

**STATE OF MARYLAND
AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER TECHNOLOGY
SECURITY INTEGRATION STRATEGY**



GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY

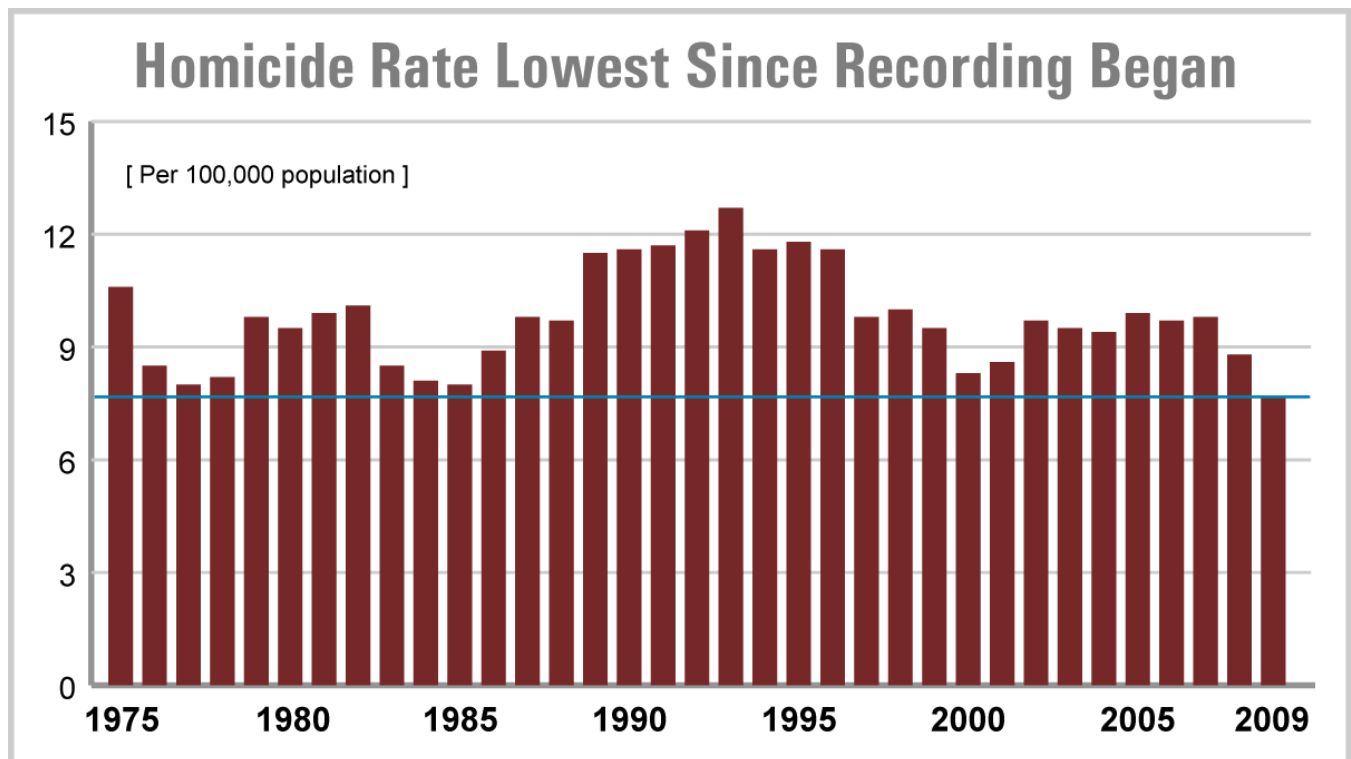
AUGUST 2010

Working together, last year we drove violent crime (and overall crime) to the lowest rates in Maryland since we began tracking in 1975.

Working together, last year we reduced homicides by 12%, driving homicides down to the lowest rate since 1975. This completed our largest three year reduction in homicides since the seventies.

What's more, in three years we've reduced juvenile homicides across our State by 46%.

- Governor Martin O'Malley
Address to Maryland Chiefs of Police Association
June 16, 2010



With a rejuvenated focus on information-sharing, Maryland's public safety agencies are implementing Governor Martin O'Malley's security integration vision. Security integration requires a commitment to share information constantly and for all state, regional, and local agencies to assess the data and

databases they maintain and to work as a system, not as separate information silos. This seamless integration of information for law enforcement is a critical component of the Governor's goal of reducing crime by 10 percent by 2012 and complements the State's five overall crime reduction strategies.

Security Integration Strategies in Action

The cornerstone of Maryland's Security Integration strategy has been the Law Enforcement Dashboard, a central web-based portal that gives police officers and other public safety officers access to over 90 separate databases. Launched in February 2009, the Dashboard is a "one stop shop" for information that enables officers to access Maryland criminal history information, Division of Parole and Probation records, Department of Correction records, Motor Vehicle Administration information, court information, offender photographs, sex offender data, gun registration information and much more. Recently, Maryland criminal justice partners in Washington, DC and Virginia were invited to participate in the Dashboard.



The CompStat-On-Demand initiative allows law enforcement agencies throughout Maryland to receive free training, organizational assessments, and technical assistance. This support has resulted in practical recommendations for enhancing CompStat and other data-driven law enforcement initiatives to increase accountability, control, and proactive data analysis.

Crime Mapping is a sub-set of CompStat-On-Demand that supports crime analysis and involves the depiction of the spatial and chronological aspects of crime. Maryland's Crime Mapping-On-Demand initiative was recently recognized as a nationwide best practice. The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention provided grant funding to Washington College to

help police departments in Maryland develop crime maps.

Maryland's Five Crime Fighting Strategies

- Strategy 1-** Enhance warrant service to swiftly remove violent offenders from the streets
- Strategy 2-** Ensure DNA is utilized at its fullest capacity to convict the guilty and exonerate the innocent
- Strategy 3-** Attack illegal gun use and possession
- Strategy 4-** Identify high risk offenders and hold them accountable
- Strategy 5-** Modernize crime fighting and information sharing through the use of the best 21st century technology available.

Governor O'Malley quickly eliminated a backlog of 24,000 DNA samples that had been collected from convicted offenders. These samples were analyzed and entered into the FBI's Combined DNA Index System. Since 2007, more than 255 offenders – including murderers, rapists and robbers - have been arrested as a result of the Governor's backlog reduction. The value of logging DNA samples is evidenced by the 26% increase since 2009 of Maryland DNA matches or "hits" to the FBI database.

Maryland has made a strong commitment to serving open warrants and removing violent offenders from the streets. With the help of nearly \$1 million in grant funds, 15 law enforcement agencies are working together to serve open warrants for persons who are most likely to engage in future violent crimes.

Total Crime at Lowest Levels Since 1975

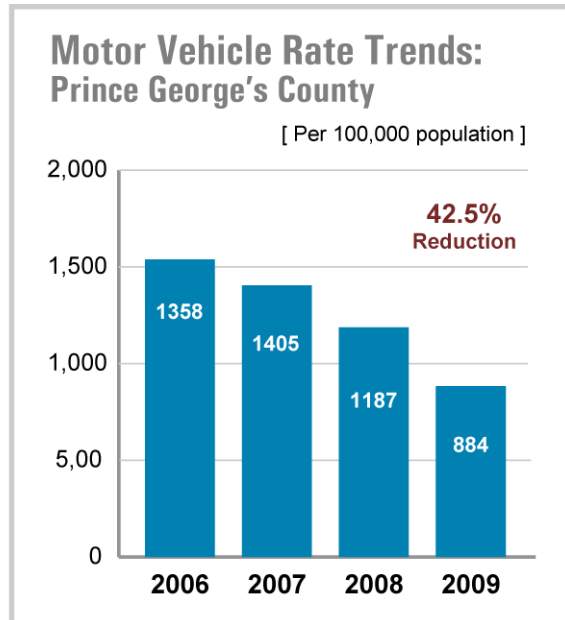
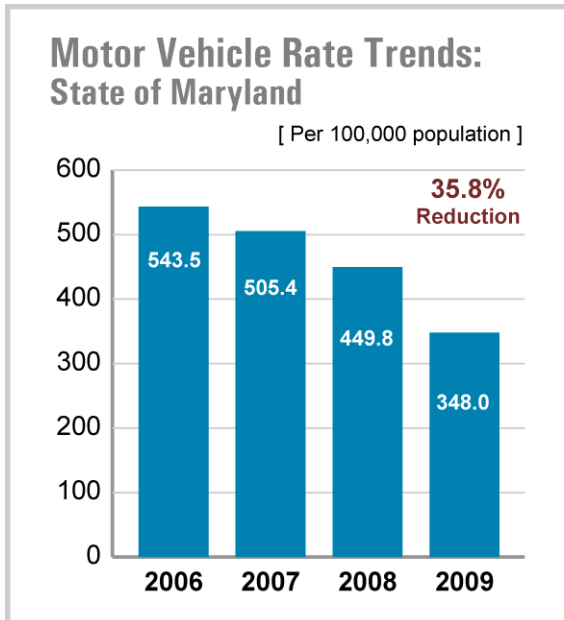
Governor O'Malley's crime reduction strategies have produced dramatic reductions in crime across the State. To date, Maryland has the lowest homicide and violent crime numbers in 25 years and vehicle theft rates are the lowest they've been since 1975.



Governor O'Malley's security integration vision is dramatically reducing vehicle theft statewide. As shown in the following graph, from 2006 to 2009, vehicle theft in Maryland decreased by 36 percent. This is the lowest auto theft rate that Maryland has experienced since 1975 when the State began annually reporting its statewide crime data to the FBI. Jurisdictions such as Prince Georges County and Baltimore

County are two great examples of success of security integration. Vehicle theft has decreased by 42.5 percent in Prince George's County and decreased by 29.5 percent in Baltimore County.

Reductions in Crime from 2006 through 2009	
Violent Crime Highlights	
Murder	- 20.1%
Total Violent Crime	- 11.8%
Property Crime Highlights	
Vehicle Theft	- 35.8%
Total Property Crime	- 6.8%
Total Crime	- 7.6%

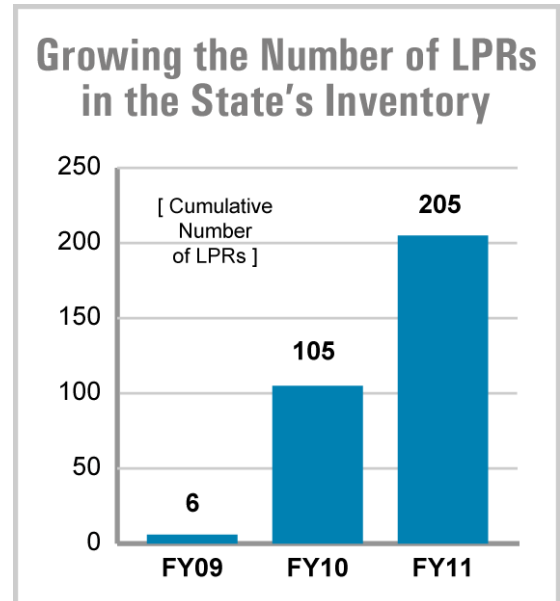


Cutting-Edge Crime Fighting with License Plate Recognition Technology

Expanding License Plate Recognition Technology

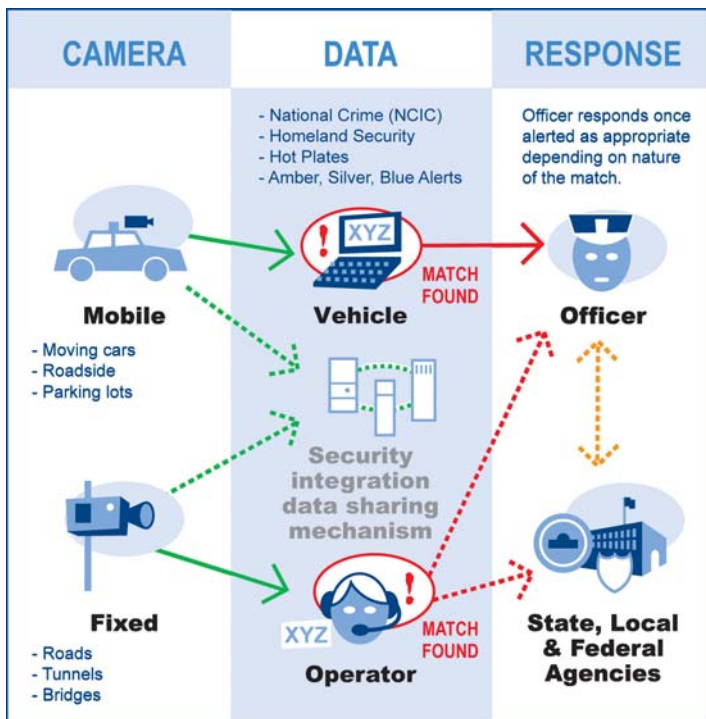
In 2007, under the direction of Governor Martin O'Malley and in response to an overwhelming number of requests for License Plate Recognition (LPR) technology from state and local law enforcement agencies, the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security (GOHS) made it a priority to provide funding to law enforcement agencies that embrace this technology.

In the last three and a half years, the State has directed \$2 million to state and local law enforcement for new LPRs adding 105 LPRs to the State's inventory. In the next 12 months, the State will direct up to \$2 million in previously identified grants funds to fund the purchase of 100 additional LPRs.



What are LPRs?

License Plate Recognition systems are cameras that convert a picture of a vehicle's license plate into computer readable data that can be matched against stolen vehicles or wanted persons databases. As cars pass by the LPR, the camera snaps a picture, converts it to data and then compares it against stolen car and other databases. When a match occurs, the system alerts a law enforcement officer so that prompt action can be taken.



For years, LPRs have been regarded as effective tools for deterring auto theft, recovering stolen vehicles, and apprehending car thieves. Although LPRs are often viewed as primarily a tool for stolen vehicle identification and enforcement, LPRs can help law enforcement agencies improve public safety in a variety of ways.

For example, LPRs also play a vital role in homeland security, protecting critical infrastructure and being paired with companion technology such as CCTV to secure vital areas such as airports, ports, and transit stations. LPR technology has figured prominently in the prevention and investigation of terrorist incidents nationwide, including the recent attempted attack on Times Square, and comprises a key component of state of the art technology-based defense systems.

LPR Success Stories

- ◆ Police officers were alerted to a stolen plate by LPR. A search conducted in conjunction with the arrest led to the recovery of a stolen handgun. Further investigation revealed that the gun and the vehicle had been used in a homicide in another jurisdiction, and that the driver of the vehicle was a suspect in a robbery where a store clerk was shot. The driver had an extensive criminal history including firearms offenses, robbery, assault, reckless endangerment, theft and criminal conspiracy.
- ◆ An LPR unit alerted officers to a vehicle with suspended registration. Further investigation led to the recovery of a handgun, narcotics, and over \$4,000. The driver of the vehicle had a lengthy criminal record that includes being a felon in possession of a handgun, possession with intent to distribute a controlled dangerous substance, assault, intimidation of a juror, reckless endangerment, and burglary.
- ◆ An LPR alerted police to a vehicle whose registered owner was wanted on five felony warrants. The owner/operator was arrested warrants for forgery, false pretenses, and various check related offenses.
- ◆ An LPR unit alerted police to a vehicle that was the subject of a carjacking. Officers arrested four occupant suspects who were charged with carjacking and subsequently linked to another stolen car. Two of the suspects were on probation for robbery.
- ◆ An LPR unit detected a stolen vehicle. The driver had an extensive criminal history for offenses including distribution of heroin, distribution of cocaine, attempted robbery, and auto theft.
- ◆ In a single day, LPRs in use by the Maryland Transportation Authority Police were responsible for the recovery of almost \$50,000 in scofflaw fees for toll tag violations.
- ◆ An LPR unit led investigators to a vehicle connected to a member of a violent prison gang, Dead Man Incorporated, who was wanted for violation of probation on an underlying narcotics charge. The suspect was also wanted in Florida for violation of probation and had another outstanding warrant for burglary.
- ◆ An LPR unit identified a vehicle stolen in Florida as it was traveling through Maryland. When police stopped the vehicle, they discovered approximately 17 pounds of marijuana.

Maryland’s License Plate Recognition Security Integration Plan

Given the positive results from LPR technology already in use across the State and the nation, Maryland has developed the following three-point plan to expand and leverage this tool to achieve even greater results and better serve local crime fighting missions in addition to Maryland’s homeland security mission.

Maryland’s Three-Point Plan For License Plate Readers	
<p>1. Add up to 100 LPRs across the State to complement the 105 new LPRs already added in the last three and a half years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategically deploy up to 100 additional LPRs across the State over the next 12 months. • Geo-strategically deploy LPRs to areas with high auto theft rates, known drug trafficking routes, high traffic density locations, and other critical infrastructure nodes including major transit hubs, the Port of Baltimore, and BWI Airport.
<p>2. Create a robust information technology infrastructure to network state and local LPRs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronically link all existing and future LPRs utilized by state and local law enforcement to provide pivotal support during the critical incidents such as the abduction of a child and subsequent search for a suspect vehicle.
<p>3. Develop a single, easy-to-use database for state and local law enforcement to query specific LPR data supported by Maryland’s fusion center.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a memorandum of understanding between state and local partner agencies so that verified LPR data can be securely accessed by all law enforcement agencies with a legitimate need for access. • Develop partnerships between state and local agencies deploying LPR technology in order to share relevant information.

The State’s goals for an expanded LPR program include:

- Enhance the State’s Amber Alert and real-time response capability by deploying and networking LPRs across the state to more rapidly identify and locate vehicles related to potential child-abduction crimes.
- Alert law enforcement that a particular license plate on a “hot list”—e.g., a stolen vehicle or a wanted person—is in close proximity to an LPR to dramatically reduce the recovery time of stolen vehicles by strategically deploying LPRs in high-density auto-theft areas and assist in locating dangerous and wanted persons.
- Support Maryland’s homeland security mission by protecting critical infrastructure from those individuals potentially intending to damage or disrupt the systems and locations that allow for travel and the free flow of commerce.
- Identify vehicles linked to drivers with expired licenses, expired tags, or unpaid fines.

Taking LPR Integration and Implementation to the Next Level

In support of the broad initiatives identified above, the Governor has directed the following actions to be completed in the short term to make Maryland safer and more secure:

- 1. Appoint an Advisory Committee on LPRs.** The Governor will appoint an Advisory Committee, which will report to him directly on a quarterly basis, comprised of state and local law enforcement professionals to develop a comprehensive privacy policy to ensure that the data is being used appropriately by those with access to it.
- 2. Develop Unified Operating Procedures.** All state law enforcement agencies will partner to develop a single unified set of standard operating procedures (SOP) to allow all state LPRs to share information on Amber, Blue, or Silver alerts and any license plate numbers associated with individuals that present an imminent or specific threat to public safety.
- 3. Execute a Memorandum of Understanding.** The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, in partnership with the Maryland State Police, will coordinate the development of SOPs and, if needed, will execute Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with local law enforcement agencies to allow as many LPRs as possible to share.
- 4. Promote public confidence by ensuring that LPR information is used only for legitimate law enforcement purposes.** Law enforcement agencies will draft policies and regulations governing the collection, dissemination, and retention of the information, ensuring that the information is used only for official law enforcement purposes and is not abused.
- 5. Coordinate Legal Policies and Protections.** The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention will coordinate with the legal counsel of state agencies to ensure LPR information retention and sharing policies are consistent with applicable federal and state law.
- 6. Identify Additional Funding Sources.** The Maryland Department of Transportation and Maryland State Police will develop a plan to identify possible funding sources for the deployment and integration of LPRs in and around Baltimore Washington International – Thurgood Marshall Airport, and at key entry and exit points on state highways leading into the major metropolitan areas including I-95, I-695, and I-495.

Resources

International Association of Chiefs of Police, "Privacy Impact Assessment Report for the Utilization of License Plate Readers", September 2009.

New York Division of Criminal Justice Services, "Operation of License Plate Readers for Law Enforcement Agencies in New York State, Suggested Guidelines."