



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives

www.atf.gov

MAY - 3 2013

REFER TO: 100060

American Civil Liberties Union
National Headquarters
Legal Department
ATTN: Catherine Strump
125 Broad Street
New York, NY 10004

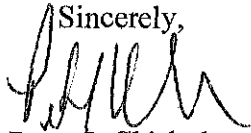
RE: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request/Automatic License Plate Readers

Dear Ms. Strump:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) for information related to Automatic License Plate Readers. Your request is now involved in ongoing litigation with this agency.

A search of our records located one document which we are releasing to you in full. No other responsive documents were located during our search.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at (202) 648-7382.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Chisholm

Team Leader, Disclosure Division

Enclosure

The Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, purchased One DRS Technologies (ELSAG) Fixed license Plate Reader System (LPR) on February, 20, 2009. The purchase price for this system was \$105,083.13. The funds came from ATF direct funding.

The system includes six (6) fixed mount camera systems for the capturing of vehicle license plates. The system is limited to capturing single lane vehicle plates that fall within the required speed, location and angle of the moving plated vehicle.

To date, the system has been installed in three locations throughout the United States:

2009: Lee County, AL - From March, 2009 thru April, 2009

2010: Murphreesboro, TN - From September, 2010 thru November, 2010

2010: Tyler, TX - February 2010 thru March, 2010

All three of these installations were utilized for Arson investigations in specific areas that had been the victim of multiple Church structure fires. Location placement of the LPR was based on the intelligence realized anticipation of a subsequent fire. The purpose was to potentially capture the plate of suspect vehicle leaving the area after committing the crime of Arson.

In all three of the above deployments, no further fires were sustained and the LPR's were removed. The captured tags having no value were not retrieved, viewed, or disseminated any further. The data was subsequently discarded.