

# Flock Safety: the claims vs. the record

**Fort Wayne, ahead of the July 28 vote. Every point is sourced; the blue labels are clickable links.**

**1. The clearance rate did not rise when Flock arrived.** By the department's own figures the homicide clearance rate stayed in the same band before and after the cameras: about 90%+ in 2023, ~91% in 2024, and 97% in 2025 as of December 18, settling to 94% by year-end. The City's first Flock contract dates to 2024, so 2023 was a pre-Flock year and already in the 90s. "Helped solve a homicide" is one case, with no case number or affidavit produced. Sources: [JG clearance](#) | [WANE claim](#)

**2. "It's not our data" is contradicted by Flock's contract.** Terms of Service Section 4.1: the City keeps title but grants Flock an "irrevocable, perpetual, worldwide license to use and disclose" the data, and "Flock retains the exclusive right to determine and control the method, timing, format, and medium" of access. Source: [Flock Terms 4.1](#)

**3. "It can't identify who owns the vehicle" is contradicted by Flock's product.** Flock's Nova page advertises searching "RMS, CAD, LPR, jail records, public records, and approved open sources" in one interface, and the Indiana BMV sells driver data, so a plate becomes a name and address. Sources: [Flock Nova](#) | [WRTV BMV](#)

**4. "It doesn't track people" is contradicted by Flock's marketing and patent.** Flock markets AI video analytics for 24/7 coverage, and its patent describes classifying people by attributes including "male, female, race." Sources: [Flock video analytics](#) | [Patent 11.416.545](#)

**5. The City chose to share data out of state; this was not a default.** Flock's network is built for cross-jurisdiction search; the department opted in, and the Council acknowledged it cannot control how outside agencies use the data once shared. The setting is reversible. Source: [Flock network sharing](#)

**6. "It can't be hacked / there's a bug bounty" is contradicted by the record.** Flock's cameras were left accessible on the open internet, which it called a "configuration issue." Federal lawmakers asked the FTC to investigate, citing 35+ Flock accounts stolen by malware and sold on a Russian cybercrime forum and no required multi-factor authentication. A bug bounty prevented neither, and the researchers who found the open cameras were called a "coordinated attack," one visited by police and another fired within 48 hours. Sources: [Flock Condor notice](#) | [Wyden FTC](#) | [Slashdot researchers](#)

**7. The account of oversight keeps changing.** On May 26 the Chief said no audit had ever been conducted ("we haven't even done one yet ... haven't even had time") and the detective called them "random" and was unsure if "quarterly." The Council was later told they are monthly. Both cannot be true; if monthly since the 2024 contract, roughly two dozen audit reports should exist and should be entered into the record. Source: Fort Wayne Common Council hearing on S-26-05-10, May 26, 2026 (city meeting video).

**8. The presentation tracks Flock's vendor playbook.** Flock markets a law-enforcement webinar with a "Chief-to-council guide" and an "objection-handling playbook with responses to common concerns." Several assurances given to the Council track that playbook and are contradicted by Flock's own documents above. Source: [Flock council webinar](#)

**9. The Indiana examples cited as successes prove the risks, and one Indiana city quit.** A Forbes investigation found FedEx, Simon Property, Lowe's, and Kaiser Permanente use Flock without publicly disclosing it, that FedEx and Simon shared their camera feeds with police, and that some police share their feeds back with FedEx. South Bend reports its cameras "assisted" 247 investigations in two years,

with private-company access. Michigan City runs the same "Raven" audio device the chief signed for and shares data "throughout the state of Indiana and throughout the United States." Bloomington, Indiana ended its Flock contract in April 2026. Sources: [Forbes FedEx](#) | [ABC57 South Bend](#) | [Mrvan Michigan City](#) | [IDS Bloomington](#)

**10. "It's just an image, not a video" is false.** The contract before the Council, Flock quote Q-193589, buys eight "Solar Video Camera" (Condor) units. Flock markets AI video analytics, its patent is titled "System and method for object based query of video content," and the internet exposure showed live video feeds, not still images. Sources: [Patent: video query](#) | [Flock video analytics](#) | [404 live feeds](#)