

Madam. Chair and members, my name is Zurisaddai Lopez Alfonso, and I am a Community Defense Legal Assistant for the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota. ILCM is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that provides free legal services to low-income immigrants and refugees in Minnesota.

We offer this testimonial to express deep concerns about the collection, storage, and potential misuse of Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) data. My concern is about how ALPR data, when mishandled, breached, or shared without oversight can violate protections to every community citizen and non-citizen member.

As you know, ALPR systems capture the time, date, and location of vehicles which store this data longer than necessary and share it across large networks. Recent reporting has shown that, in several jurisdictions, ALPR data has been accessed by federal agencies such as ICE and U.S. Border Patrol, in ways that raise serious privacy, constitutional, and public-trust concerns.

Unauthorized backdoor access, violations of separation laws, and informal data-sharing practices have turned ALPR systems into a tool for widespread, unregulated surveillance. These practices endanger citizens and non-citizens alike, especially vulnerable individuals who rely on privacy for their personal safety and well-being.

This issue is about the rights, dignity, and safety of every community member. Stronger safeguards with clear limits on data sharing, strict oversight and transparent reporting are essential to ensuring that ALPR technology serves public safety rather than misusing it to harm vulnerable communities.

A breach or misuse of ALPR data can expose patterns of movements that reveal where people live, work, worship, or seek safety. For targeted communities, it can create fear of discouraging participation in schools, community events, traffic safety programs, public health services, or even everyday activities.

This is not just an immigration issue, it is about public safety, civil rights, and a constitutional issue.

Thank you.