



## Success Story



# Flint Michigan Police Department

## Total Digital Evidence Management

### An All American City

Flint Michigan is an all American city that is no stranger to change. Flint is most known for being the birthplace of General Motors. With a population of over 110,000 people, Flint is the seventh largest city in Michigan and the county seat of Genesee County. Police Chief Alvern Lock is not only responsible for the safety of all 125 police officers working at the Flint Police Department, he also serves as the Director of Public Safety for the city. When Chief Lock isn't thinking about the immediate needs of his officers and the community's safety, he is thinking about the future.

When the opportunity to upgrade the city of Flint's existing technology infrastructure arose, Chief Lock knew that it was imperative that the department leverage technology to make the most of their resources, now and in the future, in order to provide maximum protection for his officers and the community they serve. Chief Lock knew that he wanted to implement a digital video solution that included in-car video and interview room components along with the city's technology infrastructure upgrade.

He organized a committee of officers to research and review different products, and recommend a solution that would best fit their needs. The committee examined nine of the top in-car video manufacturers and selected the system represented by Security Countermeasures that included a suite of software products by Insight Video Net. Security Countermeasures & Technology Services is a privately held business, focused on security solutions with a leadership team that is comprised of retired federal agents from the FBI, DEA, USAF, US Navy and other security oriented professionals.

### Video On-the-go

Flint's fleet of 50 police vehicles was outfitted with a state of the art video system that was installed by Security Countermeasures and MMS (Mobile Management System) software from Insight Video Net. MMS was designed based on field market research in order to understand the real world environment in which police officers have to interact with in-car video software.

Officers can easily adapt to the simple but powerful MMS software because the icons are large and intuitive so even officers wearing gloves can still easily operate the software. MMS has day/night mode that also allows the officers to change the Graphical User Interface (GUI) to their surroundings. For instance, officers can change the GUI to night mode, which changes the color of the screen to black to provide more cover for them during their night patrols. MMS wirelessly transfers video from the police cars to Insight Video Net's CMS Flex software.

CMS Flex is a Digital Evidence Management Solution that centrally manages the video collected from the vehicles and catalogs them based on the tags assigned in the vehicle. Triggers are also configured in MMS so that certain actions that occur during the officer's shift automatically record. Triggers such as the light bar being activated, an officer traveling over a certain speed, or a shotgun release. The video is then wirelessly transferred back to CMS Flex when the vehicle passes a pre-determined ingestion point and is sent to file folders that are configured for the different types of offenses

"We wanted a solution to serve us from arrest to conviction. CMS Flex is the software that facilitates that requirement."

~Police Chief & Public Safety Director  
Alvern Lock

#### Our Partners

Insight Video Net partnered with security integrator Security Countermeasures & Technology Services to deliver this solution supporting 50 in-car video cameras and interview rooms.

Security Countermeasures & Technology Services



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that occur across the city. The file folders not only collect the video, they know how long to keep it based on the type of offense, who is allowed to have access to the file folder, what actions can be taken with the file, and what storage location it will be stored in.

## Interview Room Recording

In addition to the in-car video installation, Insight Video Net's Resolute Interview Room software will soon be installed at Flint for recording interviews with suspects. The Resolute software was designed to simply and easily record video that is conducted during interviews. Resolute not only records and plays back interview video, it allows officers to annotate the video with the name of the suspect, case number, and their own personal notes. The video, as well as all associated information pertinent to the case, is then transferred to the CMS Flex system to be managed along with any other associated digital evidence. Chief Lock or anyone else with authorized access can view the interviews as they are being recorded across the department from different locations.

## Affordable Enterprise Digital Evidence Management Solution

Digital video collected from the MMS in-car video software and Resolute Interview Room software allow the department to share video assets across the department, but the real power of the solution is the ability to manage all digital assets as evidence using CMS Flex.

Digital photographs collected from across the agency are being collected and managed within CMS Flex. Photographs from crime scenes, accidents, and other incidents are also being tracked and managed. Associating video or photographs to a case number makes it easy to recall all digital assets related to a

specific case. Rights and permissions ensure that only those that should be allowed can access the information, and CMS Flex's DigitalProof™ audit trail reports can be generated to show who, what, when and where any individual file has been accessed, ensuring that the digital assets can be used as evidence.

As Chief Lock puts it, "This solution not only allows our officers to save a significant amount of time by automatically uploading the video from the vehicles to the CMS Flex server, it allows any digital assets collected from across the county to be managed in the same database, providing a total digital evidence management solution that can be used for case management." He added, "This solution was the simplest and easiest to use by far." Currently the system is set up to share files between authorized officers, but there are plans to soon integrate access to other departments and agencies such as Detectives and the District Attorney's office.

Chief Lock expects all digital evidence being collected across the county to eventually be tracked by case number so a simple query of the CMS Flex database can provide a comprehensive view of all the digital evidence related to a case. Currently in-car video, microphone audio, and photos are all being managed with CMS Flex. Eventually all digital evidence will be managed, including integration with their physical evidence management software. He plans to develop the system so it will be used as an entire county solution.

Protecting his staff and the public are Chief Lock's top priorities. Digital evidence has become more and more relevant in proving the chronological and physiological aspects of what has occurred in the field. In order for the department to meet the public demand for information with such a lean work force, the department has to run as smoothly and efficiently as possible.



Types of Digital Assets Being Managed As Evidence at Flint

According to Chief Lock, "We wanted a solution to serve us from arrest to conviction. CMS Flex is the software that facilitates that requirement." Chief Lock and his officers believe they have selected a solution that will meet their needs today and long into the future. ➔

1425 W. Foothill Blvd.  
Upland, CA 91786  
USA

voice: 909.981.8100  
e-mail: [info@insightvideonet.com](mailto:info@insightvideonet.com)  
[www.insightvideonet.com](http://www.insightvideonet.com)

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VIDEONET  
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