



Monroe County Legislature

OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY CAUCUS

Substitution

March 9, 2026

Monroe County Legislature
39 W. Main St
Rochester, NY 14614

OFFICIAL FILE COPY
No. <u>260075</u>
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County
Committee Assignment
PUBLIC SAFETY -L

Re: Requiring Disclosure to the Legislature of Purchases of Surveillance Technology for the Monroe County Sheriff

Honorable Legislators:

Technology plays an increasingly important role in supporting public safety and helping law enforcement professionals do their jobs effectively. Modern law enforcement tools often include artificial intelligence, facial recognition and behavioral analysis. These are complex systems capable of monitoring, tracking, and shaping how law enforcement professionals interact with residents.

As surveillance technologies become more powerful — and more expensive — it is important the public and their elected representatives have an understanding how these tools are being deployed by our law enforcement professionals.

This is why we are proposing legislation which would require disclosure to the Legislature of any purchase of surveillance-related technology or software for the Monroe County Sheriff exceeding \$100,000.

This legislation is not anti-law enforcement, anti-technology, or a barrier to innovation. It does not restrict or prohibit the purchase of surveillance tools. It simply ensures surveillance technology purchases over \$100,000 for the Monroe County Sheriff are disclosed to the Legislature, including a description of the technology, its intended use, the vendor, and the funding source.

This is a commonsense transparency measure that protects the public interest and ensures legislative oversight keeps pace with modern technology.

The specific legislative action required is to adopt a resolution requiring disclosure to the Legislature of purchases of surveillance technology over \$100,000 for the Monroe County Sheriff.

This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(26) (“routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment;”) and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Enactment of this resolution will have no impact on the revenues or expenditures of the current Monroe County budget.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rachel Barnhart
Legislator – District 17



Yversha Román
President



Mercedes Vazquez Simmons
Vice President



Dr. Nazish Jeffery
Legislator – District 12



Susan Hughes-Smith
Legislator – District 14



Santos E. Cruz
Legislator – District 21

By Legislator Barnhart and _____

Intro No. _____

RESOLUTION NO. ___ OF 2026

**REQUIRING DISCLOSURE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF PURCHASES OF
SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF MONROE, as follows:

Section 1. The term “surveillance technology” means equipment, software, or systems capable of, or used or designed for, collecting, retaining, processing, or sharing audio, video, location, thermal, biometric, or similar information, that is operated by or at the direction of the Monroe County Sheriff. Surveillance technology does not include: routine office equipment used primarily for departmental administrative purposes, technology used primarily for internal department communication, or cameras installed to monitor and protect the physical integrity of Monroe County infrastructure.

The Monroe County Sheriff shall file quarterly reports with the Clerk of the Legislature that disclose any and all surveillance technology purchases over \$100,000. The reports shall include the following information:

- A description of the capabilities of the surveillance technology and intended use by the Monroe County Sheriff;
- Cost of the surveillance technology and source of funds;
- Name of vendor.

Section 2. The Monroe County Sheriff may withhold any information that, if disclosed, would jeopardize public safety, security, or the integrity of law enforcement operations, or that is otherwise of a sensitive nature. However, any information that is subject to public disclosure under the New York Freedom of Information Law shall not be withheld.

Section 3. The Clerk shall notify the Legislature when reports required by this resolution have been filed by the Monroe County Sheriff. The Clerk must make the reports available electronically or available to review in the Clerk’s Office.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect in accordance with Section C2-7 of the Monroe County Charter.

File No. _____

ADOPTION: Date: _____ Vote: _____

ACTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: _____

VETOED: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____



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Dr. Nazish Jeffery
Legislator – District 12



Susan Hughes-Smith
Legislator – District 14



Santos E. Cruz
Legislator – District 21

By Legislator Barnhart and _____

Intro No. _____

RESOLUTION NO. ___ OF 2025

REQUIRING DISCLOSURE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF PURCHASES OF SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF MONROE, as follows:

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