



MEMORANDUM

TO: LeRonne Armstrong,
Chief of Police

FROM: Acting Captain Rosin

SUBJECT: Pursuit Mitigation System –
2020 Annual Report

DATE: February 22, 2021

Background

Oakland Municipal Code (OMC) 9.64.040: Surveillance Technology “Oversight following City Council approval” requires that for each approved surveillance technology item, city staff must present a written annual surveillance report for Privacy Advisory Commission (PAC). After review by the Privacy Advisory Commission, city staff shall submit the annual surveillance report to the City Council. The PAC shall recommend to the City Council that:

- The benefits to the community of the surveillance technology outweigh the costs and that civil liberties and civil rights are safeguarded.
- That use of the surveillance technology cease; or
- Propose modifications to the corresponding surveillance use policy that will resolve the concerns.

Oakland Police Department (OPD) Department General Order (DGO) I-22: Pursuit Mitigation System requires that OPD provide an annual report to the Chief of Police, the Privacy Advisory Commission (PAC), and Public Safety Committee. The information provided below is compliant with the annual report policy requirements of DGO I-22 as well as OMC 9.64.040.

Acting Captain Rosin, Bureau of Field Operations I, Area 2, is currently the Pursuit Mitigation System Coordinator.

DGO I-22 explains that “StarChase,” a private company, manufactures and supports its Pursuit Mitigation GPS Tag Tracking System. The “StarChase” system is a pursuit management technology that contains a miniature GPS tag and a launcher mounted in a police vehicle. The GPS Tag and Track Launcher System are comprised of a less-than-lethal, dual barrel GPS launcher which contains two GPS Tags (1 per barrel) mounted in the vehicle grille or on a push bumper. The launcher is equipped with compressed air and an eye-safe laser for assisting with targeting before launching the GPS Tag.

As of January 31, 2021, OPD has not deployed any GPS tags for pursuit mitigation or tracking purposes. OPD has acquired an initial system but there has been no deployment as of the production of this report – only initial training. OPD does anticipate initiating a further deployment of the system in the coming year.

2020 Annual Report Details

- A. A description of how the surveillance technology was used, including the type and quantity of data gathered or analyzed by the technology:

No actual police use beyond initial training.

- B. Whether and how often data acquired through the use of the surveillance technology was shared with outside entities, the name of any recipient entity, the type(s) of data disclosed, under what legal standard(s) the information was disclosed, and the justification for the disclosure(s):

There was no Pursuit Mitigation System technology data generated as the technology was not used in 2020.

- C. Where applicable, a breakdown of what physical objects the surveillance technology hardware was installed upon; using general descriptive terms so as not to reveal the specific location of such hardware; for surveillance technology software, a breakdown of what data sources the surveillance technology was applied to:

n/a

- D. Where applicable, a breakdown of where the surveillance technology was deployed geographically, by each police area in the relevant year:

The technology was not deployed in Oakland in 2020.

- E. A summary of community complaints or concerns about the surveillance technology, and an analysis of the technology's adopted use policy and whether it is adequate in protecting civil rights and civil liberties:

OPD is not aware of any community complaints in 2020.

- F. The results of any internal audits, any information about violations or potential violations of the Surveillance Use Policy, and any actions taken in response unless the release of such information is prohibited by law, including but not limited to confidential personnel file information:

There were no audits as the technology has not been deployed. There were no policy violations.

- G. Information about any data breaches or other unauthorized access to the data collected by the surveillance technology, including information about the scope of the breach and the actions taken in response:

There were no Pursuit Mitigation System technology data breaches.

- H. Information, including crime statistics, that helps the community assess whether the surveillance technology has been effective at achieving its identified purposes:

There is no crime statistics relevant to Pursuit Mitigation System technology, due to zero usage.

- I. Statistics and information about public records act requests regarding the relevant subject surveillance technology, including response rates:

There were no PRRs related to Pursuit Mitigation System technology in 2020.

- J. Total annual costs for the surveillance technology, including personnel and other ongoing costs, and what source of funding will fund the technology in the coming year:

OPD anticipates that the annual cost – once deployed – will be approximately \$30,000 annually for unlimited data and mapping service. This expense will be supported from OPD's database subscription account.

- K. Any requested modifications to the Surveillance Use Policy and a detailed basis for the request:

No requests for changes at this time.

OPD is committed to providing the best services to our community while being transparent and instilling procedural justice through daily police activity. This report is compliance with these OPD commitments as well as the reporting requirements of OMC 9.64.040. OPD hopes that this report helps to strengthen our trust within the Oakland community.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Rosin, Acting Captain
OPD, Bureau of Field Operations 1, Area 2

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