HAND DELIVERED

ROBERT P. SHARPE
131 County Road 933 • Teague, Texas 75860
[redacted] • 713-485-9006

August 17, 2026

Honorable Lloyd L. Lane
Freestone County Judge
Freestone County Courthouse
118 East Commerce Street
Fairfield, Texas 75840

Members of the Freestone County Commissioners Court

Dear Judge Lane and Members of the Commissioners Court:

I respectfully request that the following item be placed on a future Commissioners Court agenda for discussion and possible action:

"Citizen request for disclosure regarding automated license plate reader (ALPR) / Flock Safety and related surveillance technology, and for adoption of a written, published County policy governing its use."

I have prepared and will provide a written letter with specific questions and an action-item checklist. I request the opportunity to briefly present the letter and answer any questions the Court may have.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert P. Sharpe

Robert P. Sharpe
131 County Road 933
Teague, Texas 75860
[redacted] • 713-485-9006

(Submitted solely as a private citizen; not in any official party capacity)

HAND DELIVERED

ROBERT P. SHARPE
131 County Road 933 • Teague, Texas 75860
[redacted] • 713-485-9006

August 17, 2026

Honorable Lloyd L. Lane
Freestone County Judge
Freestone County Courthouse
118 East Commerce Street
Fairfield, Texas 75840

Honorable Clyde Ridge
Freestone County Commissioner, Precinct 4
Freestone County Courthouse
118 East Commerce Street
Fairfield, Texas 75840

Members of the Freestone County Commissioners Court
Sheriff Jeremy Shipley
Freestone County Sheriff's Office
Fairfield, Texas 75840

Dear Judge Lane, Commissioner Ridge, Members of the Commissioners Court, and Sheriff Shipley:

I write as a private citizen and taxpayer of Freestone County concerning automated license plate reader (ALPR) technology and related surveillance tools. Although I serve as Precinct 4 Chairman and as a member of the Freestone County Republican Party Executive Committee, this correspondence is submitted solely in my capacity as a private citizen and is not an official communication of the Republican Party or any party office.

What ALPR is, and how Flock fits. An automated license plate reader (ALPR) is a camera system that automatically captures license-plate images, converts them to text, and stores the plate number, date, time, and location. The data can be searched later by plate number or used to generate alerts. Flock Safety is one commercial provider of ALPR systems used by many Texas cities and counties. When people refer to "Flock cameras," they are generally referring to this type of ALPR technology. Other vendors exist; the policy questions are the same regardless of brand.

Republican Party of Texas Platform. The 2026 Republican Party of Texas Platform, as approved by the delegates, states in Plank 168 (Government Surveillance): "We oppose warrantless government surveillance, in all forms and at all levels, of United States citizens and businesses." Related privacy planks support limiting the collection and retention of personal data and requiring proper legal process for tracking. A Republican Commissioners Court that adopts a clear, published local policy on ALPR and related tools is simply putting that platform plank into practice at the county level.

My personal position. I am personally opposed to the widespread deployment of this technology across our state and nation. The surveillance apparatus being built through multiple levels of government is a dangerous tool. Totalitarian regimes have long used comprehensive tracking systems to prevent citizens from organizing in opposition to the state—the lesson of places like Tiananmen Square is that once the

infrastructure of constant monitoring is in place, the ability of free people to assemble and resist is severely diminished. Closer to home, we have seen federal and local agencies abuse authority: documented misconduct within elements of the Department of Justice and the FBI; the heavy-handed measures many Americans endured during the COVID period; and the confiscation of lawfully possessed firearms by the New Orleans Police Department after Hurricane Katrina—an action later halted by federal court order and ultimately acknowledged as unconstitutional, resulting in a permanent injunction.

Documented misuse of ALPR systems. The risk is not theoretical. National reporting and civil-liberties tracking (including the Institute for Justice and major news outlets) have documented dozens of cases in which law-enforcement officers used ALPR systems—including Flock—to track romantic partners, ex-partners, or other private individuals for personal reasons rather than legitimate investigations. Examples include officers searching a single plate scores or hundreds of times; a former Kansas police chief who tracked an ex-girlfriend more than 200 times; a Milwaukee officer charged after nearly 180 personal searches; and similar cases in Florida, Georgia, Wisconsin, and elsewhere that resulted in resignations, firings, and criminal charges. These cases demonstrate why any local deployment must be paired with strict access controls, mandatory auditing, and clear consequences for misuse.

I support law enforcement and respect the work of the Freestone County Sheriff's Office. Opposition to an unrestrained surveillance tool is not opposition to the men and women who wear the badge. If this technology is nonetheless present or under consideration in Freestone County, then clear written rules, public transparency, and accountability are the minimum the citizens should demand.

Specific Questions

I respectfully request clear, public answers to the following:

1. Does the Freestone County Sheriff's Office, or any other county investigative entity, currently operate, contract for, or have access to Flock Safety or any similar automated license plate reader (ALPR) system?

2. If yes, how many cameras or data feeds are involved, and under what agreement or authority?

3. What written operational procedures govern the system (authorized users, required justification for searches, data retention period, data sharing, and audit mechanisms)?

4. What are the consequences—disciplinary, employment, and criminal—if a deputy, supervisor, or the Sheriff misuses ALPR or related systems for personal purposes (for example, tracking a romantic partner or other private individual without a legitimate law-enforcement purpose)? Is that policy in writing and published?

5. What body-worn camera system is currently issued to deputies? Does it include AI-assisted features, automatic transcription, object detection, or facial-recognition capability?

6. What data is collected by body-worn cameras or other AI-enabled tools during the ordinary course of duty? How long is that data retained? Who may access it, and under what rules?

7. Does any system currently in use by the Sheriff's Office perform facial recognition, or is any such capability under consideration or available through a vendor or partner agency?

8. If these technologies are not currently in use, is any proposal, grant, or discussion underway to adopt them?

Request for a Published County Policy

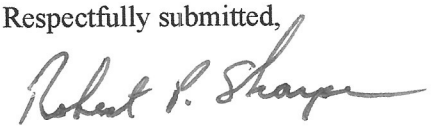
I request that the Commissioners Court direct the preparation of a written County policy on automated license plate readers (ALPR) and related surveillance technology—including body-worn camera AI capabilities—and that the policy be published on the County website. The policy should address, at minimum: current use or access; authorized purposes; who may conduct searches and what justification is required; data retention; data sharing; auditing; consequences for misuse; and public reporting. Doing so would align Freestone County practice with Plank 168 of the 2026 Republican Party of Texas Platform.

I request a written response to the questions above and ask the Commissioners Court to place this matter on a future agenda for public discussion and possible adoption of a published County policy. I remain

supportive of effective law enforcement while insisting that powerful surveillance tools, if used at all, operate under strict, transparent, and publicly known limits.

Thank you for your service and for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert P. Sharpe
131 County Road 933
Teague, Texas 75860
[redacted] • 713-485-9006

(Submitted solely as a private citizen; not in any official party capacity)