

# COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Policy and Procedure Manual

### CAMERA REGISTRATION AND MONITORING PLATFORM (E.G. FUSUS)

**Approved By:** Geoffrey Jones, Chief of Police

**CALEA 6<sup>th</sup> Edition Standard:** 40.2.1, 40.2.3

#### 620 CAMERA REGISTRATION AND MONITORING PLATFORM (E.G. FUSUS)

##### 620.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of the Columbia Police Department with guidelines for implementing, accessing, and acting on information obtained using camera registration and monitoring platforms (such as the FUSUS platform and associated network). FUSUS is a collaborative public/private security network and video integration platform that expedites evidence gathering and allows for greater efficiency in responding to critical incidents or other investigations. Columbia Police Department personnel can use a FUSUS platform (such as fūsusREGISTRY™) to more easily locate and contact camera owners in the vicinity of an event to request video footage for an investigation. The FUSUS platform can also allow Columbia Police Department personnel to view live video feeds from different sources (as a real-time unified camera system), disseminate community alerts and receive communication from citizens, and can integrate license plate readers (LPRs) on the same platform. The FUSUS Real-Time Crime Center in the Cloud (RTC<sub>3</sub>) extracts and unifies live video, data, and sensor feeds from public and private assets, which enhances the situational awareness and investigative capabilities of law enforcement agencies. Camera owners' participation in the platform is voluntary and part of a permission-based agreement, and police access to the availability or content of camera footage is at the consent of the owner.

##### 620.2 POLICY

The Columbia Police Department is committed to enhancing the safety and quality of life for Columbia's citizens, and this commitment includes integrating the best practices and standards of public safety with the continual incorporation of modern technologies. The purpose of this policy is to outline the Columbia Police Department's collaboration with citizens in the use of camera registering and monitoring platforms, such as the FUSUS video integration platform. A goal of utilizing this platform is to build community trust and increase the Columbia Police Department's ability to respond to and solve crimes. The Columbia Police Department policy for the use of a platform such as FUSUS is in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal law, ensures the constitutionally-protected rights of individuals, and details transparency of the use of this technology to the public.

##### 630.3 REGISTRATION AND INTEGRATION

The FUSUS camera registry and monitoring platform enables citizens to partner directly with the Columbia Police Department to register the location of their camera(s), and to facilitate initial and follow-up investigatory efforts in identifying and requesting video footage. Owners of private cameras (whether residential or commercial) can also voluntarily register their cameras with the Columbia Police Department to allow sharing of live stream video with trained and authorized Columbia Police Department personnel. If a camera is registered, Columbia Police Department personnel should seek the owner's permission to view footage on a specific incident basis.





# COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Policy and Procedure Manual

### **CAMERA REGISTRATION AND MONITORING PLATFORM (E.G. FUSUS)**

---

Registering cameras is performed by citizens through a City of Columbia-specific web portal and is a simple online process. The voluntary registration of private cameras through the FUSUS video integration platform allows for the reduction of time spent by Columbia Police Department personnel attempting to locate cameras in the vicinity of an incident, or fewer follow-up attempts to request or retrieve camera footage. Trained and authorized Columbia Police Department personnel can, using the FUSUS platform, easily locate registered owners' cameras in the vicinity of an incident, through a digital mapping feature, and can contact owners directly to request relevant video footage. If a camera owner has registered their device(s) and given permission for the sharing of live stream video, Columbia Police Department personnel can access that video to facilitate investigative efforts.

#### **630.4 EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY**

Emerging technologies can raise questions in the community about government surveillance. Private cameras are connected to the FUSUS video integration platform through the FUSUSCORE™ appliance. This hardware is the property of the camera owner and not the Columbia Police Department. Access to and use of this hardware, and any corresponding video footage, is at the consent and discretion of the registered camera owner. The Columbia Police Department's intent in the use of this technology is to balance individuals' expectations of privacy with the public expectation that law enforcement agencies efficiently pursue and utilize camera capabilities that already exist in the community. Shared access to video footage allows the Columbia Police Department to use existing equipment and reduce the frequency or necessity of seizing hardware to access camera footage. General public surveillance without a law enforcement need will not be conducted using FUSUS. The Columbia Police Department is committed to providing law enforcement services to the community with due regard to fairness, consistency, and compliance with best practices and standards.

#### **630.5 AUTHORIZATION, ACCESS, AND TRAINING**

Access to the FUSUS video integration platform (such as FUSUSREGISTRY™) will be strictly controlled within the Columbia Police Department, and limited to authorized personnel. Authorized personnel will be selected based on specific and identifiable operational needs for investigations. These users will be required to attend initial training prior to being granted access to the platform. Columbia Police Department supervisors who are trained and authorized to access and use the FUSUS video integration platform should conduct periodic audits of the system to review users' access and use.

Columbia Police Department personnel should engage in community outreach programs (including demonstrations when feasible) to educate citizens on the nature, scope, and protocols of these platforms.