

eBook

3 Ways Telematics Improves Fleet Management for Law Enforcement

How technology can help
streamline operations while
boosting officer and public safety

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Telematics is changing how law enforcement manages their fleets.

Innovations like next-generation engine technology and fleet management tools are helping law enforcement fleets mitigate the harsh conditions that impact officer safety, vehicle performance and costs.

No matter their size or makeup, all fleets have to accommodate various equipment, perform reliably through long patrol shifts and maintain peak functionality for urgent situations.

Fleet management solutions can help law enforcement agencies address challenges and better prepare for the future. The following chapters explore three major factors that impact law enforcement fleet operations.

Read on to understand how telematics technology can help streamline vehicle management while also boosting officer and public safety.



1

Support public service with a focus on safety

The safety of officers and the public they serve is a top priority for every law enforcement agency.

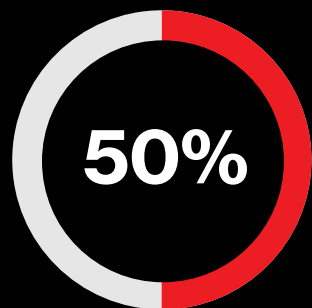
Many of the risks law enforcement faces are unavoidable, but fleet management systems can go a long way toward helping to reduce risks related to vehicle operation by helping to officers operate vehicles in the safest manner possible.

Here are four ways police fleets can help meet their safety goals with telematics:

1. Reduce unnecessary speeding with speeding alerts.
2. Curb hard braking and acceleration to reduce wear and tear and keep vehicles in optimal condition.
3. Track officer seat belt compliance and integrate seat belt use into safety programs.
4. Use live location tracking for emergency situations.

In 2018, 50 law enforcement officers died from traffic-related incidents, according to the year-end report from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

For most of the current decade, the average of traffic-related deaths has been close to the average of firearm-related deaths.¹



It is estimated that about half of all law enforcement officers do not wear seat belts, compared to 86% for the general public.²



Control fleet expenses and combat costs

Law enforcement agencies must make the most of every dollar in their budget. Telematics can help these fleets increase efficiency while helping to lower operational expenses in these key areas:



Insurance

When part of a fleet safety program, data collected by fleet management technology can assist in negotiating lower insurance premiums or discounts by using the data gleaned to coach officers on safe driving habits.



Maintenance

Access engine diagnostic data to streamline maintenance and better control associated costs while reducing paperwork and digitizing vehicle service tracking.



Wear and tear

Reduce miles driven – and excess vehicle wear and tear – by improving dispatching decisions with near real-time maps of all vehicle locations and providing officers with turn-by-turn driving directions.



Fuel usage

Reduce idle time and speeding while minimizing unauthorized vehicle usage and verifying fuel expenditures to help reduce fraud.

The Snohomish County (WA) Sheriff's Office expects to recover the cost of implementing its telematics solution by reducing unnecessary idling by 1.4 hours per vehicle, per shift. The solution has also helped reduce accidents and related costs, such as repairs, medical expenses, litigation and potentially insurance premiums. The Sheriff's office hopes to put these savings back into hiring more deputies.³

3

Measure and improve vehicle utilization

Vehicle utilization data helps fleet managers track and understand vehicle costs and, therefore, demonstrate the responsible use of public dollars. Manual record keeping can make gaining a detailed yet holistic picture of vehicle use problematic.

Fleet managers can improve utilization using telematics data in the following ways:

Identify key metrics

View data such as miles traveled and hours of use to establish a baseline and determine qualifications for optimal or low utilization.

Analyze job history

View historical data to compare vehicle utilization across the entire fleet. Use this data to help meet benchmarks.

Streamline asset tracking

Better manage inventory and track in-vehicle equipment with asset tracking.

Provide a potentially faster response

Easily assign vehicle routes based on location, job assignments and miles driven.

Be ready for traffic and weather

Effectively build a storm response plan utilizing navigation tools and up-to-the-minute weather and traffic data to help efficiently route vehicles.



Fleet operators who maximize the potential of a fleet management solution can enhance vehicle utilization by up to 20%.⁴

Make the smart choice for law enforcement

Safe driving, costs and utilization impact all fleets, but they are especially important for those in law enforcement. Telematics can help you address these concerns and adapt quickly to future challenges.

Every fleet is different, but selecting a telematics system with these capabilities can provide both flexibility and specificity.

- Access from virtually anywhere is possible with the ability to view data and maps on any device at any time.
- Detailed maps allow you to view near real-time activity of all vehicles and equipment.
- Easy-to-use dashboards provide reporting of up-to-the-minute fleet analytics.
- Coaching modules help fleet managers underscore safe driving behaviors with data.

To schedule a live demo of comprehensive solutions from Verizon Connect, call us at 866.844.2235 or visit [verizonconnect.com](https://www.verizonconnect.com).



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“ In a city our size and complexity you need to be working with solutions that are innovative, can go to scale and are imminently reliable, and Verizon Connect gives us all of that.”

**Kip Harkness,
Deputy City Manager,
City of San Jose**



¹<https://www.npr.org/2018/12/27/680410169/more-police-officers-died-from-gunfire-than-traffic-incidents-in-2018-report-say> ²https://www.policeforum.org/assets/docs/Web_Uploads/body%20armor%20and%20seatbelts.pdf ³<https://www.verizonconnect.com/resources/case-study/snohomish-county/> ⁴Custom Research from Frost & Sullivan LCV Telematics Market. November 2015