FW-HTF-P: Mitigating Risks in Future Police Work through Social Telerobotic Communication,
Award No. 2026658

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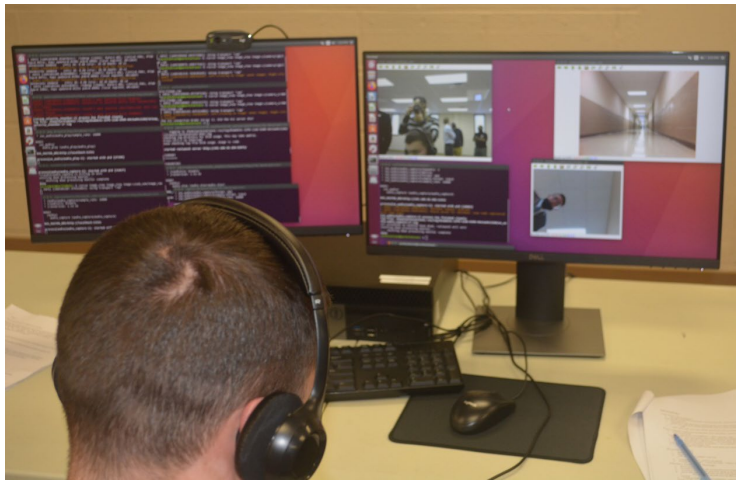
The objective was to develop a teleoperated communication robot for use by law enforcement officers (LEOs). Using a mobile robot capable of two-way audio/video communication, civilians and officers can safely and remotely interact with each other across multiple verbal and non-verbal modes. The research team is exploring the needs, risks, and opportunities of communication robots for use in public safety.

Results I

- The team matured mobile robots equipped with two-way audio/video communication, remote manipulation, and controllers for remote work
- The robot was modified and improved based on LEO and stakeholder feedback

Results II

- The team has partnered with Tuscaloosa and Oxford Police Departments, Law Enforcement Academy Tuscaloosa, and Jacksonville State University
- The team was able to produce 3 conference papers and 2 journal submissions are a result of this work



Next Steps

- The team will partner will citizen communities to obtain additional stakeholder feedback on the acceptable and ethical use of communication robots in law enforcement
- The team will form an expert advisory board to guide robot design and use