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Police Chief Pushes Back on ALPR Criticism: "Public Safety Decisions Should Be Based on Facts, Not Politics"

San Diego – San Diego Police Chief Scott Wahl responds to statements made at today's press conference regarding automated license plate readers:

"For nearly three years, SDPD has shown that ALPR technology can help solve serious crimes while protecting people's privacy. We've followed strict rules, conducted regular audits and helped set a national standard for responsible use.

And the results speak for themselves. This technology has helped solve more than 900 cases. In this councilmember's own district, it's assisted in hate crime sprees against our LGBTQ community and helped find a suspect in the attempted kidnapping of a child. He knows firsthand the difference this technology has made.

Let's also be clear: SDPD has never shared ALPR data for immigration purposes. Not once.

We welcome oversight. We've spent years building safeguards and holding ourselves accountable. But we shouldn't lose sight of what this technology has accomplished for victims and their families. Our communities deserve public safety decisions based on facts, not politics."

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