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SPORTS, 1B

Savannah Morning News.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026 | SAVANNAHNOW.COM

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Gunshot detection tech ignites controversy



Springfield, Illinois, Police Officer Timara Pflug demonstrates in 2021 how officers can see a notification of gunfire on a map from Shotspotter, now called SoundThinking, in their squad cars. JUSTIN L. FOWLER/SPRINGFIELD STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER

Critics cite concerns about privacy, accuracy

N'dea Yancey-Bragg USA TODAY

When gunshots ring out on America's streets, bystanders face an instant, high-stakes dilemma. • *Do I call the cops? Were those even gunshots? Maybe it was just fireworks.* • Every moment of hesitation risks a delay in medical treatment or gives a suspect extra time to escape. But a high-tech solution to the problem has ignited a fresh round of controversy in cities across the nation.

Law enforcement officials in states including New York, Georgia, California, Michigan and Virginia have credited one system with helping them make arrests and alerting them to gunshots that would have otherwise gone unreported.

The system – part of an arsenal of police surveillance technology that advocates have warned about – is a network of audio sensors designed to record the sound of gunshots and tell authorities where the shots were fired.

That's where the problems start. The technology has faced a host of controversies: concerns over privacy and eavesdropping; complaints about accuracy; and even reports of many devices being installed in the wrong places.

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GARDEN CITY

Police stop using school zone speed cameras

Ansley Franco

Savannah Morning News
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Garden City Police Department will no longer use school zone speed cameras after a new Georgia law imposed stricter requirements on how local governments can use the devices. "For us, there was a decision that it (use of the cameras) was becoming more cumbersome and potentially more complicated than it necessarily needed to be, so we just made the decision to discontinue using that technology," Garden City PD Lt. Shane Glasco said.

The new law requires each school zone speed camera to be relicensed by the local municipality where it is located, giving local governments the opportunity to decide whether to continue using the technology.

Georgia House Bill 651, which went into effect on July 1, added new requirements for school zone speed camera programs, including clearer warning signs, regular camera accuracy testing and a formal complaint process. The law also requires local governments to obtain voter approval before operating the cameras, with existing programs required to go before

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Court hears new details in fatal stabbing

Ansley Franco

Savannah Morning News
USA TODAY NETWORK

In court on Tuesday afternoon, a Savannah Police Department (SPD) detective outlined the day 34-year-old Henry Cawley was allegedly stabbed to death by his stepfather.

On June 30 around 10 p.m., SPD officers received a disorderly conduct call from Cawley's mother, identified

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The Springfield, Missouri, Police Department has installed gunshot detection devices through Flock's gunshot detection system, Raven. NATHAN PAPES/SPRINGFIELD NEWS-LEADER



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