Section 50, Article III - An Ordinance to Promote Transparency and Protect Civil Rights and Civil Liberties with Respect to Surveillance Technology

Amendments approved at 12.11.2024 Public Health & Community Safety Committee

Section 50–79. – Enforcement; Remedies; Penalties; Whistleblower Protections.

(G) To the extent permitted by law, including, but not limited to, the requirements of the Massachusetts Public Records Law or the Municipal Records Retention Schedule, any video footage or other data recorded or obtained illegally or in violation of this ordinance shall be immediately destroyed, and not introduced as evidence in any criminal or civil proceeding, except in those proceedings related to violations of this ordinance.

Section 50–80. – Certain Public-Private Transactions Contracts Prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for the City to enter into any contract for monetary value or engage in any financial transaction with a commercial entity that provides the City with the mass acquisition of privately generated and owned bulk Surveillance Data. Any contracts or agreements signed prior to the enactment of this Ordinance that violate this section shall not be renewed after the completion of the term of said contracts or agreements. Section 50-80 shall not apply to any contract or agreement executed for law enforcement operations or purposes. Further, it shall be unlawful for the City to acquire, or enter into an agreement to acquire or exchange bulk surveillance data that the City is banned from generating on its own, with any other government, entity, or policing agency.