications before initiating a vehicle stop. _____
- **Do NOT** bypass security procedures or allow unauthorized access, including sharing username and passwords. _____

Violation of these provisions may result in disciplinary action, termination of access, and criminal penalties under Virginia law (Class 1 misdemeanor).

Response to FAQ

- *How do we know this will not be used for the unauthorized immigration enforcement?*

Answer: There is no backdoor access into Flock. Flock does not contract with ICE or DHS, and federal agencies are excluded from national and statewide network search capabilities. RPD owns all the data from its devices and controls access.

- *Does ALPR capture confidential personal information?*

Answer: No. Flock captures plates and vehicle characteristics that are visible from public roadways. It does not capture names, addresses, phone numbers, or driver identity.

- *What happens to the data after 21 days?*

Answer: By default, in Virginia it is permanently deleted after 21 days.

- *How many ALPR devices does RPD currently use?*

Answer: 99 fixed ALPR devices deployed and 2 Mobile ALPR devices.

Response to FAQ

- *Is ALPR used to surveil protest activity?*

Answer: Not for 1st Amendment protected activity. ALPR in Virginia can only be used as part of a criminal investigation (or to assist with missing / endangered persons). If criminal activity occurs during a protest (vandalism, assaults, threats to protestors or others) investigative tools to include ALPR could be used.

- *Has Flock data been breached?*

Answer: Flock has no known cloud data breaches and has never been compromised. Flock uses Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) aligned controls, including encryption.

- *What about reporting regarding Flock data security for its "Condor" camera?*

Answer: Flock had unauthorized access to live video from 60 of Flock's video cameras (not ALPR devices). Flock immediately took these cameras offline to correct a configuration issue. No recorded video or databases were accessed.

Response to FAQ

- *Can Flock / ALPR be used to track and surveil a citizen not involved in criminal activity?*

Answer: ALPR, by law, can only be used for criminal investigations. Further, the scope of RPD's ALPR devices is limited – 99 fixed Flock ALPR (clustered around a fewer number of roads/intersections) for the whole city which has approx. 1,500 streets and thousands of intersections. Federal courts have ruled that ALPR at this scale does not pose privacy / 4th Amendment violations.

- *How does Richmond compare to other jurisdictions in terms of number/density of Flock LPRs?*

Answer: Richmond, with 99 fixed Flock LPR devices, has 4.2 per 10,000 residents (total population approx. 235,000). Based on public disclosure by other localities, this is in the middle to lower end of density.

- *If a citizen complains about misuse, can RPD audit user access?*

Answer: Yes. Every search requires a justification, and agencies can access a comprehensive audit trail for their organization showing who searched, when, and why.

Murder of Marvin Ramos-Hernandez
39 years old

Wednesday, February 7, 2024
3020 Broad Rock Blvd
(Lindo Market/Restaurant)

‘A fun, good person:’ Restaurant mourns employee killed during robbery

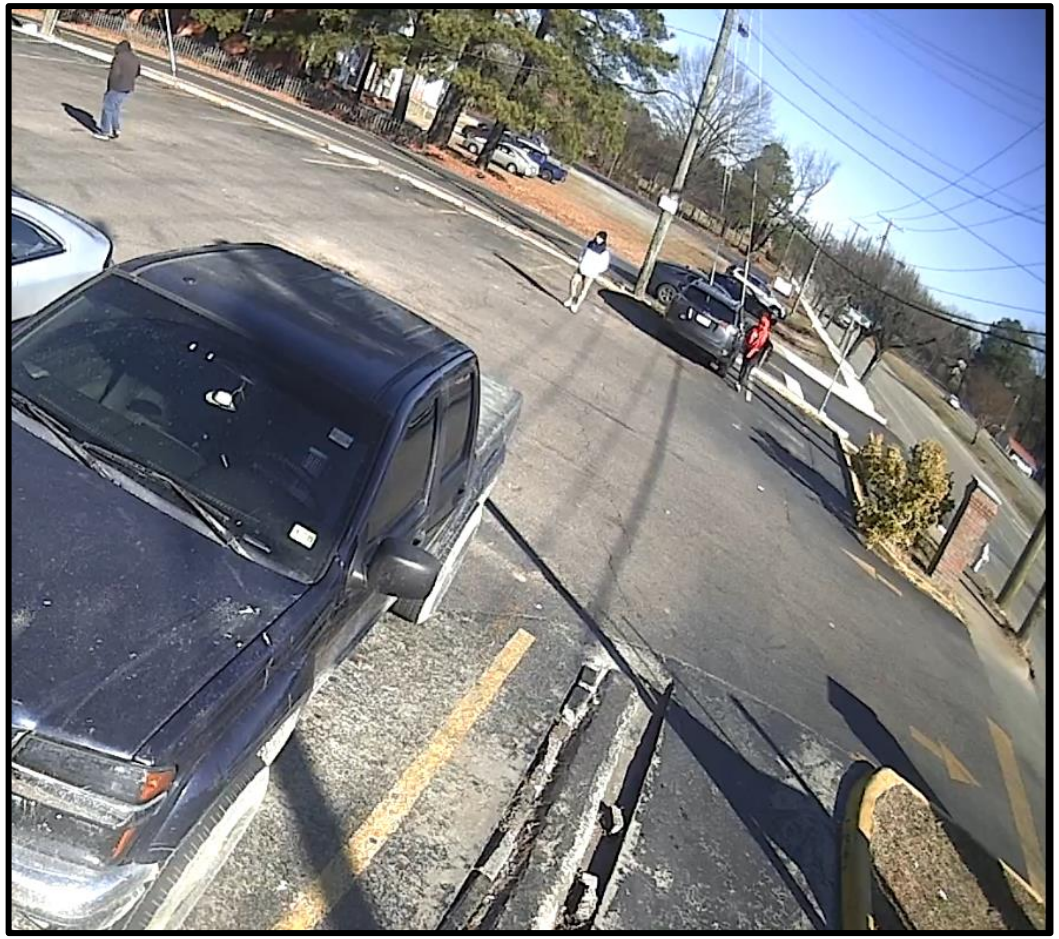
3 robberies happened on Broad Rock Boulevard on Wednesday

RICHMOND

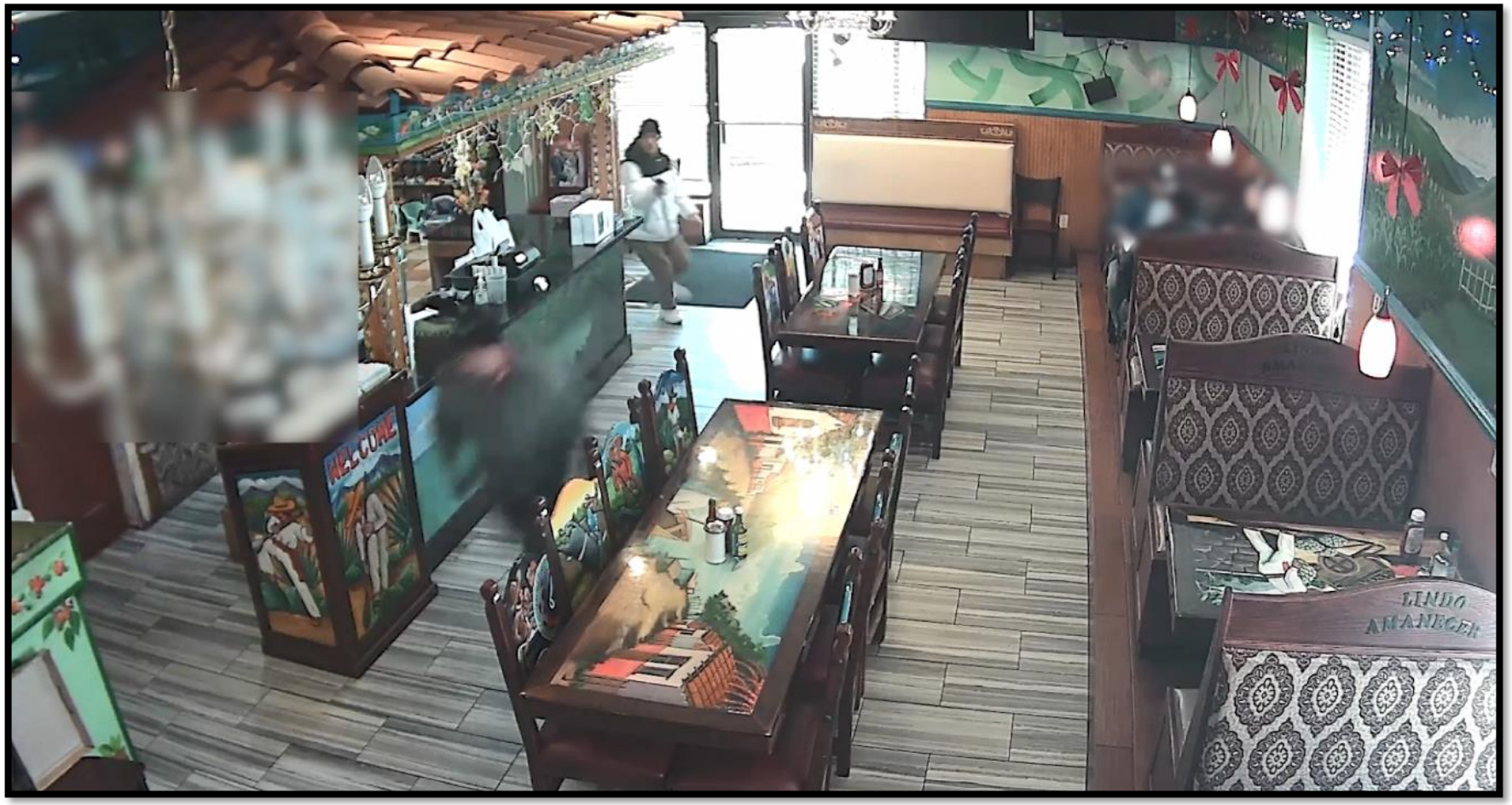
‘Senseless, horrible’: Restaurant employee killed during robbery spree in Richmond’s Southside

by: Cheyenne Pagan
Posted: Feb 8, 2024 / 11:20 PM EST
Updated: Feb 8, 2024 / 11:22 PM EST

VIDEO STILL IMAGES – Suspects getting out of their vehicle and walking in Lindo Market / Restaurant

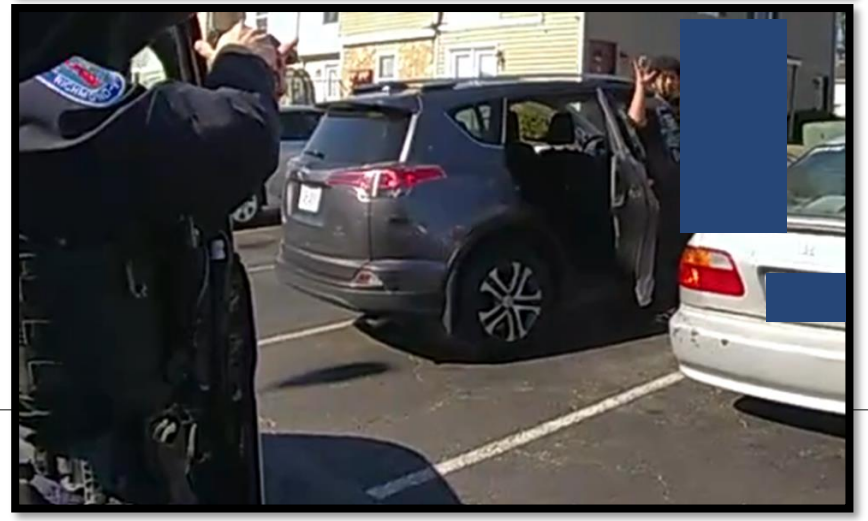


VIDEO STILL IMAGES – Suspect chasing the Victim in the Lindo Market / Restaurant with firearm drawn



VIDEO STILL IMAGES – Suspect shooting the Victim in the Lindo Market / Restaurant

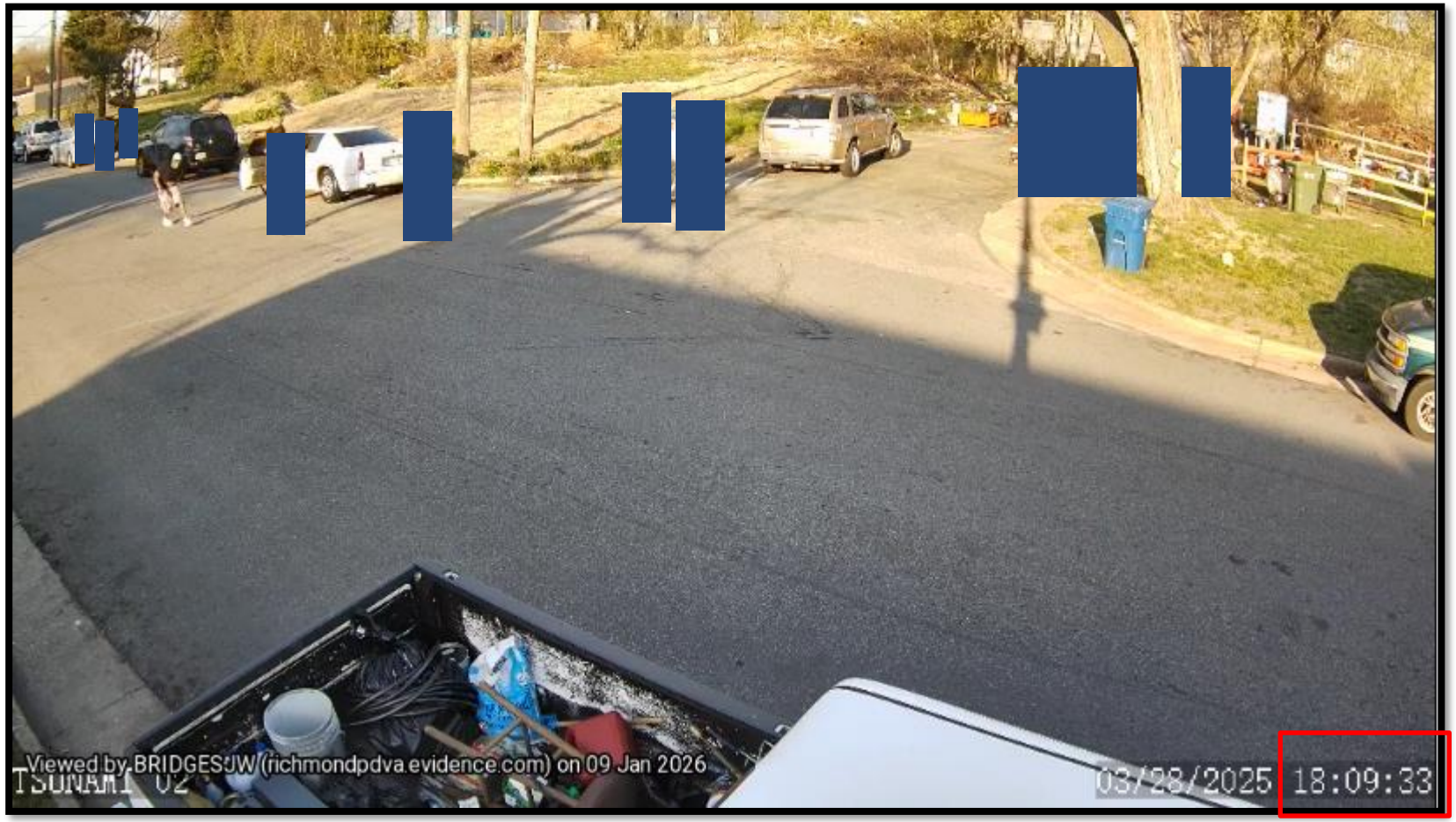
Vehicle and two suspects apprehended in Southwood Apartments after Flock ALPR alert. 33 minutes after victim was pronounced dead



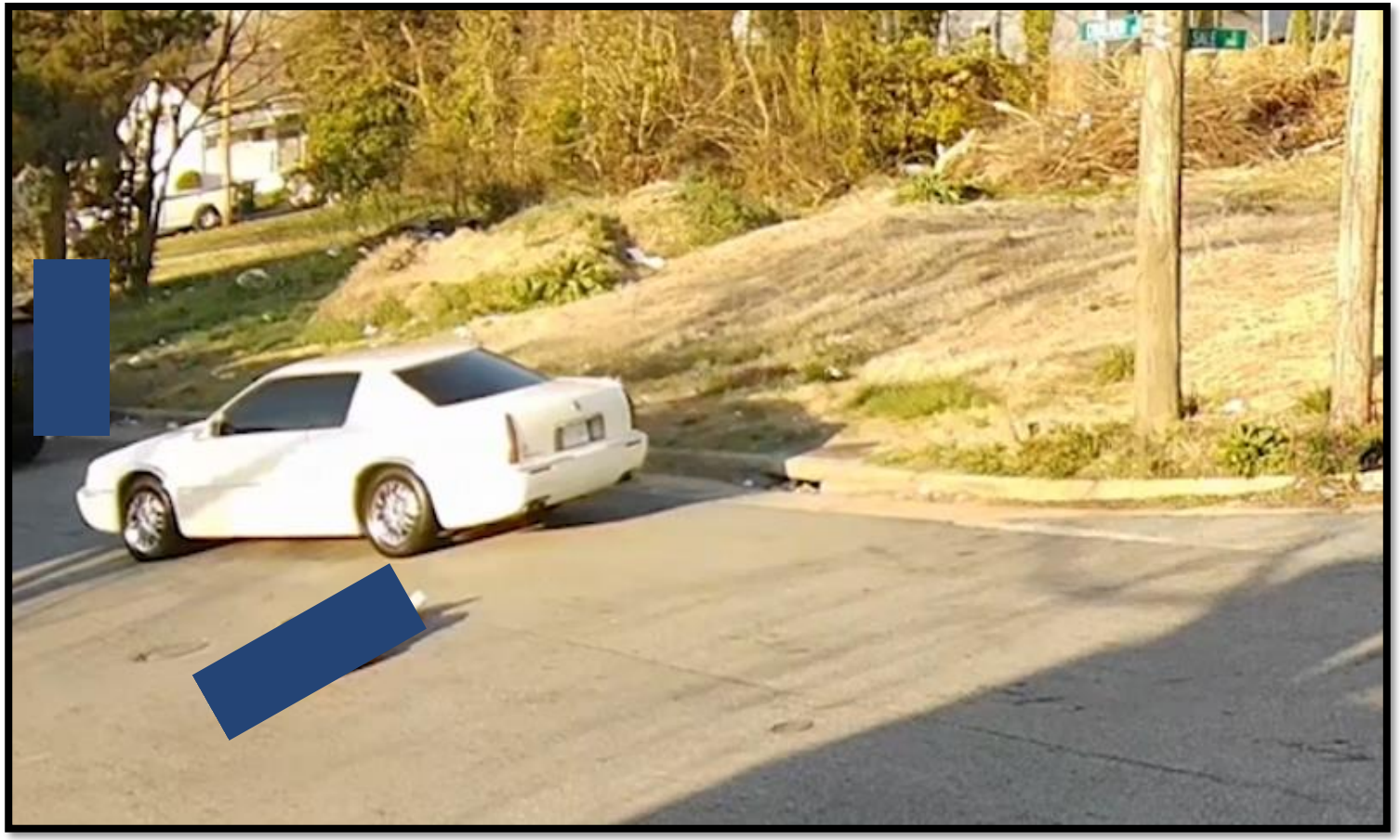
Murder of Darnell Christian
63 years old

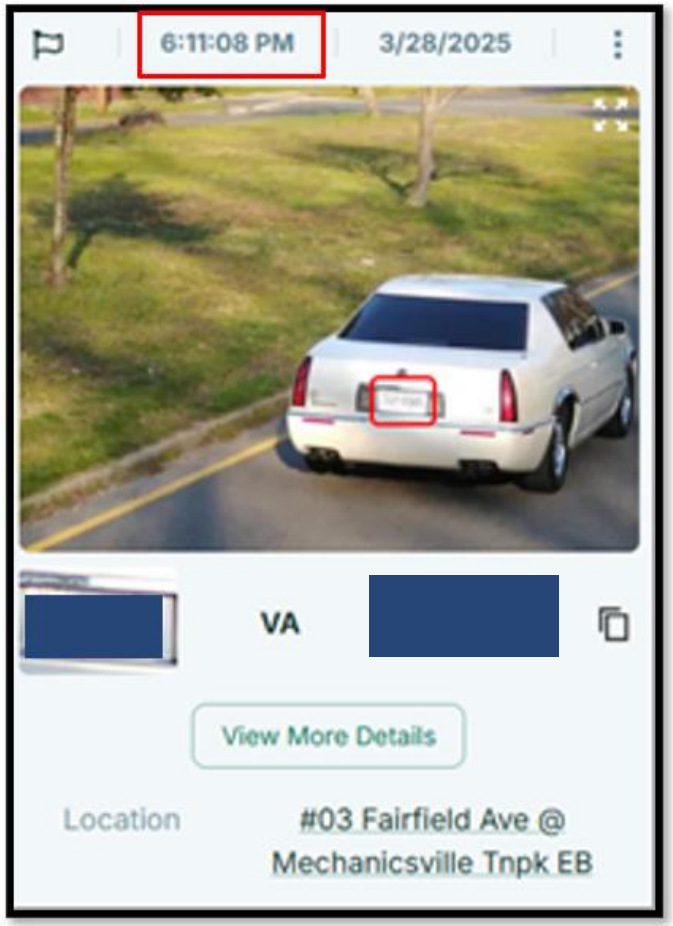
Friday, March 28, 2025
1500 block of Coalter Street

Shooting


Viewed by BRIDGESJW (richmondpdva.evidence.com) on 09 Jan 2026
03/28/2025 18:09:33

Suspect flees the scene and has a Flock Alert two minutes after the shooting





Arrest Made within the hour

LOCAL NEWS

Man arrested on Interstate 64 minutes after deadly Richmond shooting

By: WTVR CBS 6 Web Staff

Posted 7:10 PM, Mar 29, 2025 and last updated 4:59 PM, Mar 31, 2025

RICHMOND, Va. — A man was arrested just minutes after a deadly shooting in Richmond's Mosby Court neighborhood Friday evening, Crime Insider sources told Jon Burkett.

The shooting happened in the 1500 block of Coalter Street, near Redd Street, around 6 p.m. Sources told Burkett that a man was walking in the area when he was hit by bullets.

ALPR recently in the news

Richmond police use Flock cameras to track another hit-and-run suspect

Samuel B. Parker 8 hrs ago 0

LOCAL NEWS

Police share new details after arrest of Richmond driver in deadly hit-and-run

RICHMOND

Man charged with involuntary manslaughter after woman killed in January hit-and-run on Semmes Avenue

by: Katelyn Harlow
Posted: Feb 18, 2026 / 02:31 PM EST
Updated: Feb 18, 2026 / 02:31 PM EST

RICHMOND

Woman charged after 23-year-old woman killed in hit-and-run on Richmond's East Cary Street

by: Katelyn Harlow
Posted: Feb 17, 2026 / 01:06 PM EST
Updated: Feb 17, 2026 / 06:09 PM EST

CITY OF RICHMOND
ESTABLISHED 1737

POLICE
SIC ITUR AD ASTRA
RICHMOND - VIRGINIA