

The Connected Force: Telematics for Modern Law Enforcement Fleets



Transforming law enforcement fleet management

Today's law enforcement agencies operate under profound pressure. The demands of balancing tight budgets, managing aging vehicle fleets, and protecting both officers and communities have pushed traditional manual fleet management methods to their breaking point, exposing agencies to risks they can't afford.

To solve this problem, Geotab and T-Mobile partnered to create an advanced fleet management solution that cuts costs, protects officers, and strengthens community service through data-driven insights.

Despite these opportunities, only 10% of government fleets use telematics across their entire operations, according to a report from Government Fleet. Geotab and T-Mobile are working to close this gap, helping agencies serve their communities with greater confidence, insight, and impact.

\$285K
saved in year 1

Utah's four-agency pilot cut fuel, maintenance, and collision costs by over a quarter-million dollars in 12 months.

Introduction

Understanding telematics for your fleet

Law enforcement agencies across the country are discovering the transformative power of telematics, but what exactly is telematics, and why is it becoming an essential tool for forward-thinking agencies?

Think of telematics as the intelligent bridge between your vehicles and operational command. It transforms standard patrol cars into connected, data-generating assets, providing real-time insights into location, performance, and maintenance needs. This goes far beyond basic GPS tracking, creating a comprehensive management system that delivers clear visibility into every aspect of your fleet.

For law enforcement, the implications run deeper than in any other field. Police vehicles are sophisticated mobile command centers packed with mission-critical technology. These advanced platforms demand an equally advanced management solution to keep officers connected and effective.

The T-Mobile nationwide network is the backbone of modern fleet telematics, delivering the reliable connectivity agencies need to keep officers linked to vital data and command, no matter where duty calls. Beyond coverage, T-Mobile enables real-time vehicle tracking, live diagnostics, and instant communication, transforming each patrol car into a true mobile command center. This always-on connection gives officers the tools to respond faster, stay safer, and deliver greater service to their communities, all powered by a network designed for mission-critical performance.

This data-driven approach opens up powerful possibilities. Rather than making decisions based on hunches or reacting to problems after they occur, you gain actionable intelligence enabling truly proactive management. The results are clear: optimized resource allocation, enhanced officer safety, and greater accountability to the communities you serve.

The three pillars of fleet intelligence

At its core, a modern telematics system delivers three essential capabilities:



Location intelligence:
Where are my assets right now?



Predictive diagnostics:
Which vehicles need attention before they fail?



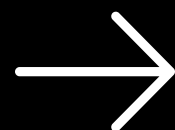
Performance data:
How is my fleet actually being used?

Table of contents

Chapter

01

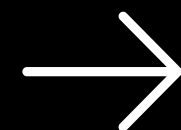
From reactive repairs
to proactive, predictive
performance



Chapter

02

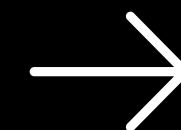
Enhancing officer
safety and protection



Chapter

03

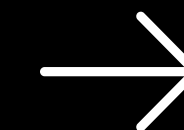
Improving
community safety
and transparency



Chapter

04

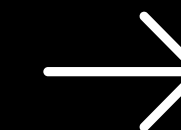
Maximizing
financial and
sustainable value



Chapter

05

Connectivity for
mission success



Chapter 1

From reactive repairs to proactive, predictive performance

Behind every effective law enforcement operation stands a well-maintained fleet, ready to respond when seconds count. Yet, many agencies remain trapped in a traditional, reactive maintenance cycle that risks critical failures during an operation. Modern telematics replaces guesswork with data, ensuring your fleet is always in a state of peak readiness.

Predictive maintenance keeps officers on the road

The primary goal of predictive maintenance is to prevent dangerous in-field breakdowns. Geotab's diagnostic tools provide a continuous health assessment of every vehicle, monitoring the unique stresses of police work from prolonged idling to high-speed pursuits. The platform generates alerts when service is actually needed, allowing you to schedule maintenance during planned downtime.

The State of Utah's Department of Corrections, for example, used this proactive approach to significantly improve vehicle reliability, which in turn led to a \$90,000 reduction in annual maintenance costs.

Government fleets are leaving millions on the table: 90% haven't unlocked the proven potential of telematics for cost savings, enhanced safety, and community accountability, according to Government Fleet's 2021 Benchmarking Statistics.

Strategic fleet optimization for the right vehicle at the right time

Operational readiness also means having the right number of vehicles available. Telematics provides clear visibility into how every asset is being used, tracking mileage, engine hours, and duty cycles. This data helps you identify underutilized vehicles that can be retired or reallocated.

How Utah found 60 spare vehicles

The State of Utah's Department of Corrections used telematics data to turn this liability into a strategic advantage.

- 1 The discovery:** Data revealed that 60 vehicles were consistently underused.
- 2 The action:** The agency confidently retired these assets from the fleet.
- 3 The result:** The move had zero negative impact on operations while freeing up a substantial portion of the budget for more critical priorities.

The lesson: Your next budget breakthrough may already be sitting in your parking lot.



Chapter 2

Enhancing officer safety and protection

An officer's safety is a top priority for every law enforcement agency. While modern policing faces many threats, one of the most persistent dangers is the vehicle itself. Telematics introduces a powerful new layer of protection, turning the patrol car from a potential liability into a connected safety asset that provides intelligence before, during, and after a critical incident.

Real-time location intelligence for a faster response

When an officer is in a dangerous situation, every second is critical. Advanced telematics systems provide a continuous, real-time view of every vehicle's location, giving dispatchers the immediate intelligence needed to identify the closest available units and coordinate a rapid backup response. This capability is invaluable during emergency calls where a faster response can change the outcome.



The most dangerous beat is the street

- The threat:** Motor vehicle-related incidents consistently rank as a leading cause of line-of-duty deaths for law enforcement officers, surpassing many other perceived dangers.
- The solution:** Telematics provides a direct countermeasure. By capturing data on driving behavior, speed, and seatbelt use, it enables agencies to implement targeted coaching and data-driven policies that have been proven to reduce the frequency and severity of crashes.

The two-minute advantage: How immediate alerts save lives

- Insight:** In a critical incident, shaving even two minutes off the arrival time for backup can be the difference between a controlled situation and a tragic one.
- How it works:** Modern telematics systems go beyond manual radio calls. Automated collision detection and custom alerts, such as notifications when an airbag is deployed, instantly notify dispatch the moment an incident occurs, even if the officer is unable to communicate.

This immediate, objective signal triggers a rapid response protocol: Dispatchers know exactly when and where help is needed, so backup can be sent without delay or uncertainty.

Combining this automation with real-time location tracking enables agencies to coordinate the closest available units for the fastest possible assistance, creating a vital, lifesaving advantage during emergencies.

Chapter
01 From reactive repairs to proactive, predictive performance

Chapter
02 Enhancing officer safety and protection →

Chapter
03 Improving community safety and transparency

Chapter
04 Maximizing financial and sustainable value

Chapter
05 Connectivity for mission success

Chapter

01

From reactive repairs to proactive, predictive performance

Chapter

02

Enhancing officer safety and protection



Chapter

03

Improving community safety and transparency

Chapter

04

Maximizing financial and sustainable value

Chapter

05

Connectivity for mission success



From incident detection to data-backed reconstruction

The moments after a collision are chaotic. Telematics brings clarity and an immediate, automated response. Collision detection systems automatically alert dispatch when a vehicle experiences a significant impact, prompting a response even if the officer is unable to communicate.

“When you have objective data, the post-incident review shifts from ‘what do you think happened?’ to ‘let’s review what happened.’ It changes the entire conversation and protects everyone involved.”

— Fleet Commander, Major Metropolitan Police Department

Beyond the initial alert, the system provides a detailed, second-by-second reconstruction of the event, capturing critical data points like speed, braking, g-force, and location. This objective, digital record is invaluable for post-incident analysis, helping to reduce agency liability by providing factual evidence for internal reviews and legal proceedings.

Proactively managing risk with driver insights

The most effective way to handle a collision is to prevent it from happening. Telematics provides the tools for proactive risk management by offering clear insights into driver behavior. By monitoring patterns in speed, acceleration, and braking, supervisors can identify opportunities for targeted coaching before risky habits lead to an accident.

Seatbelt use, a critical factor in officer safety, can also be monitored. This data has allowed agencies to move beyond “all or nothing” policies, developing nuanced protocols that balance tactical needs with safety imperatives.

Full operational visibility with equipment integration

A patrol car is a complex system of integrated tools. Advanced telematics platforms can monitor the activation of critical equipment, including emergency lights, sirens, and weapon storage systems. This provides a complete and verifiable record of an officer’s actions during an incident, confirming that proper procedures were followed and adding another layer of data-backed transparency that protects both the officer and the agency.

Chapter 3

Improving community safety and transparency

Modern policing requires both operational effectiveness and public accountability, precisely what telematics delivers. The data-driven insights from these systems help agencies better serve their communities while building the trust that's essential in today's environment. When transparency matters more than ever, objective data demonstrates that public resources are being used responsibly.

Optimized patrol coverage and resource allocation

Strategic patrol deployment directly impacts community safety. Traditional approaches often rely on intuition or historical patterns that may not align with current community needs.

Telematics transforms this approach by enabling evidence-based patrol planning. Agencies gain visibility into exactly where vehicles are, how quickly they respond, and which areas may need additional coverage. This allows them to identify underserved neighborhoods, optimize patrol routes, and distribute resources across their jurisdiction.

Transparent response time documentation

Response time is a promise to the community, and telematics helps agencies keep it. Traditional tracking methods often capture only partial information, relying on manual logs or limited data points.

Today's telematics systems automatically record the complete response journey: dispatch-to-arrival times, travel routes, and factors affecting response speed. This provides agencies with the insights needed to improve performance and share transparent results with community stakeholders. The T-Mobile network helps transmit these critical metrics in real time, supporting both immediate operational decisions and thoughtful long-term reporting.



Beyond the beat: Documenting patrol presence

- 1 The challenge:** How can agencies objectively prove their commitment to every neighborhood, addressing concerns about visibility and equitable resource distribution?
- 2 The data-driven solution:** Telematics data captures exactly when and where patrols occur, offering transparent, objective evidence of police presence.
- 3 The result:** This verifiable record builds community trust and helps agencies promptly and factually address public inquiries or concerns about patrol activity.

Chapter
01 From reactive repairs to proactive, predictive performance

Chapter
02 Enhancing officer safety and protection

Chapter
03 Improving community safety and transparency →

Chapter
04 Maximizing financial and sustainable value

Chapter
05 Connectivity for mission success

Evidence-based community engagement

Effective community policing requires objective data. Telematics provides the insights into patrol patterns, response effectiveness, and resource allocation that make meaningful community conversations possible.

Addressing community concerns with objective data

When community members raise questions about law enforcement activities, having access to facts makes all the difference. Utah’s experience demonstrates this value: when citizens raise concerns about officer driving or emergency equipment usage, fleet managers can access actual vehicle data to determine exactly what occurred.

This approach benefits everyone involved. When complaints are not supported by facts, officers have clear evidence supporting their actions. When legitimate issues arise, the same data helps agencies implement appropriate improvements. The T-Mobile network helps this vital information remain accessible when needed, supporting both accountability and community trust.



The dispatcher’s advantage: Real-time insights for better service

- 1 **Insight:** Dispatchers using live vehicle location data have reported significant improvements in operational efficiency and faster response times.
- 2 **The impact:** This real-time visibility enables dispatchers to quickly identify the closest available unit, reducing response times in critical situations. Furthermore, it empowers them to accurately and transparently answer public inquiries about patrol activity, enhancing accountability and trust within the community.

Sources: Connect Express, ProValet, Fleeto, Force Fleet Tracking.

Chapter 4

Maximizing financial and sustainable value

Responsible management of taxpayer resources is a core duty of every law enforcement agency. Telematics delivers a direct and measurable return on investment by cutting operational costs, maximizing the life cycle value of your fleet, and supporting long-term sustainability goals.

Tackling the hidden costs of fuel and idling

Fuel is one of the largest and most volatile expenses in any fleet budget. For law enforcement, the costs are even more pronounced due to the unique demands of patrol work. Telematics data reveals a significant and immediate opportunity for savings.

The business case for electric vehicles

Transitioning to an electric fleet is one of the most powerful financial strategies an agency can adopt. The long-term savings are substantial.

Fuel costs: EV energy costs can be as low as 2.3 cents per mile, compared to 17.3 cents for a traditional vehicle.

Maintenance savings: With fewer moving parts, EVs can reduce maintenance costs by up to 80%.

Telematics provides the critical data needed to plan this transition effectively, identifying the best vehicles for conversion and ensuring the investment delivers maximum financial and environmental benefits.

Optimizing fleet life cycle value from acquisition to retirement

Telematics provides the data needed to manage your vehicles as long-term assets.

Smarter procurement: Use performance data from your current fleet to make better purchasing decisions for the future.

Data-driven replacement: Know the precise, most cost-effective time to retire a vehicle based on its actual condition, not just the calendar.

Higher resale value: A complete and verifiable maintenance history can significantly increase a vehicle’s resale value.

The hidden costs of a running patrol car



1,423 gallons per year: The amount of fuel an average police vehicle consumes annually.



3x more fuel: Law enforcement vehicles use three times more fuel than their civilian counterparts.



21% wasted: Over one-fifth of all fuel is consumed while the vehicle is sitting still.



\$47,150 saved: The estimated annual fuel savings achieved by the City of Raleigh after installing anti-idling technology in just 29 police vehicles.

Sources: Urban Institute, U.S. Department of Energy, Geotab, City of Raleigh.

Chapter
01

From reactive repairs to proactive, predictive performance

Chapter
02

Enhancing officer safety and protection

Chapter
03

Improving community safety and transparency

Chapter
04

Maximizing financial and sustainable value



Chapter
05

Connectivity for mission success

Chapter 5

Connectivity for mission success

The most advanced telematics solution provides no value without an unbreakable connection. For law enforcement, a network isn't just a utility; it's the unseen foundation that turns data into immediate, actionable intelligence, directly supporting officer safety and operational effectiveness. When lives are on the line, the network becomes a mission-critical asset, as vital as any vehicle or radio.

The strategic alliance between Geotab and T-Mobile directly addresses this uncompromising need. It provides a single, cohesive ecosystem where best-in-class telematics and a robust, nationwide network are engineered to work in sync. This partnership minimizes the operational friction and potential vulnerabilities of disparate systems, ensuring seamless data flow when it matters most.

“You can have the best telematics device in the world, but without a reliable, secure network, it’s just a paperweight. The network is the non-negotiable foundation for every other capability.”

— Public Safety Network Engineer

Network reliability extends the reach of law enforcement

Law enforcement operations extend far beyond traditional city limits, often into challenging environments where connectivity is scarce. Officers need unwavering access to data and communications, whether patrolling dense urban centers, responding to highway incidents, or assisting in remote rural areas.

The T-Mobile network delivers reliable coverage across a vast nationwide footprint, helping to keep officers connected in diverse environments. This approach helps ensure officers remain connected and can transmit critical data even where traditional signals might falter.

Advanced telematics solutions, like Geotab's Asset Utilization dashboard, also leverage this reliable connectivity. With continuous access to utilization data, fleet managers can identify which vehicles are being used most and pinpoint significant usage gaps. These insights enable departments to balance workload across vehicles, develop strategies for optimal deployment, and eliminate unnecessary costs by right-sizing the fleet—all without sacrificing operational readiness.

Protecting sensitive operational data

The data generated by law enforcement telematics is highly sensitive and demands the utmost protection. Every location ping, every diagnostic alert, and every communication needs to be transmitted securely.

The T-Mobile network is designed with security protocols specifically developed for the rigorous demands of public safety applications. This includes advanced encryption for data in transit and a commitment to aligning with stringent regulatory compliance standards. This robust security posture helps safeguard sensitive operational intelligence, from vehicle locations to driver behavior data, from emerging threats.

The connected command post

Imagine a patrol car instantly becoming a mobile command center, streaming real-time data to dispatch and supervisors. This is the power of reliable, nationwide connectivity.

When the network performs consistently, telematics can deliver its full promise:

- **Faster backup coordination:** Dispatchers gain immediate visibility into vehicle locations, enabling them to send the closest units for rapid support.
- **Instant incident alerts:** Automated crash detection and critical alerts transmit without delay, initiating immediate response even if officers are incapacitated.
- **Seamless communication:** Officers remain in constant contact, receiving crucial information and transmitting updates from any location.

This transforms connectivity from a passive utility into a strategic, active tool that directly enhances operational intelligence, responsiveness, and officer safety. It is the invisible thread that binds the entire telematics solution, ensuring every other benefit can be fully realized.

Chapter
01

From reactive repairs to proactive, predictive performance

Chapter
02

Enhancing officer safety and protection

Chapter
03

Improving community safety and transparency

Chapter
04

Maximizing financial and sustainable value

Chapter
05

Connectivity for mission success



Conclusion

The future of connected law enforcement fleets

This isn't just about adding technology to your vehicles—it's about fundamentally transforming how your agency operates. Many departments are already seeing the difference: officers are safer, operations run smoother, and communities benefit from greater transparency. The combination of Geotab's smart telematics and the T-Mobile nationwide network gives you the foundation to take your fleet operations where they need to go.

The numbers tell the story. Utah cut maintenance costs by \$90,000 annually. These aren't just case studies—they're proof of what's possible when these technologies are thoughtfully implemented.

Key benefits realized

Agencies using advanced telematics are seeing real improvements that matter:

- ✓ **Bottom-line savings** through smarter fuel management, targeted maintenance, and right-sized fleets—often paying back the initial investment multiple times over
- ✓ **Enhanced officer safety** with real-time location tracking, immediate crash detection, and driving insights that help everyone make it home at the end of their shift
- ✓ **Stronger community connections** through transparent reporting and data-backed accountability that builds the public trust essential to effective policing

Technology evolution and future opportunities

We're just scratching the surface. The technology keeps getting better:

- **AI and machine learning** are getting smarter at predicting issues before they happen and spotting patterns humans might miss
- **Integration with your existing systems** like body cameras, dispatch, and crime analysis creates a more complete operational picture that makes everyone more effective
- **Electric vehicle adoption** becomes more practical when you have data showing exactly which vehicles can make the switch without compromising your mission

Making the decision

For agencies considering this technology, the question isn't whether to move forward—it's how to do it right. The combination of proven technology, reliable connectivity, and experienced support reduces the risks while maximizing the benefits.

With hands-on training, implementation help, and ongoing support, you can move forward with confidence, knowing you have partners who understand what's at stake for your agency.

The future of law enforcement fleet management is connected, intelligent, and focused on both operational excellence and community trust. Agencies that act now will be best positioned to meet tomorrow's challenges while demonstrating their commitment to officer safety and responsible use of public resources.

About the partnership

T-Mobile for Business and Geotab have teamed up to create fleet solutions specifically designed for law enforcement. This partnership combines the rock-solid T-Mobile network with Geotab's powerful telematics platform, delivering a complete solution that addresses the unique demands of modern policing.



Ready to take your fleet to the next level?

Contact your T-Mobile Public Safety expert to learn how T-Mobile and Geotab can help your agency operate smarter, safer, and more sustainably---today and tomorrow.



GEOTAB



GEOTAB®