

**To the Mayor and Members of the City Council****December 2, 2025**

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SUBJECT: GUN SHOT DETECTION TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

The purpose of this informal report is to provide an update on the implementation of technology which the Police Department uses to detect the location of gunshots with the goal of providing investigative leads on shooting offenses and reducing gunshots in the City of Fort Worth.

As of the end of October, 2025, the Police Department has deployed gunshot detection technology in five primary locations based on historical gunshot data. Each division, excluding North Division, has had Flock Raven equipment installed in the following areas:

- NW 25th St Area
- Las Vegas Trail Area
- Rosemont Area
- S Riverside/Berry Area
- Stalcup/Berry Area

In addition to these stationary sensors, Acoem gunshot detection equipment is available for large scale and special events, or in areas with increased reports of shots fired that are outside of the Flock Raven program areas.

Both the Flock Raven system and the Acoem Gunshot Detection system are currently funded through a Texas Anti-Gang (TAG) grant. The Flock Raven system is capable of working with existing public safety cameras, and each Acoem system is directly tied to an onboard camera.

Between January 1, 2025, and November 16, 2025, there were approximately 6074 Flock Raven gunshot detection alerts. Please note that this is for individual devices. If there is a slight delay in the person shooting (such as a reload), a new alert may be generated for the same incident. Additionally, several of the individual devices could "alert" to the same incident, as they work in concert to pinpoint the source of the shots.

Gunshot detection alerts are rarely dispatched as calls for service unless they can be verified by other means such as a 911 caller or a city owned camera. Instead, dispatchers routinely send out informational broadcasts to officers via their in-car computer for unconfirmed alerts. These calls are not tracked, but a general search during the above listed time period revealed 22 calls for service tied to a gunshot detection alert.

Our Gun Violence Unit and Homicide Units routinely begin their on-scene investigations with a Flock Raven search through the Real Time Crime Center to verify their initial findings. Additionally, investigators have successfully used these alerts to locate offense locations when victims or witnesses have been unable to provide that critical information.

Gunshot detection technology only provides investigative leads that have to be built upon so it is not always easy to track how many cases it solves; however, it has proven to be valuable in many cases such as the one listed below.

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In October, 2025, Gun Violence detectives were able to use information from Flock Raven sensors to discredit a witness's statement and the witness subsequently identified the primary suspect in an aggravated assault in East Division. That suspect has since been arrested.

Gunshot detection has also allowed the Real Time Crime Center to assess incoming alerts to determine their validity. In cases where it is apparent that the alert captured something other than a gunshot, RTCC officers are able to cancel those calls for service, ensuring officers are available for other priorities. On the other hand, gunshot alerts have assisted RTCC officers with confirming possible shootings, allowing them to notify responding officers prior to their arrival.

Communication with the Public

In preparation for the New Year's Eve holiday, the department will be sharing crucial information across a variety of social media platforms. Our messaging focuses on the critical importance of gun safety and draws attention to the grave dangers associated with discharging firearms into the air, such as stray bullets potentially harming unsuspecting individuals or damaging property.

We aim to inform the public about safety measures and responsible firearm practices, and our ongoing efforts reflect a steadfast commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community while promoting responsible behavior during celebratory occasions.

Additional questions or information requests should be directed to Deputy Chief Mark Barthen at 817-392-4121.

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City Manager