

Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff
VIP Gander Bomb Robot Cameras
Annual Surveillance Report: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

1. Description of How the Technology was Used

The Office of the Sheriff intends to use the K5600 VIP Gander (VIP Gander System) and the K5700 Mini Gander Bomb Robot Camera system and the K5700 Mini Gander (Mini-Gander System) Bomb Robot Cameras in conjunction with their existing fleet of Bomb Disposal Robots. These Gander systems are a camera accessory that may be deployed to examine and mitigate potential explosive devices, other hazardous materials or during tactical operations to locate, identify, and potentially mitigate risks to responding personnel and civilians. The VIP and Mini-Gander System may also be deployed to help law enforcement view potentially dangerous environments before entering them. Although the associated Surveillance Use Policy was approved by the Board of Supervisors on September 14, 2021, the Sheriff's Office took possession of these items around January 2023. This tool has been used in training, but not in a live operation to date.

The Office of the Sheriff sought approval of an overarching Surveillance Use Policy for all of the department's Bomb Disposal Robots in light of their camera features. The Board of Supervisors approved the Bomb Disposal Robot Surveillance Use Policy on April 19, 2022. It is the position of the Sheriff's Office that the Bomb Disposal Robot Surveillance Use Policy would cover the use of the VIP Gander and VIP Mini Gander Cameras since it augments the native cameras on the robots themselves. The Office of the Sheriff requests the VIP Gander Bomb Robot Camera Surveillance use policy be retired and no longer be required to submit annual reports for this item.

2. Data Sharing with Outside Entities

No data related to the VIP Gander Bomb Robot Cameras was shared with outside entities during this reporting period.

3. Community Complaints or Concerns

Any community complaints regarding the use of the VIP Gander Bomb Robot Cameras are routed to the Internal Affairs Lieutenant for tracking and response. There were no community complaints or concerns expressed regarding the VIP Gander Bomb Robot Cameras during this reporting period.

4. Non-Privileged Internal Audits / Policy Violations

All Office of the Sheriff staff are provided all Surveillance Use Policies via an internal web-based portal requiring annual review and attestation of acknowledgement completion. Unit supervisors are required to periodically audit the data obtained by and the use of the VIP Gander Bomb Robot Cameras to ensure compliance with the Surveillance Use Policy and other Sheriff's Office policies. No audits were completed during this reporting period due to the fact that the VIP Gander Bomb Robot Cameras had not been used in the field and no data was recorded.

5. Effectiveness in Achieving its Identified Purpose

The VIP Gander Bomb Robot Cameras are expected to be extremely useful to the Bomb Squad in mitigating explosive and hazardous materials as well as other authorized uses.

6. Public Records Act Requests

The Office of the Sheriff has a process in place to track California Public Records Act (CPRA) requests where designated staff are assigned to receive and respond to each request. The Office of the Sheriff did not receive any California Public Records Act requests for the VIP Gander Bomb Robot Cameras during this reporting period.

7. Annual Costs

The VIP Gander Bomb Robot Cameras will be a one-time purchase and no additional costs will be incurred.