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00:00:00,580 --> 00:00:05,280

KRISTEN MAHONEY: Hello, and welcome to the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance

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body-worn camera toolkit.

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National events have highlighted the importance of reducing crime,

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improving public safety, and increasing officer safety.

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Ongoing dialogue about these issues has revealed that in many communities

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law enforcement agencies have implemented sound and promising practices

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that have contributed to safer and stronger communities.

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To that point,

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law enforcement agencies are using body worn cameras

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as a tool to improve interactions with the public,

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improve officer training, help ensure officer training,

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and as a useful evidentiary

tool investigations of serious and violent crimes.

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Preliminary evidence

indicates the presence of body worn cameras

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backed by robust used policies helps

strengthen legal cases, reduces community complaints,

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and decreases use of force incidents

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resulting in more constructive encounters between

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the police and

the members of the community they serve.

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However, implementation of a body worn

camera program presents significant opportunities

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and challenges.

Here at the Bureau of Justice Assistance,

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we want to ensure that we do everything possible

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to support law enforcement and justice agencies

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as they implement body worn camera programs in a thoughtful and effective way

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that builds upon best practices

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with input from both criminal justice and community stakeholders.

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Keeping with our commitment and overall mission of supporting law enforcement

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this toolkit is designed to provide assistance with technology

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and demonstrate examples of sound and promising implementation.

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It also provides a wealth of resources that recognizes the critical factor

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that collaboration plays between law enforcement

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and stakeholders for
successfully establishing policies

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that address important issues such as when to record,

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training, investigatory use, and implementation.

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00:02:00,360 --> 00:02:03,620

This dynamic website
consolidates and translates

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00:02:03,620 --> 00:02:07,300

the latest and most advanced
information on promising practices

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00:02:07,300 --> 00:02:10,840

and provides templates
and tools gathered from the field

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00:02:10,840 --> 00:02:14,920

surrounding
implementation, training, funding, and policy.

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I urge you to
browse the rich content of the toolkit.

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Because the needs of law enforcement
and local communities are ever-changing,

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we will continue to update the
toolkit so that it is responsive to your needs.

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Thank you, to all the organizations that
provided resources to make this toolkit a reality

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and more importantly, thank you,
for all your dedication to help keep our nation safe.