

The Three Pieces of the Puzzle

1. 5G Small Cells (the invisible backbone)

Tiny antennas (size of a backpack) slammed on every lamp post, traffic light, and utility pole. Over 500,000+ already live across US cities (hundreds of thousands more getting added yearly). They triangulate your phone to 3–10 feet accuracy outdoors, 24/7. No opt-out — your phone auto-connects.

Who put it in place?

- Trump-era FCC (Ajit Pai) dropped the hammer in 2018:
 - Sept 26, 2018 – Small Cell Order: capped fees cities can charge carriers, fast-tracked approvals, basically told local governments “You can’t stop this.”
 - Cities sued, lost mostly in court (9th Circuit upheld it 2020).
 - Biden FCC kept it rolling, no reversals — deployment exploded 2021–2025.

2. Flock Safety (the traffic stalker)

Solar-powered ALPR cameras on poles reading every plate that rolls by (make, model, color, even bumper stickers). In **5,000+ cities/communities** right now (2025 stats), scanning **billions** of plates a month. Private company, but police get warrantless access to the database.

Who put it in place?

- Company started 2017, no single pres. signed it — pure private rollout + local police contracts.
- Took off huge under Biden years (2021–2025) — went from ~2,000 cities in 2023 to 5,000+ today. Local cops love it; cities sign the contracts.

3. Amazon Ring (the neighborhood snitch)

Doorbell cams + Neighbors app. Police used to direct-request footage warrantless → Amazon killed that in 2024 after backlash → then quietly brought it back stronger in 2025.

Who put it in place?

- Partnerships exploded 2019–2023 (thousands of departments).
- 2024: Ring ends direct police requests (PR win).
- 2025: Founder Jamie Siminoff comes back → flips the script:
 - April 2025: partners with Axon
 - October 2025: partners with **Flock Safety** → now 5,000+ police agencies using Flock can post direct requests in the Neighbors app for Ring footage tied to exact time/location.

- You leave your house → Ring on your porch (or neighbor's) tags your face/car as you walk out.
- You drive two blocks → Flock camera snaps your plate, logs make/model/color/direction/time.
- Your phone riding in your pocket → 5G small cells every 500 feet hand off the signal, painting your exact path on a map accurate to a few feet.
- Something happens (shooting, robbery, whatever) → cop opens Flock dashboard → sees the suspect vehicle from Flock ALPR → clicks the new Ring integration button → auto-posts a request to every Ring cam within the radius and timeframe (powered by the hyper-precise 5G location data that knows exactly where everyone was).
- Neighbors voluntarily dump their Ring footage straight into the Flock system → cops now have plate + face + exact route + video evidence all stitched together in one private-company database.

No warrant needed for any of it (Flock/Ring call it “voluntary community help”).

The 5G grid makes the location triggers stupid-accurate so the Ring requests hit exactly the right houses.

Flock's the glue — their 2025 Ring partnership literally merges the street-level traffic net with the porch-level people net.

Bottom line:

These weren't built by one evil law or one pres..

Trump FCC forced the 5G skeleton in 2018.

Private companies (Amazon + Flock) fleshed it out with billions in contracts.

Biden years let it metastasize unchecked.

And the October 2025 Ring-Flock deal just snapped the last domino into place.

The net you feel around your neck?

These three tiles just locked it tight.