

StarChase

I. Information About StarChase

StarChase is a GPS tracking device which can be fired from the front bumper of police cruisers. The device has a sticky tip that adheres to the vehicle it is fired at and allows officers to track safely from a distance, reducing the number of injuries, deaths, and property damage. As a matter of fact, per StarChase's Chief Operations Officer Mandy McCall, agencies using StarChase have had "no accidents, injuries, or property damage" when using the technology. She also shared that "Law enforcement is our customer. Our obligation is to help them do their jobs safely and time to do their job well and more safely."

II. Cities Using StarChase

Chief Operations Officer Mandy McCall of StarChase shared that they keep some of the departments which use their technology confidential, basing their judgment as to which would prefer to remain anonymous on whom has gone public with the media and who has not. She stated that information about who has gone public which StarChase will share the names of can be found on the StarChase News pages. The list below and the following list in the next section have been compiled from the news stories on those pages. She also shared, however, that they are serving around 50 agencies (and growing quickly) and if they are contacted by a law enforcement agency employee which they serve that she would be willing to be more open about who else might be on this list. For that purpose, she authorized me to offer her phone number as a contact in the event an agency employee which they serve has such an interest. COO Mandy McCall's personal line is (757)747-9369.

Milwaukee Police Department, WI

Rockdale County Sheriff's Office, GA

San Antonio Police Department, TX

Austin Police Department, TX

Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, CA

Arizona Department of Public Safety, AZ
Saint Petersburg Police Department, FL
Kansas Department of Transportation, MS
Readington Township Police Department, NJ
Clinton Police Department, NJ
Byron Police Department, GA
US Border Patrol
Arizona Highway Patrol, AZ
Iowa State Patrol, IA
Duluth Police Department, GA
Delta Police Department, BC
Lawrence Police Department, IN
Palm Beach Police Department, FL
Anonymous Agencies in Central Florida

III. Cities Possibly Using StarChase

The following list was also compiled from the StarChase News pages. All of the following agencies have had demonstrations by StarChase which were reported upon and expressed varying levels of positive feedback and interest in implementation.

Lucas County Sheriff's Office, OH
Abbotsford Police Department, BC
Marshall Police Department, TX
Waskom Police Department, TX
South Bend Police Department, IN
Victoria Police Department, TX

IV. StarChase Success Rate

COO Mandy McCall shared that it is not possible to provide overall success rates as a whole with any measure of reliability as not all of the departments which use the technology have shared all of their information with them. She was able to offer some numbers, however. Overall, given numbers on hand, there is an average 70% to 75% success rate which raises to over 80% once the car has been tagged. That percentage raises to up over 90% in Florida agencies. Saint Petersburg Police Department, for example, experienced an 85% success rate. In central Florida, the accuracy percentage raised even further for unmarked cars, but COO McCall did not see that trend in other places. Milwaukee reported a 50% success rate for the device to stick to vehicles, but is confident that value will raise to 75% with training.

V. Concerns About StarChase

If a vehicle is not involved in a high speed chase, there are warrants which are necessary to tag and track that vehicle (see StarChase Research links to articles under section entitled Legal Concens.) In the case of high speed chases, however, exigent circumstances render warrants unnecessary through the danger of loss of life and damage to evidence. Other issues include misguided public conceptions (see General Articles in StarChase Research) such as a mistaken notion (among others) that police might use StarChase to track motorists in large numbers for long periods of time to give them speeding tickets despite the fact that they cost \$5,000 to install and \$500 each time they are fired. The majority of the articles located online were quite boastful about the technology.