

6-25-26 Template Email to Electeds

Subject: Please end Cleveland Heights' contract with Flock — the data demands action

Dear [Mayor Petras / Councilmember (Name)],

I'm writing as a Cleveland Heights resident to urge you to immediately end the City's contract with Flock Safety.

Just last month, [cleveland.com published a story](#) about new public records obtained by Cleveland Heights for Immigrant Rights (CH4IR) that makes the stakes impossible to ignore.

The records show that between April 2025 and April 2026, more than 150 agencies searched Cleveland Heights' Flock data using the term "immigration" over 1,700 times — and "protest" 129 times. Dozens of those agencies have 287(g) agreements with the federal government, meaning they are formally empowered to assist with federal immigration enforcement.

These are not hypothetical risks. This is already happening.

I know that Council passed Resolution 073-2026 in April to address community concerns. But that resolution is not enough to stop our data from being searched for immigration and protest-related purposes by outside agencies. The resolution regulates the City's *intent*, but it cannot control what happens once our data enters Flock's shared network. Hundreds of local, state, and federal agencies across the country can search Cleveland Heights data. Cleveland Heights controls none of them.

Flock is not a closed local tool. It is a networked surveillance system. Once our data is in that network, we lose the ability to govern how it's used. No resolution, no matter how well-intended or worded, can change that structural reality.

Other cities have reached the same conclusion and acted. Cambridge, Eugene, Evanston, Flagstaff, Sedona and others have all ended their Flock contracts. They did so because they recognized that local policy cannot fix a structural problem.

I'm asking Cleveland Heights to do the same: end the contract with Flock, and redirect the \$50,000 per year — \$250,000 over the life of the contract — toward community safety measures that actually protect all residents, such as legal services for immigrants at risk of detention and deportation.

Our city's values are on the line. Please act now.

Thank you for your service to our community.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
[Your address or connection to Cleveland Heights]

<https://www.clevelandheights.gov/m/directory/department?did=39> ← emails