

IMSI Catches / Stingrays



Freddy Martinez
Freddymartinez9 AT gmail DOT com

Overview

Our FOIA work

- Motivation

Stingrays / IMSI Catchers

Concerns for PoC

Next Steps

\$whoami

Physicist

Linux System Admin by night

“A skinny fidgety twenty-seven year old” – VICE



Motivation

Intellectual curiosity

“You know, somebody should look into this...”

Organizing from an *abolitionist* perspective influences how I understand issues

Lessons

HARRIS

Quote: QTE6779-01929
Date: 12/22/2008
Page: 1

Quotation

Bill To:
 Chicago Police Department
 Sgt. Jim Washburn
 james.washburn@chicagopolice.org
 312-746-7922

Ship To:
 Sgt. Jim Washburn
 james.washburn@chicagopolice.org
 312-746-7922

| Purchase Order No. | Customer ID | Salesperson ID | Shipping Method | Payment Terms | Req Ship Date | Master |
|--|----------------------|---|-----------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| CPB-CHGIL-001 | WPG2 | | | Net 30 | 00/00/00 | 2 |
| Quantity | Item Number | Description | UOM | Discount | Unit Price | Ext. Pri |
| 1 | STINGRAY II - UP | StingRay II - Upgrade | EA | | \$65,000.00 | \$65.00 |
| 1 | STINGRAY II-IDEN-SW | StingRay II IDEN Software Package | EA | | \$22,000.00 | \$22.00 |
| 1 | PA-KIT-30W IDEN 800 | PA-KIT-30W Single Band IDEN 800 | EA | | \$14,000.00 | \$14.00 |
| 1 | PA-KIT-30W DUAL-BAND | PA-KIT-30W Dual-Band CONUS 650/1000 | EA | | \$17,500.00 | \$17.50 |
| 1 | PA-KIT-30W 2100 | PA-KIT-30W Single Band 2100 MHz | EA | | \$16,000.00 | \$16.00 |
| 1 | ALWAYS | AmberJack-X or G to AmberJack-W Upgrade (Wired) | EA | | \$18,000.00 | \$18.00 |
| 1 | SPURIDOG | Handheld Passive DF Tool | EA | | \$12,000.00 | \$12.00 |
| NOTE Delivery will be 120 days ARO unless otherwise stated. Please see attached Terms and Conditions. | | | | | | \$ |

Ten months ago, the CBS 2 investigative unit asked whether CPD had such devices.

The department denied it, even though the purchase orders clearly indicate the devices were in the department's possession for several years.

IMSI: Who *you* are

Uniquely identify *your phone number*

Example IMSI: 310410XXXXXXXXXX

- MCC 310 USA
- MNC 410 AT&T GSM 850 / GSM 1900 / UMTS 850 / UMTS 1900
- MSIN (phone number) XXX XXX XXXX

Why Stingray?

Pull IMSI without warrant

Gather call routing metadata and/or *content*

- Stingrays can but no evidence police have the “upgrade”)

Capture / modify content in real-time

Initiate calls from target without consent

Malware (?)

Chicago FOIA Work

After previous denials, lawsuit uncovered at least 2-3 Stingrays

- Funding came from civil asset forfeiture

Hailstorm upgrade purchased in Oct 2014

CPD obtains PR/TT

exempt from disclosure under FOIA. The potentially responsive court orders and related applications gathered by Sergeant Costa were issued pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 3122 and 3123, and were ordered to remain under seal until further order of the court.

Id. Indeed, 18 U.S.C. § 3123(d)(1) specifically provides that “[a]n order authorizing or

FOIA Work (Cont)

NDA btw CPD, FBI and Harris states they can't disclose to courts they own HailStorm

CPD claims no records of anyone checking IMSI catchers in / out.

International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), 22 C.F.R. Parts 120-130. The ITAR requires anyone, prior to making an export of technical information, to obtain a license from the Department of State. Technical information need not leave the borders of the United States to be deemed an export. Providing technical information without a license to anyone intending to publicize the information, as is your stated intention, could constitute a violation of the Arms Export Control Act.

Concerns

Chicago: Paid for by civil asset forfeiture, essentially the War on Drugs

Nationally: DHS or UASI grant money

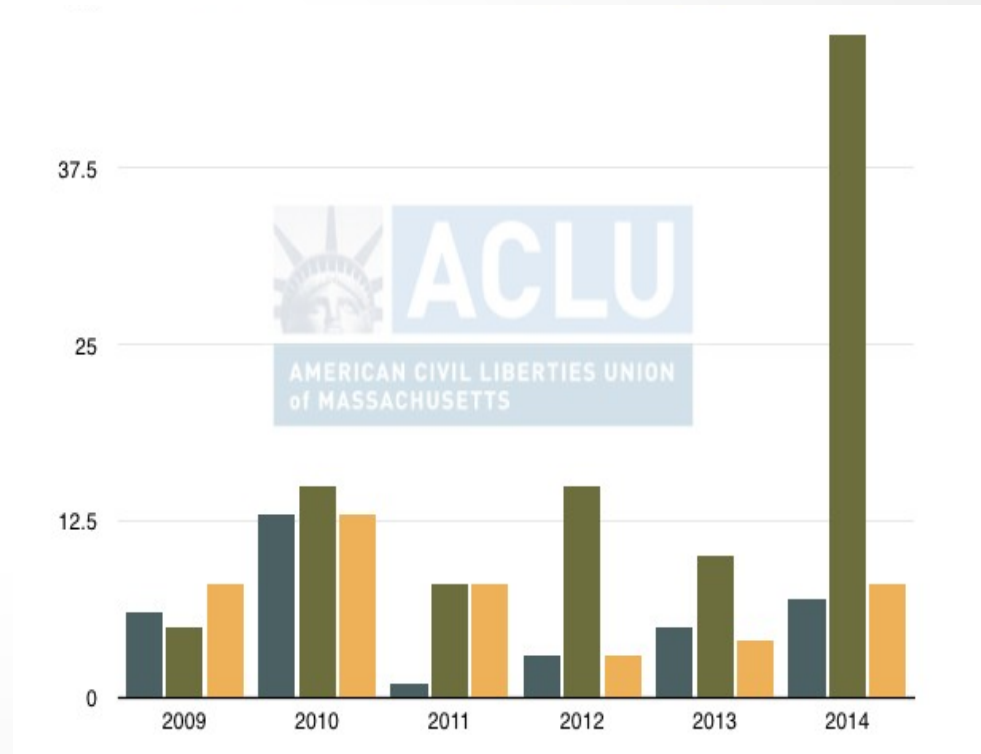
Cases are routinely brought to judges as PR/TT but doing tracking with Stingray and information is withheld from defense

Concerns

Chicago: Bureau of Organized Crime controls Stingrays

- VICE, Gang, Narcotics

States Attorneys claim to have no identifiable cases of prosecuted cases using Stingrays



Next Steps

Won *Martinez vs CPD (II)* in late January, should receive documents very soon

In cases where information withheld for defense, we can help prisoners appeal

Continue mapping out who has them and where

References

- [1] *“Stingrays: The Most Common Surveillance Tool the Government Won't Tell You About”* ACLU.
<https://www.aclunc.org/publications/stingrays-most-common-surveillance-tool-government-wont-tell-you-about>
- [2] *“Stingray Talk”* AACJ Winter Seminar. Daniel Rigmaiden
- [3] *“Your Secret StingRay’s No Secret Anymore”*. 2014
Stephanie K. Pell & Christopher Soghoian

References

[4] *“Cellular Dragnet: Active Cell Site Simulators and the Fourth Amendment”*, Jan 2015. Aimee Thomson

Thanks

Georgetown Privacy & Technology

Matt Topic (attorney Loevy & Loevy)

Questions?