OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION DECEMBER 2, 2025, AGENDA

Subject:	Action Required:	Approved By:
Ordinance Establishing Transparency and Reporting Requirements for LRPD Technology	√ Ordinance Resolution	
Submitted/Sponsored By: Director Antwan Phillips		Delphone Hubbard City Manager
SYNOPSIS	This ordinance establishes structured transparency, reporting, and public information requirements for the Little Rock Police Department (LRPD) regarding its acquisition and use of technologies. The ordinance preserves existing procurement authorities and CALEA accreditation standards while clarifying reporting, documentation, and community information mechanisms to enhance public trust, accountability, and informed policymaking. It does not restrict LRPD's operational capabilities, investigative tools, or emergency response functions.	
FISCAL IMPACT	The ordinance is not expected to generate new direct costs beyond existing departmental operations. LRPD already maintains CALEA accreditation and documentation, and current policies require technology-related reporting and oversight activities. Some additional staff time may be required to prepare the annual technology report and support public information sessions; these responsibilities will be absorbed within existing personnel capacity. No new systems or technology purchases are mandated by this ordinance.	
RECOMMENDATION	Pass the ordinance.	

BACKGROUND

The Little Rock Board of Directors recognizes that LRPD maintains accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), which includes established standards for surveillance technology, evidence management, data security, and policy oversight. Technologies has contributed to solving serious crimes in Little Rock and across the country by enabling the identification of suspects, locating missing persons, and supporting successful criminal prosecutions. The Board also recognizes the importance of transparency in governmental operations and the role of an informed public in strengthening community trust. LRPD policies already establish foundational protections and operational standards. This ordinance provides structured reporting requirements as to technology.

The ordinance includes the following major components:

1. Public Discussion Requirements

Surveillance technology acquisitions and agreements over \$50,000, new data-sharing agreements, relevant grant applications, and major policy changes must be placed on the Board agenda as individual items to ensure the opportunity for public discussion.

2. Technology Assessment Documentation

For items requiring Board approval, LRPD will provide to the Board of Directors documentation outlining system capabilities, CALEA alignment, data security protocols, training requirements, operational frameworks, and community impact considerations.

3. Enhanced Transparency Reporting

LRPD will submit an annual public report (by April 1), of each year, summarizing its technology inventory, effectiveness, data management practices, CALEA compliance, technology-related costs, and community engagement activities. A public version will be posted online with any necessary redactions.

4. Community Engagement

LRPD may conduct public information sessions and will provide presentations to the Board upon request to explain capabilities, safeguards, and public safety outcomes related to technology.

BACKGROUND CONTINUED

5. Data Management Principles

All surveillance data will remain subject to applicable laws and standards, including CALEA, Arkansas Rules of Criminal Procedure, and FBI CJIS requirements where applicable. Security requirements include access controls, cybersecurity measures, and regular audits.

6. Operational Protections

The ordinance does not impede active criminal investigations, limit court-authorized surveillance, restrict officer safety equipment, or interfere with mutual aid or emergency operations. The Chief of Police retains full operational discretion within existing legal frameworks.

7. Implementation and Review

LRPD will have 120 days to prepare initial inventory and reporting processes. The ordinance will be integrated into relevant departmental policies, and the Board may review the ordinance after three years.

8. Definitions and Legal Provisions

The ordinance defines "technology" and clarifies exclusions such as routine patrol equipment and bodyworn cameras.