

## DOJ Strategic Objectives

Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement

## Program Goals

The BWC program has four core goals:

1. Increase police transparency and accountability
2. Help de-escalate police-community member conflicts
3. Increase the number of police agencies using body-worn cameras
4. Assist law enforcement agencies to develop a comprehensive approach that employs body-worn cameras into officer practice.

# Body-Worn Camera Program

## Purpose of Report

The Body-Worn Camera (BWC) Program Grantee Feedback Report is a biannual report prepared by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) that allows grantees to compare their project's reported performance measurement data to the BWC program as a whole. All reported data represent the six-month period of April–September 2016, unless otherwise noted.

## Program Purpose<sup>1</sup>

The purpose of the BWC program is to strengthen accountability and transparency in law enforcement through the effective deployment and use of body-worn camera systems.

Recent research suggests that body-worn cameras could be a useful tool for building and maintaining trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

This program provides grants to support:

1. Training and technical assistance in developing policies for body-worn camera use
2. Infrastructure needed to support body-worn camera systems
3. Purchase and deployment of body-worn camera systems.

## Report Highlights

- 42 percent of grantees and subgrantees have had their policy development process approved by BJA and entered the implementation phase of their project prior to September 30, 2016.
- As of September 30, 2016, 8,000 body-worn cameras have been purchased using grant funds, which is about 57 percent<sup>2</sup> of the total number of body-worn cameras expected to be purchased when all grant funds are spent.
- During April–September 2016, grantees and subgrantees conducted 624 hours of outreach to the community, criminal justice partners, and other outside organizations regarding the use of body-worn cameras.

<sup>1</sup> The Biannual Grantee Feedback Report includes performance data reported by BJA Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program (BCJI) grant recipients that conducted grant activities through September 2016. The following data come from the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) data covering BCJI grants from fiscal year (FY) 2012 through FY2015. The data reflected in this report represent the information as entered by grantees.

<sup>2</sup> The percent is calculated based only on grantees and subgrantees who have reported this information. Because many grantees and subgrantees in the planning phase have not yet reported these data, this percent will vary over time.

## Grantee Overview

Table 1, below, outlines the four award categories which differentiate agencies based on their size and experience with body-worn cameras. Category 1 seeks to establish new BWC programs in large police agencies with 1,000 or more sworn officers; Category 2 seeks to establish new BWC programs in mid-sized police agencies with more than 250, but fewer than 1,000 sworn officers; Category 3 seeks to establish new BWC programs in small police agencies with 250 or fewer sworn officers; and Category 4 seeks to assist agencies with existing BWC programs and established BWC policies and practices that want to expand their program to more officers.

**Table 1. BWC Awards<sup>3</sup>**

	Number of Active Awards	Total Awards	Total Funds Awarded
<b>Fiscal Year (FY) 2015</b>			
Category 1 (Large Agencies)	7	7	\$6,600,000
Category 2 (Medium Agencies)	12	18	\$7,334,332
Category 3 (Small Agencies)	20	28	\$2,773,304
Category 4 (Expansion)	13	17	\$2,039,706
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>\$18,747,342</b>

**Table 2. Operational Status of BWC Awards by Reporting Section**

Reporting Period	Awards Reporting in Planning Section	Awards Reporting in Implementation Section	Awards Not Operational <sup>4</sup>	Total
<b>April–June 2016</b>	20 (27%)	21 (28%)	33 (45%)	<b>100%</b> <b>(74)</b>
<b>July–September 2016</b>	18 (24%)	26 (35%)	30 (41%)	<b>100%</b> <b>(74)</b>

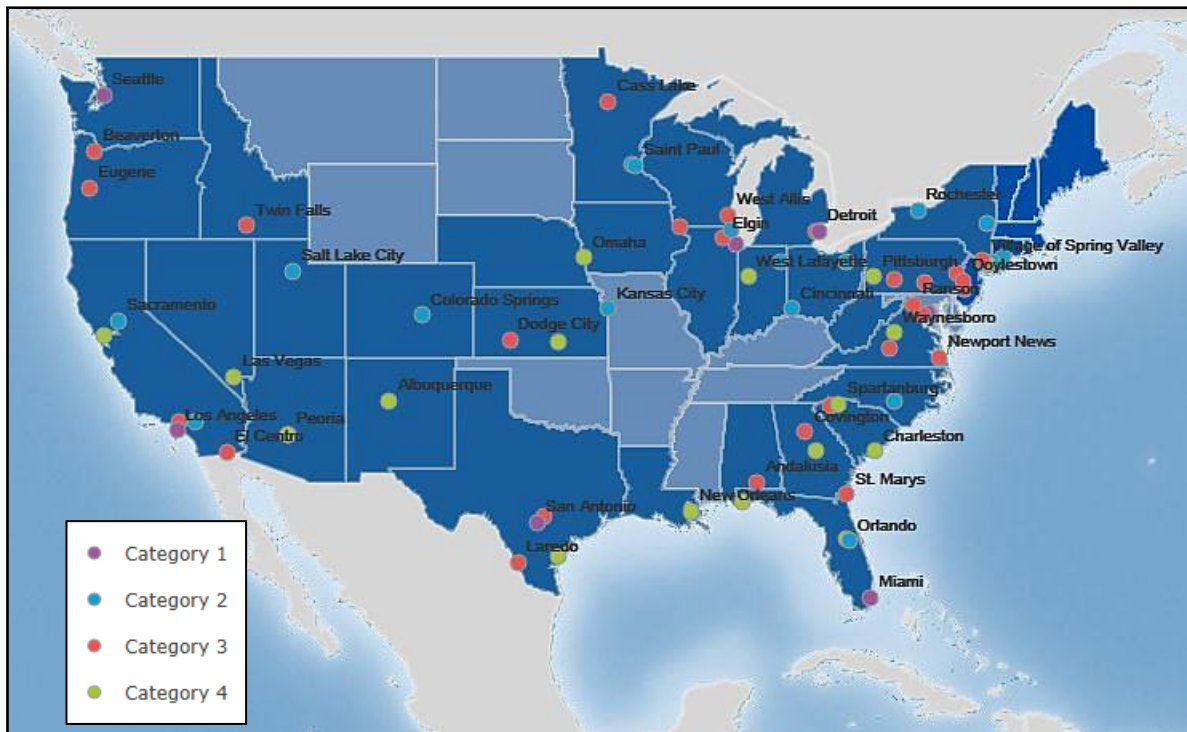
Table 2, above, shows how the body-worn camera performance measures are divided into two sections depending on the operational stage the agency is engaged in during the reporting period. These two sections include the planning section for grantees planning their BWC program and the implementation section for grantees that have started acting on their plan. Grantees can only report in one section each reporting period.

- Of the 74 grantees and subgrantees that reported in the most recent reporting period (July–September 2016), 41 percent ( $n = 30$ ) had no grant activity, and 35 percent ( $n = 26$ ) were in the implementation stage. Twenty-four percent ( $n = 18$ ) of grantees indicated that they were in the planning stage.

<sup>3</sup> Does not include subgrant awards.

<sup>4</sup> Includes awards marked as not operational, awards that did not report in the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT), and awards that did not have any planning or implementation activity. Awards marked not operational in this reporting period may have achieved key planning and implementation objectives in previous reporting periods.

**Figure 1. Map of BWC Sites by Category**



- Of the 70 awards issued, 40 percent of grantees ( $n = 28$ ) were in Category 3, followed by 26 percent ( $n = 18$ ) in Category 2, 24 percent ( $n = 17$ ) in Category 4, and 10 percent ( $n = 7$ ) in Category 1.

### Performance Measure Review<sup>5</sup>

Tables 3, 4, and 5 represent active grantees and subgrantees reporting in the implementation phase and span the two reporting periods from April–September 2016.

- Table 3, below, shows the number of body-worn cameras proposed to be purchased and purchased by grantees and subgrantees using BJA funds.

<sup>5</sup> Grantees can use Tables 3, 4, and 5 to compare their reported values to the program overall. Numbers in the Total column are the total combined value of all grantees. Numbers in the Minimum Value column represent the smallest number reported by a grantee, and numbers in the Maximum Value column represent the largest. The Average (Mean) column is calculated by dividing the total by the number of grantees and subgrantees ( $N$ ).

**Table 3. Cameras Purchased and Cameras Planned to be Purchased**

Key Performance Measure	N	Total	Average (Mean)	Range	
				Minimum	Maximum
<b>Cameras Planned to be Purchased<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>30</b>	<b>14,157</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5,800</b>
Category 1 (Large Agencies)	5	10,325	2,065	500	5,800
Category 2 (Medium Agencies)	3	1,433	478	300	628
Category 3 (Small Agencies)	10	869	87	20	185
Category 4 (Expansion)	12	1,530	128	25	217
<b>Cameras Purchased Using BJA Funds</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,330</b>
Category 1 (Large Agencies)	5	4,096	819	0	1,330
Category 2 (Medium Agencies)	3	1,578	526	0	1,064
Category 3 (Small Agencies)	10	530	53	0	185
Category 4 (Expansion)	12	1,796	150	0	1,000

**Table 4. Officers Deemed Eligible for BWCs**

	N	Total	Average (Mean)	Range	
				Minimum	Maximum
Category 1 (Large Agencies)	5	21,159	4,232	2,400	7,000
Category 2 (Medium Agencies)	3	1,804	601	427	845
Category 3 (Small Agencies)	10	976	98	30	215
Category 4 (Expansion)	12	4,958	413	49	1,750
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28,897</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>7,000</b>

- Table 4, above, shows the number of sworn positions deemed eligible by the local agency for body-worn cameras, while table 5 shows the number of officers proposed to receive body-worn cameras. Table 4 represents individual officers, while the cameras can be used by more than one officer across multiple shifts.

<sup>6</sup> This is the total number of cameras that grantees listed in their grant application to purchase. Some agencies may exceed the number of cameras they plan to purchase, while other grantees may not achieve that number. Grantees are allowed to adjust their baseline in the PMT report.

**Table 5. Officers Proposed to Receive BWCs through Grant**

	N	Total	Average (Mean)	Range	
				Minimum	Maximum
Category 1 (Large Agencies)	5	10,325	2,065	500	5,800
Category 2 (Medium Agencies)	3	1,392	464	300	587
Category 3 (Small Agencies)	10	833	83	25	175
Category 4 (Expansion)	12	1,596	133	25	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>14,146</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>5,800</b>

## Community Outreach

**Figure 2. Outreach Efforts**

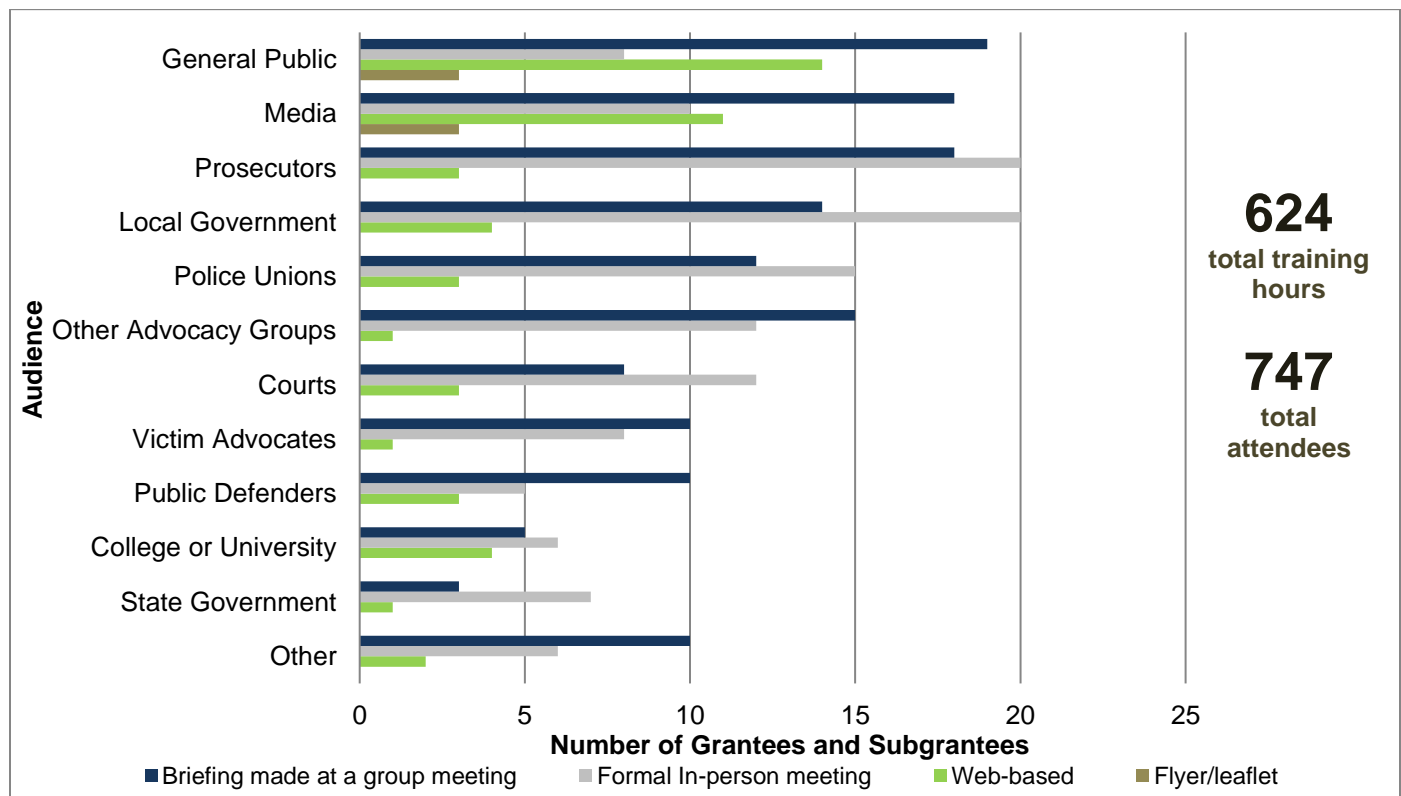


Figure 2, above, outlines the number of grantees and subgrantees that conducted outreach to the community, criminal justice partners, or other outside organizations regarding officers’ use of body-worn cameras. Sixty-five percent of active grantees and subgrantees indicated that they conducted some sort of outreach during the July–September 2016 reporting period. Agencies may choose not to engage in outreach during all reporting periods, and outreach is expected to be higher when agencies are in the planning phase and reaching out to the community and stakeholders to get input and buy-in on body-worn camera policies.

**Figure 3. Body-Worn Camera Footage Use**

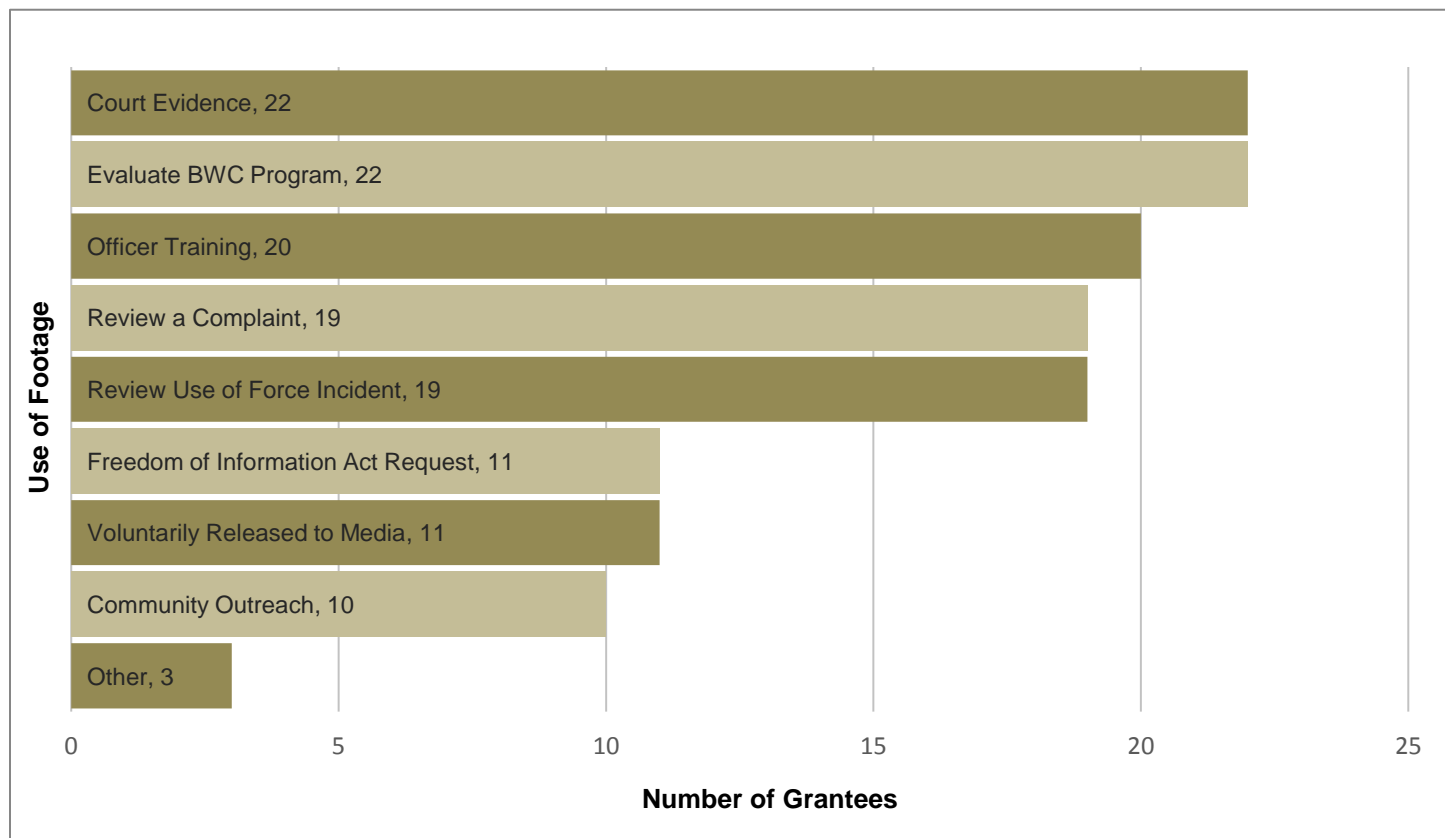


Figure 3, above, outlines the reasons for using body-worn camera footage reported by grantees and subgrantees. Grantees and subgrantees most often report using the camera footage for evaluating the BWC program and as court evidence.