Privacy Forum

The home security company 'Ring' creates smart doorbell devices that utilize video surveillance. In 2019, it was discovered that the company had partnered with more than 600 police departments across the U.S., allowing law enforcement to request access to video footage collected from users' devices. Once police departments gain possession of video footage, there are no guidelines that place restrictions on how long it can be stored and for what purposes it can be used. While this arrangement might serve the interest of government and state-level actors in protecting citizens and communities, it seems to conflict with users' interest in preserving privacy.

Should the company continue to partner with police departments? Why or why not?