In 2010, 12 state and local law enforcement agencies in the Salt Lake Valley deployed Palantir Law Enforcement through an Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant. The agencies, which include the Salt Lake City Police Department, chose a technology suite originally developed for federal intelligence agencies. In doing so, they transformed their ability to conduct intelligence-led policing.

THE PROBLEM

SLCPD relies on dozens of datasets to investigate and prevent crime. When officers perform investigations, they need immediate access to a vast array of information, including data on individuals, vehicles, organizations, criminal history, biometrics, and officer reports. To further complicate things, crimes frequently take place across different jurisdictions. For example, if a burglar commits robberies in three different counties, officers from one police department need to approach a different police department to request information about the crime. This process frequently leads to time delays that hinder the investigative process.

PALANTIR’S SOLUTION

With Palantir Law Enforcement, the Salt Lake City Police and Sheriff’s Departments have a single point of access to view and analyze data as they perform investigations. Additionally, SLCPD and UASI are in the process of linking police records systems from more than 12 agencies in the State of Utah. Examples of integrated data include: suspicious activity reports, criminal records, mug shots, open source, and airport data. Searches that used to take days or weeks now occur in seconds, as police departments can access cross-jurisdictional data in real time.

SLCPD officers also use Palantir Law Enforcement’s analysis tools to perform investigations. They use the Graph application to build link charts and “human maps” describing suspected criminal networks, and the Map application to perform location-based searches and generate heat maps that distinguish areas with higher crime risks. They use Palantir Law Enforcement’s collaboration tools to share intelligence with other analysts, teams, and agencies related to specific investigations. By introducing technologies developed for federal intelligence agencies into the local law enforcement space, SLCPD dramatically improved the efficiency and effectiveness of police investigations.

PALANTIR’S IMPACT & RESULTS

- Investigators in multiple jurisdictions now have access to more than 988,000 documents, 40,000 mugshots, 117,000 arrest records, and 520,000 case reports.
- Searches are completed in minutes as opposed to days or weeks.
- SLCPD estimates that Palantir Law Enforcement reduces the time it takes an officer to perform a complex investigation by 95%.
- “Palantir has provided investigators and analysts with a tool that dramatically increases efficiency and capability. For the first time, we can say that we have integrated crime enforcement within the Salt Lake Valley.”
  
  – Chris Burbank, Chief of Police, Salt Lake City Police Department

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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