GeoTime
Seattle Police Department (SPD)

What is the technology?

GeoTime is geospatial analysis software that allows the visual analysis of events over time. Utilizing geodata, such as latitude and longitude, procured during criminal investigations, investigators use GeoTime to create specialized 2 and 3 dimensional maps of call records and cell site locations. These maps allow investigators to see patterns in the existing data that might not be interpreted through other methods.

Why do we use the technology?

Visualizing criminal information provides investigators a more thorough understanding of complicated criminal investigations. GeoTime reduces the time and effort required of investigators to analyze large amounts of data which translates into a better and more efficient work product.

Collection
GeoTime does not collect information or data. It is a tool used to aggregate and analyze data manually input by investigators and exports complex geospatial maps which users save into locally stored investigation files. No information is saved inside the GeoTime tool.

Use
GeoTime is only used during the investigation of crimes by SPD detectives. The data analyzed using GeoTime is obtained by investigators under the execution of court ordered warrants, including data from cellular providers and from data extracted from mobile devices.

Protects
GeoTime is only used during the investigation of crimes by the SPD. All use of GeoTime must also comply with SPD Policy 12.050 – Criminal Justice Information Systems and may only be used for legitimate criminal investigative purposes.

Use of GeoTime is governed by the City of Seattle Intelligence Ordinance, 28 CFR Part 23, CJIS requirements, and any future applicable requirements.

The open comment period for this technology is currently underway. You can provide comments to Seattle.gov/SurveillanceComment. All comments will be included in the Surveillance Impact Report on this technology and submitted to Council.

If you would like to provide feedback outside of the open comment period, please submit them directly to City Council.