

Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff

Court Security and Safety Surveillance Equipment

Annual Surveillance Report: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

1. Description of How the Technology Was Used

The equipment was utilized to prevent contraband, weapons, and potential weapons from entering the secured area of a Court Facility by providing non-invasive detection of items that are of safety and security concern. A search warrant was not required to utilize this equipment.

Ceia PMD2 Plus walk-through metal detectors were utilized by having visitors walk through the free-standing detector to screen for contraband, weapons, and potential weapons and to prevent these items from entering the courthouse.

Garrett Super Wand hand-held metal detectors were utilized to pinpoint items that triggered the walk-through metal detectors or to screen persons with medical conditions who could not pass through the walk-through metal detectors.

Astrophysics 6545 and Laurus Rapiscan 515 x-ray scanners were utilized by placing bags, boxes, and various items onto a conveyor belt, which pass through an x-ray machine. A live image was viewed by a Sheriff's Technician or by assigned Sheriff's personnel to detect contraband, weapons, and potential weapons and to prevent these items from entering the courthouse. Contraband was defined as any item prohibited from entering the courthouse facility.

2. Data Sharing with Outside Entities

Consistent with the Board-approved Surveillance Use Policy, data was not recorded from the Court Security and Safety Surveillance Equipment listed in this surveillance policy. When illegal items were discovered, the results were documented in a written Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff crime report. Consistent with the Board-approved Surveillance Use Policy those results were shared with investigating officer(s) and the District Attorney's Office. The Sheriff's Office understands that the District Attorney's Office shares results with the Public Defender's Office or criminal defense attorney(s) in criminal cases in accordance with applicable California discovery law but that is not tracked by the Sheriff's Office.

3. Community Complaints or Concerns

Any community complaints regarding the use of this technology are routed to Lieutenant Sugey Jaimez in Internal Affairs for tracking and response.

During the period for this annual report, there were no community complaints or concerns expressed to the Sheriff's Court Security Division related to Court Security and Safety Surveillance Equipment.

4. Non-Privileged Internal Audits / Policy Violations

All Sheriff's Office staff are provided all Surveillance Use Policies via an internal web-based portal requiring review and a completed attestation of acknowledgement.

Consistent with the Surveillance Use Policy, Court Security and Safety Surveillance Equipment does not have the capability to record data. Use of the equipment is supervised by Sheriff's personnel assigned to the Courthouses and no policy violations were observed during this reporting period.

There is no evidence to suggest that this technology was used disproportionately affecting lower-income community members or community members of color.

5. Effectiveness in Achieving its Identified Purpose

The Court Security and Safety Surveillance Equipment was utilized pursuant to the Board-approved Surveillance Use Policy to ensure the safety of visitors, employees, and others visiting or attending to business or justice matters. The equipment functioned as designed to prevent contraband, weapons, and potential weapons from entering the secured area of a Court Facility by providing non-invasive detection of items that are of safety and security concern. This equipment was effective in achieving its identified purpose.

6. Public Records Act Requests

The Sheriff's Office has a process in place to track Public Records Act requests, with designated staff to receive and respond to each request. Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023, the Sheriff's Office did not receive any California Public Records Act requests regarding Court Security and Safety Surveillance Equipment.

7. Annual Costs

The Court Security and Safety Surveillance Equipment is owned by the State of California. There are no associated costs for the County of Santa Clara.