



GREATEST HITS: KANSAS

The following is a true account of how ELSAG's mobile and fixed ALPR systems assisted law enforcement in Kansas with the identification and arrest of a thief who was targeting local churches.

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Nate/Matt:

Just wanted to brief you on a little success story. I can add more details if you like but this is a good example of using the LPR in a proactive means.

On Saturday 2/18/17, Leawood Kansas police officers were working off duty at a Catholic church during mass. They observed a suspicious vehicle pull into the lot. When the driver saw the uniformed officers, he left the lot. Officers obtained the tag, which returned to a known burglar and thief. Leawood PD knew that Lenexa Police had dealt with the subject in the past, and passed the information on to us. The subject's MO was to target churches and faith based organizations, either during the day or during large events. He would usually enter the open church and wander around stealing anything of value, to include unattended purses, electronics and musical instruments.

On 2/20/17 the investigations captain had the suspect's tag entered into ELSAG. He then sent out an email to officers and dispatch suggesting that if the tag triggered an alarm, officers should start checking churches and similar buildings in the area of the suspect's travel path.

On 2/28/17 at approximately 1429 hours, the suspect's vehicle triggered a stationary license plate reader and dispatch broadcast the alarm. Two traffic officers were in an unmarked pickup truck, en route to pick up a trailer and were in the area. Dispatch was able to locate the suspect vehicle on traffic cameras and kept it in sight until the traffic officers located it. They followed the vehicle until it parked at a local church which had been the victim of recent thefts. They observed the suspect get out of his vehicle, open the trunk and retrieve a back pack. The suspect left his trunk open and entered the church. Officers moved up and blocked the car in and several minutes later the suspect came back out. The suspect had not stolen anything, but only because the church had started locking up its unoccupied rooms. However, officers did find property belonging to a church in Shawnee Kansas, which had been stolen a few days earlier during a basketball tournament.

The suspect was arrested and charged in Johnson County District Court with aggravated burglary and misdemeanor theft (possession of stolen property). As of today's date he is still in custody in the Johnson County Adult Detention Center.

This is an excellent example of using the ELSAG LPR system to its full potential.

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