Rebekah Eppley  
LFI Week 7  
State Surveillance/Law Enforcement

What resonated most with me when researching for this assignment and listening to the lectures was the information Freddy Martinez offered regarding public record requests. I spent much time during the past week searching Oakland’s Public Records Database and thinking about ways to design a training for our patrons. I created some slides showing patrons how to access the site, how to search the existing database, and how to make a request (these are basically just screen shots – when doing a training I would just pull up the website and ask patrons to do the same on their computers.)

As I was searching the Public Records database I came across several Facial Recognition Requests, including one asking for information regarding contracts with companies creating and selling facial recognition technology <https://oaklandca.nextrequest.com/requests/RT-20382> although no records were provided.  
  
I also found the license plate reader dataset requested by Cyrus Farivar for an Ars Technica article. <https://data.oaklandnet.com/Public-Safety/All-license-plate-reader-data-ALPR-10-20-2012-11-2/cyhz-jk8v>

I mainly spent the week familiarizing myself with the Public Records database by searching existing requests.

Our Digital Safety Team meets virtually monthly and we’ve been creating digital safety tips to share with staff in our weekly newsletter. This past week I shared what we’ve covered in Library Freedom Institute so far. Our next meeting will be an in-person planning session so I’ll discuss programming around making public records requests, specifically for Oakland.