

DeFlock NBTX campaign launch guide

Organizer edition | Texas Privacy Coalition | Prepared October 10, 2026

Use this guide to organize support for the proposed New Braunfels surveillance ordinance and prepare a lawful petition campaign. The website is an organizing hub. Official petition circulation begins only after the final text and procedural requirements are settled.

What is ready now

A public campaign website; a private, consent-based supporter and volunteer intake; a discussion ordinance; a Council brief; a public source register; and the draft correspondence and operating procedures below.

What must happen before official signatures

Legal lead: obtain municipal and election counsel review of state preemption, initiative eligibility, required retention, sharing, contracts, enforcement and adoption language.

Petition lead: obtain the City Secretary's written response on the official signature target, form, witness oath, collection window and timetable.

Policy lead: settle one ordinance and Exhibit A. Identify exact approved city crossings or expressly resolve how the exhibit will be adopted before circulation.

Finance lead: confirm the actual legal organizer, existing committee status, treasurer filing and reporting duties. Record cash and in-kind spending from the start.

Operations lead: train collectors, prepare controlled packets, set secure custody, and announce circulation only when these steps are complete.

Suggested first month of organizing

Week 1: assign accountable leads, request City procedural guidance, arrange legal review and test organizer access to the signup list.

Week 2: seek Council discussion, recruit volunteers, review existing equipment and contract records, and explain the policy through primary sources.

Week 3: resolve legal and technical issues, prepare a final exhibit and petition packet for procedural review, and train a small collector team.

Week 4: launch formal circulation only if every required gate is satisfied. Otherwise continue public education and publish an accurate status update. These are planning stages, not promised legal deadlines.

Sponsor and public identity

Sponsor and payer: Texas Privacy Coalition.

Public contact: Phil Mynona, info@texasprivacycoalition.com, (830) 481-1062.

Use on campaign advertising: **Political advertising paid for by Texas Privacy Coalition.** Do not claim nonprofit status, tax deductibility or PAC registration without verification.

Talking points and responses

Use the same policy explanation with everyone. Keep claims specific, sourced and respectful.

Thirty second pitch

DeFlock NBTX is working toward a citizen ordinance that keeps targeted license plate alerts and ends the City's storage of non-hit vehicle histories. It allows compliant readers at approved city entry points and in moving police vehicles, limits voluntary sharing to named Texas agencies, and makes audits public. Join us as we prepare the petition process.

Three minute public comment

Members of Council, I support a public review of the DeFlock NBTX proposal. Plate readers can provide useful alerts for wanted or stolen vehicles. The policy question is what happens to everyone else's observations. NBPD's published policy keeps general reads for 30 days. Our proposal would require immediate disposal of nonmatches instead.

It preserves compliant hit-only readers at approved New Braunfels boundary crossings and in moving patrol cars. It prohibits historical non-hit databases, including access through vendors or another agency. A parked car or trailer cannot bypass the placement rule.

The draft also limits generalized facial and AI surveillance, with a narrow court-authorized exception for specified evidence in a particular criminal investigation. It restricts voluntary sharing to eligible Texas agencies and makes actual recipients and audits public.

We acknowledge the tradeoff: investigators could no longer search older non-hit observations after a vehicle becomes relevant. We ask Council to review that choice openly, test the technical feasibility, and address state-law limits before finalizing the ordinance. Please identify a sponsor and a public review process. Thank you.

Answer the difficult questions

Does this abolish every plate reader? No. It preserves only verified-compliant hit-only systems.

Will every crime-solving capability remain? No. Retrospective non-hit searches would end.

Is NBPD using facial recognition? NBPD says its ALPR program does not. The draft addresses future uses.

Can existing Flock cameras switch modes? Not established. Require proof, not an assumption.

Can I sign online? You can join the campaign online. Formal petition signatures require a separate approved process.

Can a warrant unlock historical ALPR searches? The facial exception does not authorize them. Binding legal duties remain separately addressed.

Avoid unsupported camera totals, real-time GPS claims, claims that the City currently identifies pedestrians, guaranteed crime outcomes, or claims that the ordinance is already legally approved. Sources: [NBPD program explanation](#); [NBPD Policy 3.06 dated June 4 2026](#); [Council staff record dated September 30 2026](#).

Petition preparation and custody

Do not print a circulation sheet from this guide. This is an operations checklist, not a legal petition.

Confirm the rules in writing

The Charter uses a 5% city registered-voter threshold and requires the ordinance to accompany each petition copy. Obtain the official count, measurement date, treatment of suspense voters, both-county coverage and rounding method. No numerical target has been verified. [New Braunfels Home Rule Charter](#); [Texas Election Code Chapter 277](#).

The Charter contains a 45-day signature-age rule; state law contains a 180-day outside limit and provisions concerning older local requirements. Counsel and the City Secretary must resolve which rules govern. Do not advertise a 180-day window. Build a plan capable of the shorter period until confirmed.

The SOS says signatures must originate as wet signatures. Confirm required fields, voter number or date-of-birth alternatives, witness and affidavit details, correct notarial venue, original delivery and any deficiency process. Do not rely on a digital signature or an online supporter record. [Texas SOS petition guidance](#).

Before each collection shift

Issue a numbered packet with the frozen ordinance version and required attachments. Record the collector, sheet IDs, issue date and return deadline. Train collectors to explain the proposal honestly, respect a refusal, use permitted locations, and follow current rules around polling places. No equipment interference or publication of private information.

During collection

Confirm incorporated city residence and registration using official resources, covering both Comal and Guadalupe County portions of the City. Mailing address and utility service are insufficient. Have the signer complete a valid signature and required information. Never sign for another person or certify witnessing an unobserved signature. Keep prior signers' information covered from the next signer where practicable.

At return and filing

Log receipt, keep originals locked, and restrict any scans. Check completeness, dates, duplicates, ordinance attachments and witness affidavits. Keep a review log without posting personal data. Resolve defects before coordinated filing; do not assume supplementation is available. Retain a secure copy and obtain a dated City receipt. Publish stage changes only when documented.

Separate the records

The website contact list is private campaign intake. The official petition is a different record that may become public after filing, subject to lawful redactions. Explain that difference to signers. Do not merge petition identification data into the general email list or enroll signers in unrelated communications.

City Secretary inquiry

Draft correspondence for organizer review | Not sent

To: nbcitysecretary@newbraunfels.gov

Subject: Initiative petition requirements under Charter Section 6.02

Dear City Secretary,

Texas Privacy Coalition is preparing a citizen initiative concerning City surveillance practices under the working name DeFlock NBTX. We seek procedural guidance before formal petition circulation. No election date has been assumed or announced.

Please provide or identify:

1. The current minimum valid-signature requirement, underlying city registered-voter count, measurement date, rounding method, and treatment of suspense-list voters across both counties.
2. Official initiative forms or instructions, requirements for attaching the full ordinance to multiple sheets, oath language, who may verify signatures, and the correct notarial venue for collection in either county.
3. The City's position on signature-age limits and additional local signature requirements, including their enactment history and interaction with Election Code Chapter 277.
4. Any notice, prefiling, sponsor designation or preliminary submission requirements, and whether staff can review a proposed sheet for procedural sufficiency.
5. Accepted submission methods, original-document requirements, submission hours, verification and certification procedures, available deficiency process, and proof of receipt.
6. Feasible upcoming election dates and latest petition submission dates allowing required verification, Council action and election-order deadlines.
7. The appropriate local contact and filing process for a specific-purpose committee supporting a city initiative.
8. How filed petitions are handled as public records, applicable redactions, and recommended notice to signers.

We understand procedural guidance does not constitute legal approval of the ordinance. Please identify the responsible contact if another office should address any item.

Thank you,
Phil Mynona
Texas Privacy Coalition
info@texasprivacycoalition.com
(830) 481-1062

City Secretary: 550 Landa Street, New Braunfels, TX 78130; (830) 221-4010. Verify the recipient and final message before sending.

Legal review and campaign administration

Assign one owner to each item and retain the written response.

Substantive review request for counsel

Please review the proposed ordinance for Texas Business & Commerce Code Section 552.003 preemption; initiative subject-matter eligibility; home-rule authority; state and federal sharing duties; public information and records schedules; evidence preservation and discovery; contracts and grants; implementation authority; and judicial remedies. Evaluate each provision independently for severability. [Texas Business and Commerce Code Chapter 552](#).

For the facial exception, confirm lawful warrant or order authority, particularity, reference-gallery limits, human verification, nonmatch disposal and audit documentation. Confirm that the exception does not reopen historical ALPR acquisition or voluntary sharing outside eligible Texas agencies.

Before circulation, conform numbering, adoption findings, signatures and certification to the initiative route. Settle Exhibit A, the effect of later boundary changes and any exact technical deadlines after feasibility review. Freeze the final text and record a checksum; do not substitute substantive amendments while collecting against an earlier text.

Campaign finance setup

The sponsor has been identified as Texas Privacy Coalition. Confirm its legal identity, existing committee filings and fiscal arrangement. The 2026 TEC STA instructions state that a specific-purpose committee must appoint a treasurer before exceeding \$1,140 in contributions or expenditures. Classification, other activity and the applicable reporting schedule still require review; recheck the 2027 threshold. [Texas Ethics Commission STA instructions](#).

Record website, domain, printing, venue and in-kind costs. Determine the proper local filing authority and reporting calendar. Do not enable fundraising, issue tax-deductibility claims or invent a PAC name before this setup is resolved. Review political-advertising attribution on every format. [Texas Ethics Commission political advertising rules](#).

Election timing

No election has been scheduled. Confirm the state order deadline and the time needed for City processing, Council action and ballot-language procedures. The Charter's timetable should not be used in isolation. [Texas SOS election dates](#); [Texas SOS 2026 ballot language guidance](#).

Source discipline

Recheck the official ALPR policy and staff record before new public claims. Date any inventory, sharing or cost figure. Distinguish staff recommendations from adopted actions and older snapshots from current numbers. Keep a corrections log and update the source register with each material correction.

Outreach invitation

"We are preparing a citizen ordinance concerning City ALPR data retention and surveillance. Would you review the draft and join a public discussion? The proposal and sources are at [DeFlockNBTX.com](#). Formal petition circulation has not opened." This language is a template, not a message already sent.

Website and organizer operations

The website accepts campaign interest. It does not certify signatures, send automatic email or publish names.

Access and export

Authorized coalition administrators can use the existing Supabase project **Texas Privacy Coalition Survey**, project reference **ajpmzkxmfmxgiheiuvcv**, to view the **nbtx_supporters** table. Restrict dashboard access to organizers who need it, use strong account security, and export only the fields required for a specific campaign task. No public admin page is provided.

Columns include email, optional name, voter self-assessment, volunteer preference, consent version and creation time. Self-assessment is not verified eligibility. Duplicate email submissions do not create additional records or overwrite prior preferences; handle corrections through the coalition mailbox.

Retention and removal

The database schedules daily removal of supporter records older than 12 months and rate-limit records older than 24 hours. The latter can remain until the next daily run. Fulfill requested removal within 30 days under the published notice. Remove matching exports and contact-tool copies too; database cleanup does not erase manually exported copies. Check any actual legal hold before deletion.

Communication controls

Use contacts only for the stated DeFlock NBTX purpose. Volunteer outreach requires the recorded volunteer preference. Review every mailing, include an easy opt-out and promptly honor it. No automated email or SMS provider has been connected. There is no verified deflocknbtx.com mailbox yet; the current contact is info@texasprivacycoalition.com.

Technical handoff

Standalone source project: **work/deflock-nbtx** in the owner's home directory. Build: **npm run build**. Local preview: **npm run dev**. Vercel project: **deflock-nbtx** in the owner's existing team. The intake Edge Function is **nbtx-supporter-intake**; database migration and function source are included in the source archive.

Public website configuration contains only the anonymous project key. Tables and the registration function deny direct public access. The server validates consent and input, uses a honeypot and a per-network hourly limit, and stores no raw IP in signup records. These are basic abuse controls, not a promise of complete bot prevention. Monitor errors without exporting personal data into public logs.

Before each release

Run the static link tests and review changed pages on desktop and mobile. Check PDF/Word consistency, source dates, actual sponsor, petition status, privacy notice and working contact links. Test signup with a clearly synthetic record, verify it privately, then remove it. Never put service-role credentials, private exports or environment files in the public deployment.

Materials directory

The public downloads include the ordinance in PDF and Word, Council brief, organizer guide, printable invitation and source register. The local launch pack also includes unsent correspondence, custody and issue logs, and the site source. None of these files is an approved official petition sheet.