

OFFICE OF PLANNING

CITY OF HOUSTON

Annise Parker
Mayor

HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Charles A. McClelland, Jr.
Chief of Police

STATUS REPORT AND FINDINGS

BODY WORN CAMERAS



OFFICE OF PLANNING
MR. LARRY J. YUM, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
APRIL 2014

CITY OF HOUSTON

INTER OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Charles A. McClelland, Jr.
Chief of Police

FROM: Larry J. Yium, Deputy Director
Office of Planning

VIA: M. I. Montalvo, Executive Assistant Chief
Office of the Chief of Staff

DATE: April 30, 2014

SUBJECT: **Status Report and Findings from Field
Test of 100 Body Worn Cameras
COP# 12-44028**

Introduction

After an earlier and smaller pilot project, the Department started a large scale field test phase of body worn cameras (BWC) in mid-December, 2013. This test was the second phase of the department's goal to provide this technology to all uniformed officers. The test consisted of deploying one hundred (100) cameras throughout various uniformed divisions. The Viewu LE2 camera system was selected for this phase of the overall BWC program, primarily from the results of the initial pilot project and for the system's capability of integrating with the department's current in-car video system.

The purpose of the field test was to determine the following:

- Operational issues/ officer acceptance
- Refinement of policy and guidelines after actual experience
- Determine the infrastructure impact on the department's information network from the deployment of the cameras

The Houston Police Department has already determined earlier the value of adding this technology to its operation. The value comes in terms of accountability to the public, supporting the actions of officers, and improving training. As such, detailed enumerations of these issues are not included in this report.

Executive Summary

After initial reluctance by the officers, there was widespread acceptance of BWC by the officers. The quality and usability of the videos improved, as officers became more familiar with the devices, their placement on the uniform, and their uses. Additional refinement to the related policies and obtaining the latest technology are part of the next steps. Information from other large law enforcement agencies and the BWC market indicates that this is still a fast evolving field. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] However, there was nothing in the field test that the department should reconsider its original plan for widespread deployment of these devices. Funding should be sought for both the devices and the infrastructure needed to support this program. HPD should evaluate the newest technology available in BWC. The key for the future success of this initiative is that there is sufficient

infrastructure in terms of band width throughout the department to timely download, store, and retrieve the data.

Field Test Parameters

As approved in the first report on BWC, this phase had four leads. Planning was tasked with examining issues arising from the study, the evaluation process, and reporting of the outcome of the field test. Technology Services was responsible for the acquisition of the BWC, the training of officers on the use and infrastructure management. Legal Services developed the policies. Assistant Chief John Chen chaired a working group overseeing the implementation that consisted of representatives from across the department, the employee union, and the District Attorney's Office. Captain Michael Skillern was responsible for the operational implementation of the program. Captain Skillern's report is included as Attachment A. The findings from surveys and focus groups of the officers using the BWC are included as Attachment B.

The BWC were issued to a cross section of the uniformed officers on various shifts. The purpose of this distribution was to determine the assignments where the BWC were best utilized and to determine any operational concerns in the various areas. The assignments included officers assigned to Traffic Enforcement; Central-patrol, tactical, gang, and warrant execution; North-patrol and tactical; Special Operations-all shifts and mounted; and Gang-CRU. The assignments were based partially on the availability and band width of the data infrastructure to receive downloads of the captured video. The initial cost for this phase was approximately \$155,000 with funding coming from asset forfeiture proceeds. The funding covered the costs for the cameras, associated equipment, infrastructure requirements, and overtime.

Preliminary Findings

Overall, there were five significant issues/determinations that occurred during the field test. These issues demonstrate that infrastructure considerations are just as important determinants to the deployment as the camera technology itself. These were:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Operationally, these were the significant findings:

- After initial reluctance by officers, there was general acceptance by the officers of BWC, especially after video was captured that showed how it could benefit officers in their work.
- Post surveys and interviews shows that most officers found the BWC easy to use; citizens often changed their behavior upon becoming aware of the camera; and officers said that it did not substantially change the way they policed.
- Concerns about the actual BWC devices include:
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - Remembering to turn the camera on-many officers noted that in a stressful or quick developing situations, they either forgot to turn on the BWC or worried about it rather than immediately handling the scene.
 - [REDACTED]
- Concerns about retention of video captured include:
 - Applicability of the "Michael Morton Act" regarding the preservation of evidence for both the District Attorney and the Municipal Courts.
 - [REDACTED]
 - Retention time for different scenarios.
 - [REDACTED] and public information/discovery request issues.

In terms of policy, the cameras have not been deployed long enough to totally ferret out how the interim policy fully addresses all of the issues. However, decisions were made regarding the type of technology desired in future camera acquisitions, which affects the policy. These decisions include:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Ongoing Activities

- The BWC issued are continued to be deployed and in use by the various units. Assistant Chief Chen and Capt. Skillern are bringing forth issues for resolution, as they arise.

- The department is monitoring the use of BWC on the national level, as the technology, usage, retention, and associated legal issues are evolving issues with multiple opinions and alternatives. This was confirmed last month when Planning hosted a telephone conference with the DC Metro Police on this subject with over twenty five Major Cities Chiefs agencies participating.
- A Request for Information was issued last month to see the market's latest products and capabilities. Responses are being received and evaluated.
- [REDACTED] This should be available in the next thirty days.

Recommendations & Next Steps

- Seek funding from all potential sources for additional BWC and infrastructure improvements.
- Concurrent with the acquisition of additional BWC, the department should take the necessary steps to expand its data transmissions infrastructure (bandwidth and downloading capabilities). This will ensure that when additional BWC are acquired, there will be no delays in deployment, due to the lack of infrastructure at the stations.
- Continue to work through the retention and access of captured data; determine if the use of Video Disposition Officers in each division is the most effective means to address this issue.
- Refine the process of providing captured video for discovery and public information requests, especially for third parties. Address the issue of redaction of persons captured in video. Ft. Worth Police Department, which has the largest BWC deployment in Texas, indicated they are hiring additional civilian staff to respond to these types of requests.
- Formalize the current interim policy into a general order; address the process for supervisory/management review of the video captured.



Larry J. Yium, Deputy Director
Office of Planning

ljl:ljl

ATTACHMENT A

CITY OF HOUSTON

INTER OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Charles A. McClelland, Jr.
Chief of Police

FROM: M. L. Skillern, Captain
Body Worn Camera Committee

VIA: J. H. Chen, Assistant Chief
Staff Services Command

DATE: April 28, 2014

SUBJECT: **Executive Summary-Body Worn
Camera Pilot**

In mid-December of 2013, the Houston Police Department set out on an extensive test of Body Worn Cameras (BWCs). The department purchased 100 units and the associated software which intergraded with the current in-car video system. Officers selected for the program were from a cross section of patrol, tactical units, warrant execution units, bicycle officers, mounted officers and traffic units. Officers were trained in both operation and policy in a one day session, then instructed to begin using their devices.

Initial feedback from the officers received during the training was much less than positive. Officers were concerned about many things, some of the most prevalent concerns were:

1. The department is now going to watch every call I am on and initiate an investigation into any small thing they see wrong.
2. Sometimes what may otherwise be considered inappropriate language in most settings will be necessary, considering the situation. The department is now going to "ding" me whenever this happens.
3. I sometimes may forget to turn it on. The department is going to come after me every time this happens.

During the training, the officers were told that the device is more to protect them than anything. That although there will be a supervisory review put into place, just as is currently done with MDC transmissions, nobody is going to be watching all of their videos and looking for violations. Also, reasonableness will be used in judging officers' actions in any situation when an incident is being reviewed. Further, as with any new technology, it will take some time getting used to and if they fail to initially turn on the camera, to do so as soon as they remember.

With these instructions and direction, the officers set out to use their devices. In reviewing the early videos, it was clear that there was a learning curve [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] However, in all instances the audio was found to be excellent and did aide in determining what happened on the scene. After a few weeks, it was found that most of the officers adapted well to using the camera and took steps to capture better footage. Officers would alter the way they mounted the devices, stood differently at scenes and illuminated more area in an effort to get a clearer picture of what was transpiring. It was also found that some

officers would narrate their entire scene, from the initial encounter, through any arrest or vehicle search and up until the final disposition of the call so a stronger court case could be made.

At the end of 70 days, a survey was pushed out for the officers to take online. Eighty of the participants responded and the results can be found attached. In summary, most of the respondents found the devices easy to use. They also found citizens changed their behavior more often than not when becoming aware of the camera. Conversely, most of the officers stated it did not change the way they policed.

Following the survey, the officers were asked to attend a "live feedback" session to discuss the BWCs. During these sessions, we found that of the officers who came, their attitudes had changed markedly from the initial training. Officers largely reported liking having the cameras and that it captured their daily events. There were some complains about the devices, both from the survey and the live feedback sessions. The recurring ones are detailed below.

- 1. [REDACTED]
- 2. [REDACTED]
- 3. [REDACTED]
- 4. Forgetting to turn on. Many officers noted that in stressful or quick developing situations, they either forgot to turn on their BWC or found themselves worrying about it rather than immediately handling the scene. This however, as with any new item, should dissipate over time as officers become accustomed to having a BWC.
- 5. [REDACTED]

No specific group had any issues with the device not found by others, with the exception of traffic units noting that the selected device often did not have [REDACTED]

Additional Factors Discovered During the Trial

Discovery issues were on the forefront of many of the discussions during the trial. The recent passage of the "Michael Morton Act", causing all evidence associated with any offense needing to be turned over to the defense became an issue. How it relates to BWC videos is that on any scene associated with a prosecution, any video taken by any officer will need to be added to the case file and indicated so in the report. If this did not happen, it was feared the integrity of the case could be compromised for failing to comply with the new discovery law. Safeguards were

put in place to prevent this from happening. First, the policy clearly states that every officer on the scene is responsible for either listing in their report that a BWC recording exists or ensuring the primary unit states so in their report. Second, WIRES was modified to have a check box indicating whether or not video evidence exists. The Harris County District Attorney's office was made aware of both of these departmental requirements in an attempt to help them locate which crimes may have video evidence. Additionally, a list was sent weekly from HPD to the DA's office of every case in which we had a BWC video attached to a case number. The DA's office then cross referenced this with their list of cause numbers and incident report numbers to make sure no cases were missed.

Another issue that arose was prosecutors and DA investigators having access to the videos they needed for prosecution. As a short term solution, each division which used or could potentially need BWC videos had a person trained, a Video Disposition Officer, who was able to view and make copies of the videos. The prosecutors and DA investigators were then able to contact the division concerned or the patrol station of origin and obtain a copy of any video they [REDACTED]

Retention was also a topic of discussion. Videos that are tagged (marked in the download system) in association with any crime, are automatically retained in association with the statute of limitations for that offence. At that point, much like is currently done with tagged property, they then come up for deletion. A division will then make the decision to hold the video for longer or allow it to be deleted. Videos not associated with any specific crime, such as a disturbance cleared information or a false burglar alarm are set for automatic deletion after 90 days. This will greatly help our issue of storage and video management.

Municipal citation videos were another issue that arose. Meetings with Judge Harttle were held to ascertain the Municipal Courts position of video retention for traffic stops and how the "Michael Morton Act" applied. It was their position that all videos associated with any municipal violations should be kept indefinitely, regardless of storage costs. It was finally agreed upon that a 2 year retention period would be appropriate for municipal violations.

Video storage space and solutions were also discussed. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] No determination was made as of the date of this letter as to which solution would be best for the department.

Conclusions/Recommendations

Overall, the BWC test was very successful. The major lessons learned were that although initially skeptical of their use, officers became not only accustomed to using the device but most were happy to have it as an additional tool. This was proven by more than one officer being questioned or investigated about an incident and the video proving their side of the encounter. Conversations with union personnel indicated the same perspective. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Ways were found to make sure the DA's were aware of the

existence of video evidence and get that evidence to them in the most efficient manner. Also, a good system of retention and video deletion was set in place which will both satisfy the legal requirements of discovery as well as help with the departments storage costs.

In summary, the committee recommends that the program not only continue, but expand to include every uniformed officer within the department, as funds permit. However, the committee does see the need for [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Finally, the draft policy, which has been vetted by legal, should be codified into a General Order. We continue to move forward with the project and will keep you continually updated on its progress.

M. L. Skillern

Digitally signed by M. L. Skillern
DN: cn=M. L. Skillern, o=MPD News Division,
ou=Captain,
email=M.L.Skillern@mpdnewsdivision.org, c=US
Date: 2014.04.28 12:46:00 -0700

M. L. Skillern, Captain
Body Worn Camera Committee

mls:mls

Handwritten signature with a circled initial and the date 4-28-14.

ATTACHMENT B

Houston Police Department
Body Worn Cameras Survey Details
100 Cameras 70 Days
Exhibit C

Prepared by
Office of Planning
Sergeant Stephen Morrison Ph.D.

March 18, 2014

Body Worn Cameras Survey Details

During the second week of December 2013, approximately 100 officers were issued Body Worn Cameras (BWC). 70 days later these officers were asked to complete a survey concerning the use of the BWC. Additionally these officers were asked to attend meetings held during the first week of March 2014. During these meetings these officers were asked to report the observations on the BWC in an open forum. They were asked to report the positives and the negatives of the BWC. The following is a report on the results of the survey as well as the group meetings.

Participant Departmental Assignments

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Traffic Enforcement | 10 |
| Central Days | 7 |
| Central TACT | 2 |
| Central DGU | 2 |
| Central Evenings | 6 |
| Central Nights | 6 |
| Central WET Unit | 2 |
| North Days | 6 |
| North Evenings | 7 |
| North Nights | 8 |
| North TACT | 8 |
| S.O. Days | 2 |
| S.O. Evenings | 4 |
| S.O. Nights | 2 |
| S.O. Mounted | 2 |
| CRU | 28 |

As of 3/5/2014 – **80 officers completed the online survey** – below are the results obtained from responses to the survey. The survey was posted on Survey Monkey Web page and officers were provided a link to the Web page and requested to participate.

Question 1. How many years do you currently have on the department?

Average number of years with the department for the respondents: 7.67 years

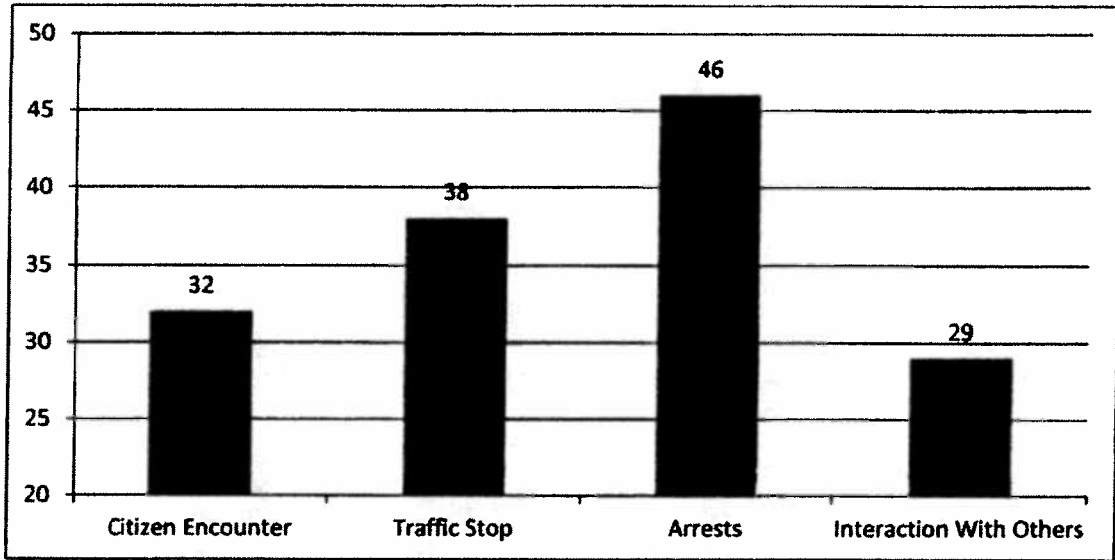
Question 2. What is your current age?

Average age of respondents: 34.5 years of age.

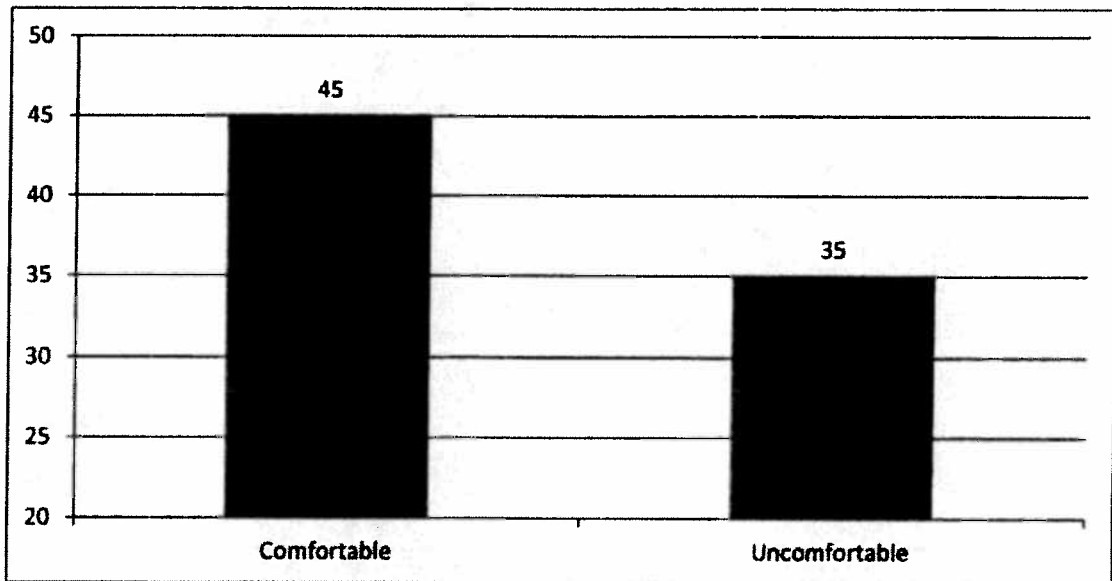
Question 3. Did you find the BWC was easy to use?

No = 6 Yes = 73

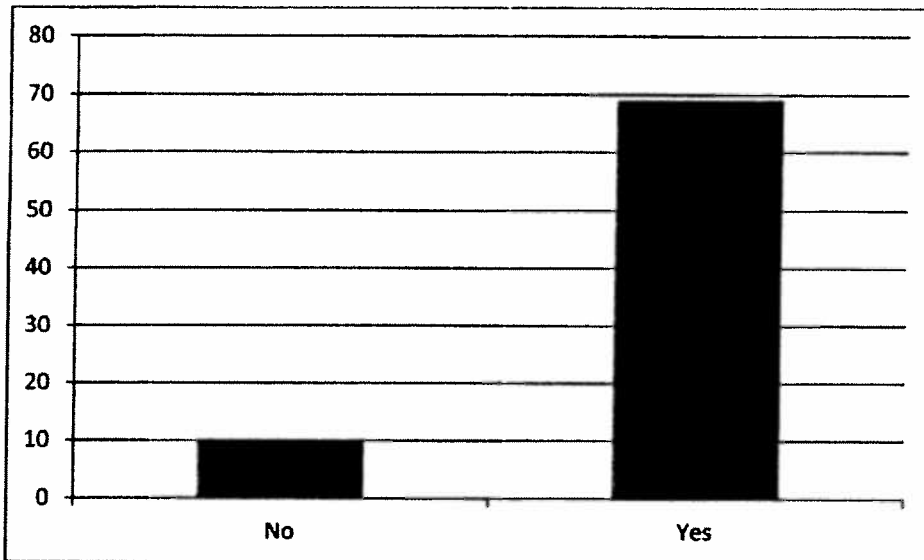
Question 4. What activities did you find that the BWC was the most useful? Check all that apply.



Question 5. When wearing the BWC, did it feel comfortable or uncomfortable?



Question 6. Was the training provided in the use of the BWC adequate/helpful?



Question 7. Do you have any thoughts for improvement to this particular BWC?

No = 27

Some responses as follows:

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- Discipline related to use
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- Mounting location
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

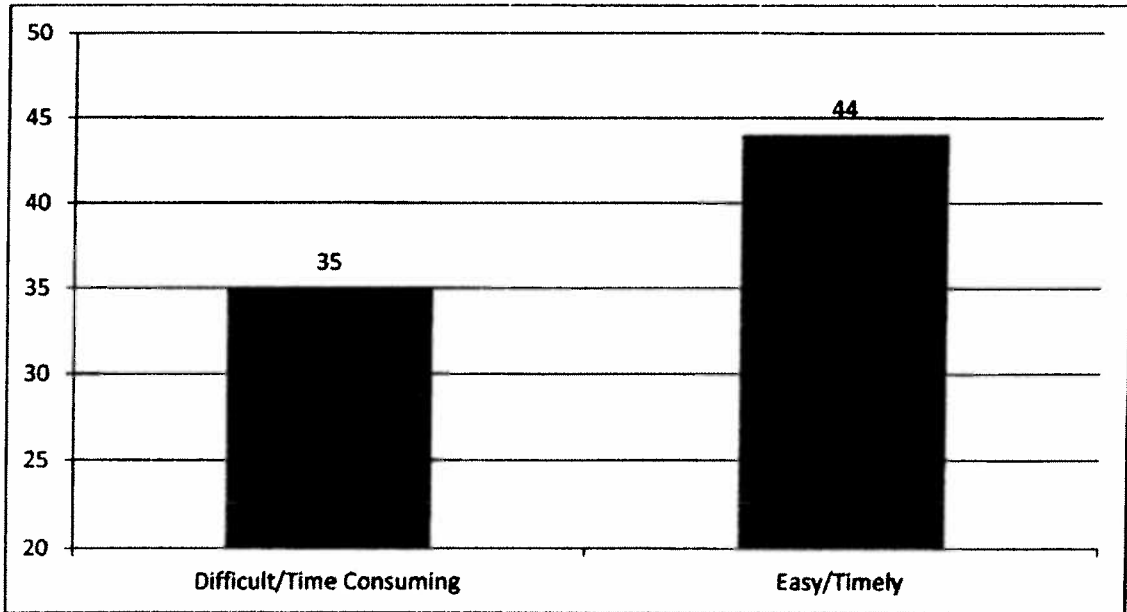
Question 8. What activities or during what occasions did you find that the BWC was the least useful or problematic?

No Answer or Comment = 12

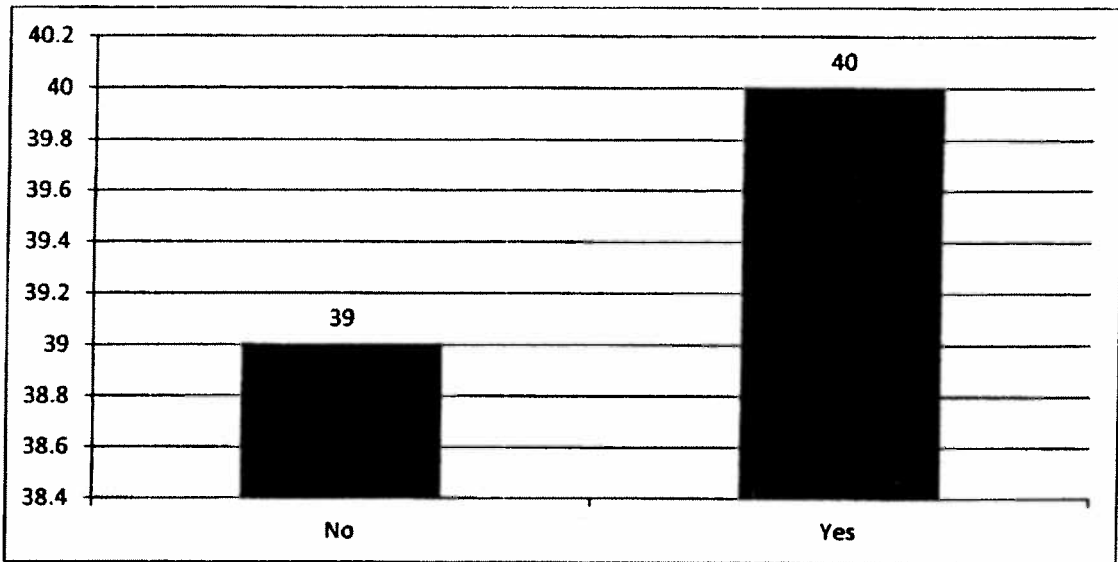
Some responses as follows:

- [REDACTED]
- When using discretion
- [REDACTED]
- Situations where there was no time to think about turning on the camera
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Rain
- Struggling with suspect
- Foot chase
- Getting out of car – camera pulled off several times.

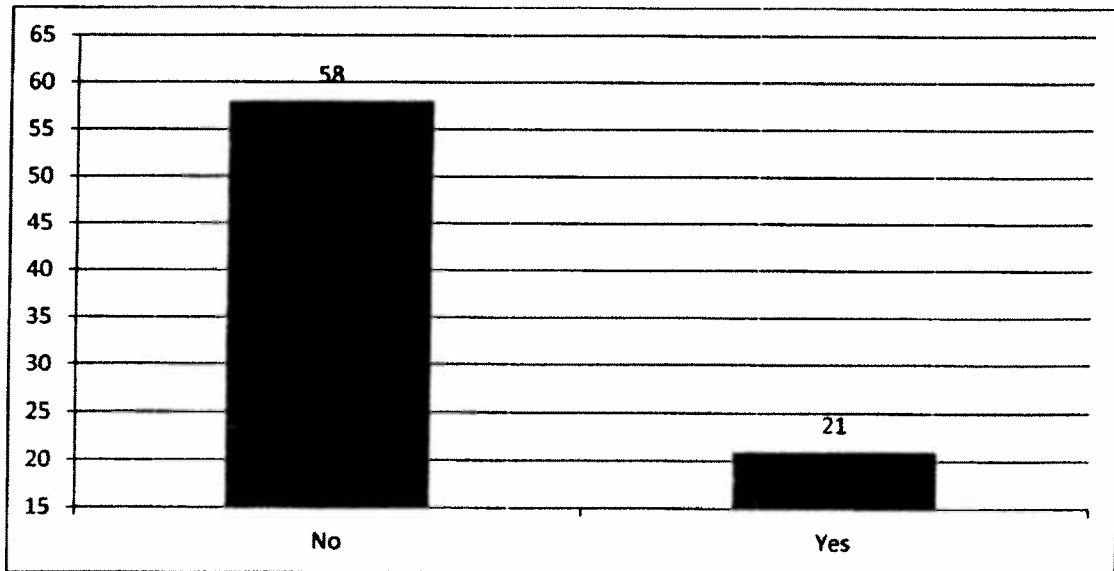
Question 9. When down loading the data at the end of your shift, did you find the process?



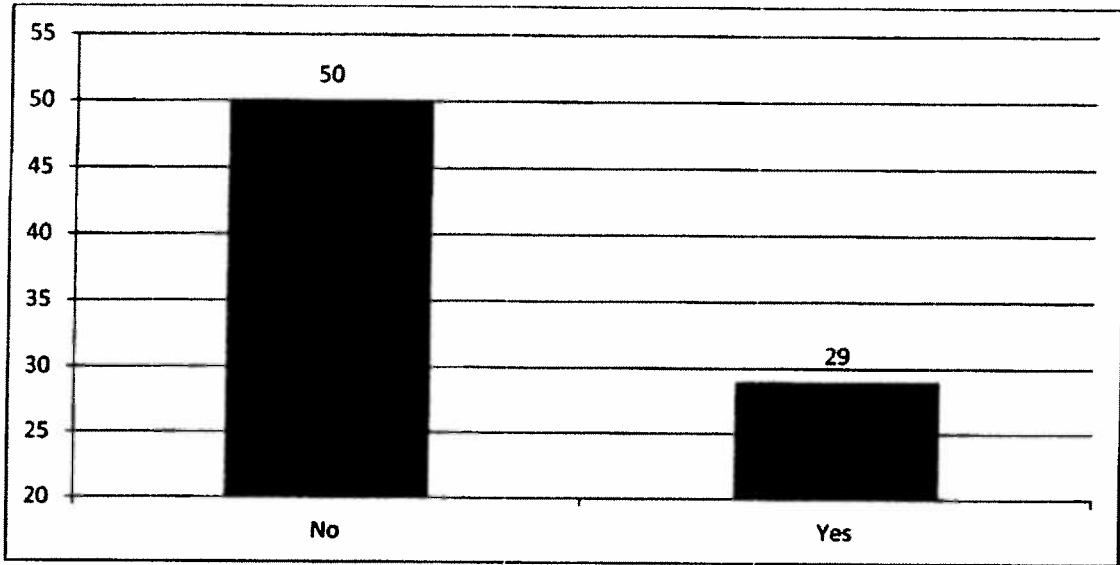
Question 10. Did you have an occasion in which a citizen became aware of the BWC and their demeanor changed?



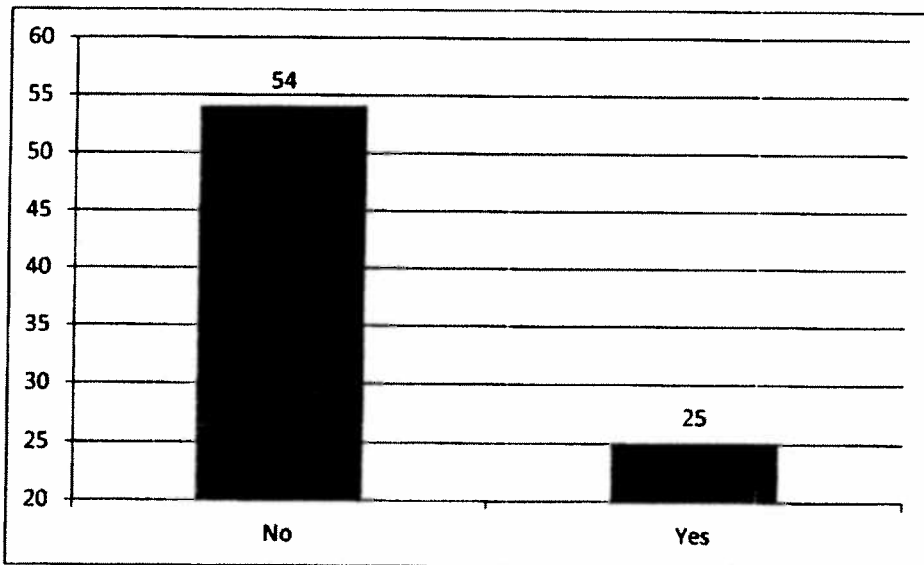
Question 11. Did you feel safer while wearing the BWC?



Question 12. Did you find yourself policing differently due to the fact that the interaction (function of policing) was being recorded?



Question 13. Police officers have to be willing to challenge those they encounter violating the law. Do you feel there was a reduction in level of challenge due to the body camera being present?



Question 14. Did the BWC ever create what you perceived as an Officer Safety issue?
Enter No, If Yes please explain.

No = 49

Responses 31 – Verbatim

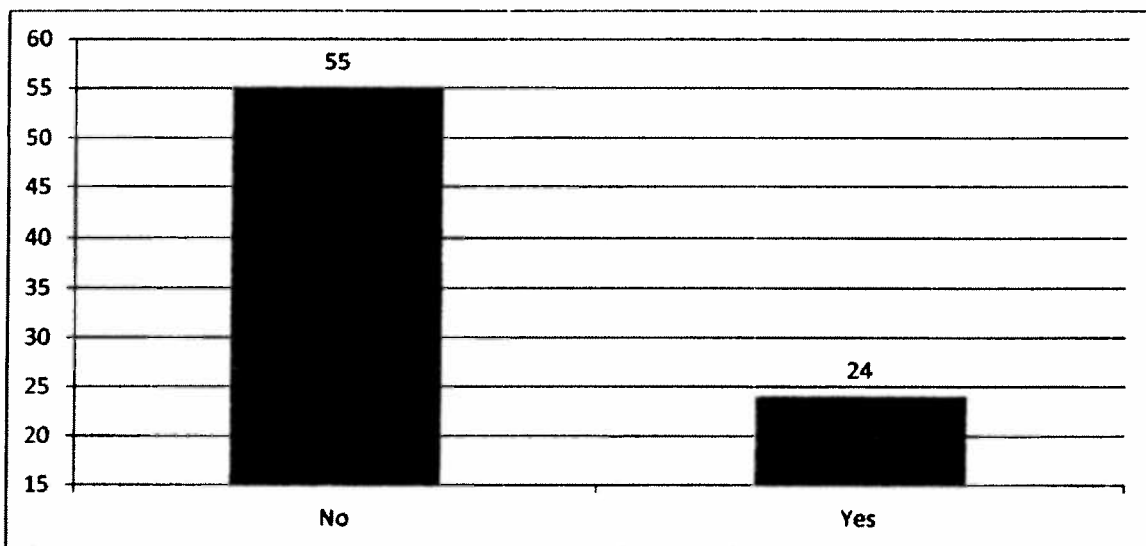
- YES. TIMES WHERE I THINK THE SUSPECT WOULD RESPOND MORE COMPLIANT WITH HARSH WORDS
- yes remembering to turn on the camera during a physical altercation
- I found myself distracted by the camera. While nothing bad has happened yet, it's critical that officers are not distracted by any of their equipment when on scenes.
- Only if patrol officers help with undercover or federal agents. They may not deal with them enough to remember to not record those interactions.
- [REDACTED]
- Very difficult to use around Tactical Units due to amount of time they are plainclothes.
- I performed a felony stop on a stolen veh. Because of the new use of force policy and the fact I had a BWC my partner and I had to ask officers to assist us and go hands after we called the susp out. The officers stayed at their shops behind us instead of jumping in and helping as they have always done in the past.
- yes. being forced to remember it when i should be concentrating on a call that's dangerous before i arrive
- Yes. Refer to previous statement. Can't stand in bladed stance when speaking with people.
- I was worry about losing it when chasing someone and damaging it while working.
- Some officers act differently when they know the camera is on their scene and they compromise officer safety.
- when we are approaching a vehicle and the persons are moving around. on foot chases.
- YES... WHEN A FEMALE EXITED HER CAR AND BEGAN DIGGING IN HER BACK SEAT DURING A TRAFFIC STOP, I DID NOT STOP TO TURN THE CAMERA ON. WHEN SHE WAS SECURED, I SIMPLY FORGOT TO TURN THE CAMERA ON AND WAS DISCIPLINED FOR IT.
- i found myself paying attention to the camera when i was making contact with people
- No, besides the fact that I've accidently had it on when I've used the bathroom.
- YES IT CAN. IT CAN CAUSE AN OFFICER TO SECOND GUESS A DECISION TO REACT IN A SLOWER MANNER INSTEAD OF USING THEIR NATURAL REACTIONS.
- Yes, I hear from my fellow officers that wearing the BWC makes them more cautious in taking subduing or dealing with the citizens even if they're not doing anything wrong, because they are afraid that "big brother is watching" and any small thing can be used as an excuse to burn them.
- It again is burdensome, adding to the already long list of things we need to remember on the go. (ie., being concerned with turning it on instead of dealing with a threat or situation in front of us.
- Yes. Having to remember to activate a camera when engaging in a foot pursuit, ending a car chase or approaching a vehicle in a traffic stop reduces focus on the task at hand.
- Yes, I find that sometimes speaking politically correct and the "yes sir, no ma'am" does not work for individuals who do not understand that language.
- Yes, I got out of the vehicle and had to make sure the camera was on instead watching the suspect as i got out of the patrol car.
- yes. [REDACTED]
- yes, In certain situations i have to use certain tone of voice to get the attention of a person and with the camera recording it seems if i raise my voice or show initiative in an arrest

decision the person watching the recording may be critical of the actions taken

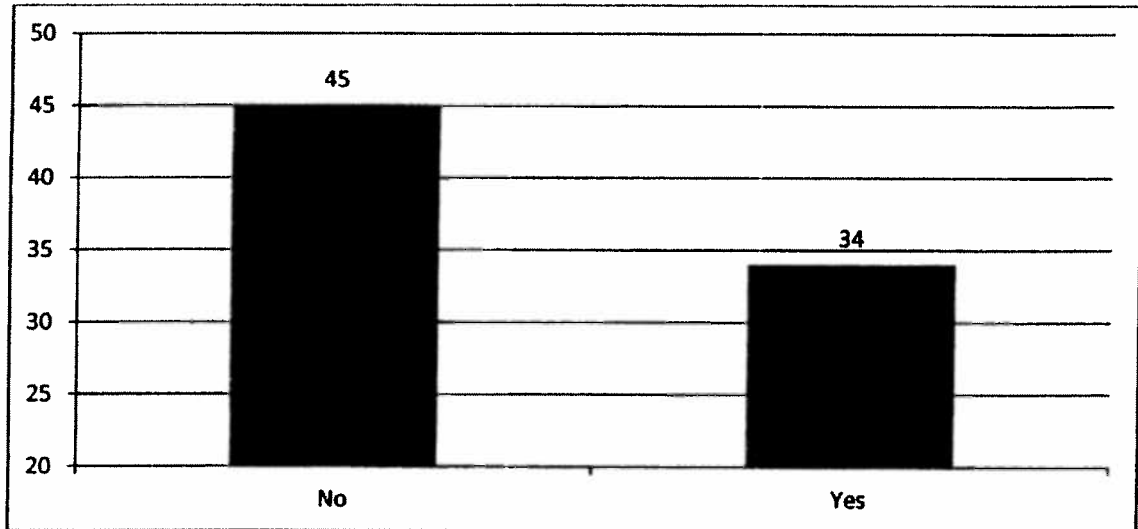
- YES I GOT IN A FOOT CHASE AND FOUND MY SELF THINKING ABOUT TURNING THE CAMERA ON INSTEAD OF THINKING OF THE TASK AT HAND. I HAD TO TAKE TIME TO TELL MYSELF TO KEEP DOING WHAT I WAS DOING AND WORRY ABOUT THE CAMERA LATER. I CAN SEE THE SAME THING HAPPENING IN OTHER MORE SERIOUS INCIDENTS.
- Yes, officers are clearly less likely to check by. I have not been in a situation where I needed back-up and none was present but the opportunity is there for such an incident.
- I think that it causes officers who realize that they are being recorded to be much slower to use the necessary amount of force, because they seem to worry about whether or not they are justified.
- NO. ONLY PERSONEL PRIVACY ISSUES WITH ACCIDENTAL ACTIVATION OF CAMERA.
- yes, there are times when officers should turn the camera off to discuss how they conducted their investigation which is information that should be kept between officers only
- NOT FOR ME, BECAUSE I WILL ALWAYS PUT MY SAFETY FIRST BEFORE WORRYING ABOUT WHETHER THE CAMERA IS ON OR NOT
- Since my primary duty is traffic enforcement, the BWC is (in my opinion) a major safety hazard. I understand that it can be a valuable tool by recording the interaction with the public on each stop, but it does require me to place myself in harm's way if I intend to secure a good recording angle of the encounter.
- IT KEPT TRYING TO FALL OFF.

Question 15. Were there any occasions in which the BWC malfunctioned – failed to record?

Important question – 30 % reported equipment malfunction over 70 days.



Question 17. Were there any technical issues discovered in the use of the BWC in terms of video quality, ease of use, upload speed or other? Enter No, If Yes please explain.



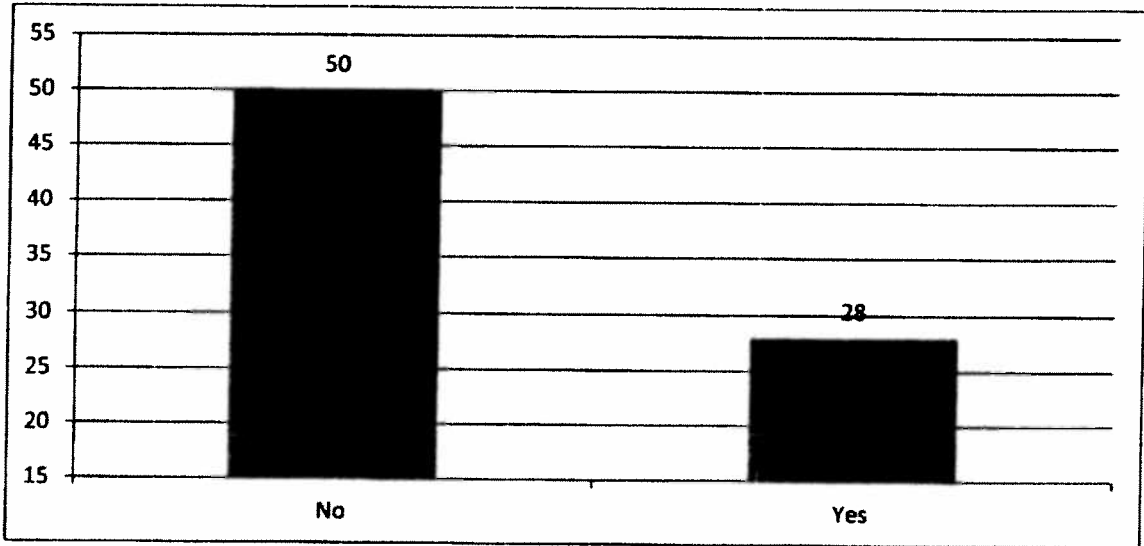
Question 18. Were there any technical issues discovered in the use of the BWC in terms of video quality, ease of use, upload speed or other? Enter No, If Yes please explain.

Received 31 Responses – verbatim:

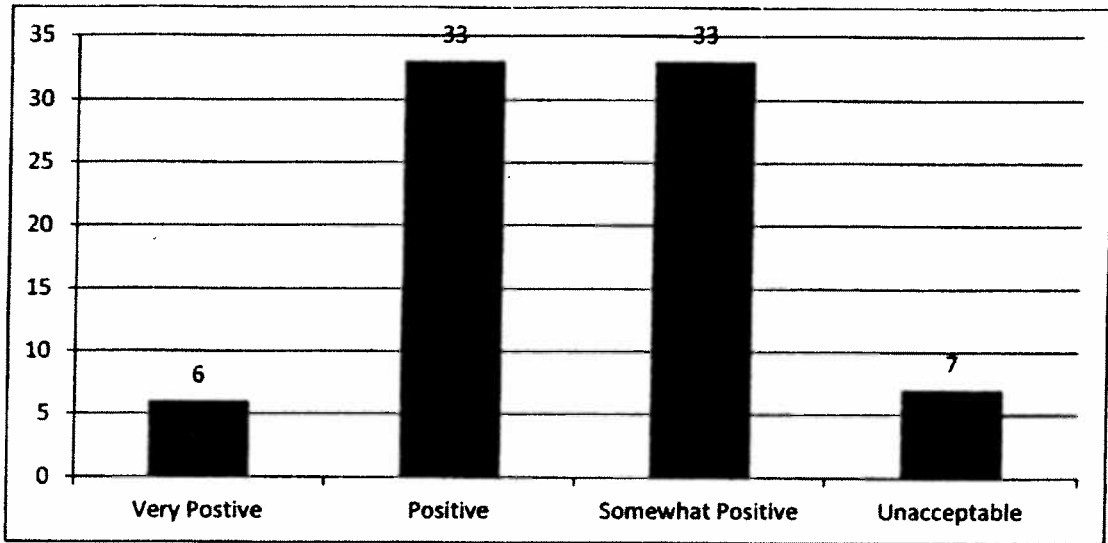
[Redacted verbatim responses]

[REDACTED]

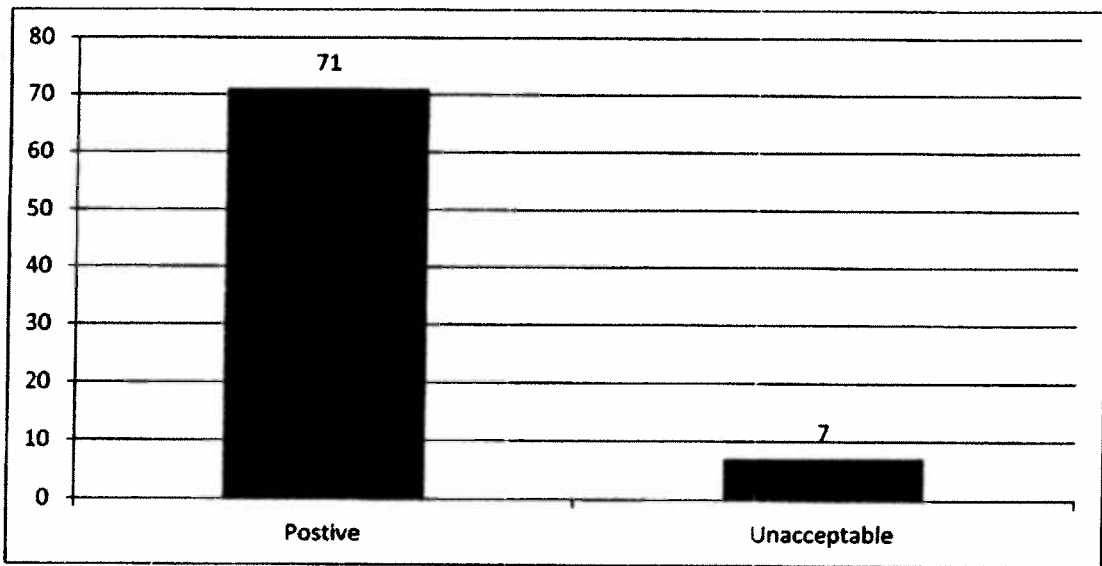
Question 19. Did the BWC ever come off during an altercation or event?



Question 20. Overall how do you rate your BWC experience?



Positive v Unacceptable



Question 21. What parts of the BWC policy should be changed (added or deleted, please explain? Responses are Verbatim.

- TACTICAL UNITS THAT FREQUENTLY USE OUR WRITTEN TACTICS SHOULD NOT BE RECORDED TO KEEP OUR TACTICS FROM THE CRIMINALS WE PURSUE.
- Only for report calls and traffic only
- the camera is just another tool officers will have to be accustom to
- GIVING OFFICERS THE OPTION TO DOWNLOAD VIDEO AT THE START OR TOWARD THE END OF SHIFT.

- all
- [REDACTED]

- Too ambiguous, and too many "unknowns" at the time the police was taught to us. Officers had questions that were simply answered with, "I don't know, we'll have to wait and find out." This is quite un settling when there's possible discipline involved with the unknowns. Officers should have discretion over when to use or not use the camera.
- removing the requirement wearing bwc
- I noticed that in tense and situations that happened very quickly it was tough to remember to activate the camera. My safety and quickly making the arrest took over and no thought of the camera till the active part was done.
- Utilize in extra jobs
- **TRAFFIC STOPS SHOULD NOT HAVE TO BE ENTERED FOR EVERY TICKET. THERE IS ALREADY A LOT OF WORK FOR JUST A TRAFFIC STOP.**
- I feel the policy should change on having it on every citizen contact. I feel like when im trying to talk to someone and they find out I wearing a body camera, they turn away or stop talking. I think its good to have it on when search vehicle, verbal consent and when a scene begins to escalate
- **SHOULD BE LEFT AT STATION AT THE END OF THE SHIFT TO GET CHARGED**
- It would be very helpful and time efficient to be able to upload the camera to the car computer. Shouldn't have to turn it on for every single police/citizen interaction, only those where use of force might be necessary or a complaint may come from the scene.
- Those in proactive units should be able to decide what and when needs to be recorded.
- should be a tool officers can use when needed instead of forced to remember to use
- turning on the body camera on all calls. I feel there's no need to turn them on during minor report calls
- should be able to delete videos that were not meant to be recorded
- [REDACTED]
- docking it the same day. if it is important dock it the same day, if not let a day or two to download.
- We should not have to explain why we are turning the camera on and off during scenes. Its a waist of time and it takes more attention any from our scenes,
- stay same
- **THE CAMERA SHOULD HAVE BEEN TESTED ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS. I WAS ORDERED TO WEAR IT. SINCE THE POLICY IS SO VAGUE AT THE MOMENT, THERE SHOULD BE NO DISCIPLINE. THERE SHOULD ALSO BE A BETTER MOUNTING SYSTEM FOR THIS CAMERA**
- officer discretion.
- the current policy is vague, needs to be more detailed
- I think I accidently mentioned this in question #8. Also more lax time on when to [REDACTED]
- **HAVING THE BWC MAY HAVE OFFICERS SECOND GUESS NATURAL DECISIONS IN FEAR THAT THE BWC WHEN REVIEWED CANNNOT CATCH THE ENTIRE SCENE. IE SOMETIME YOU HAVE TO TALK TO PEOPLE IN A LANGUAGE THEY UNDERSTAND.**
- Officer discretion should be allowed to determine the use of the bwc.
- [REDACTED]
- I have found many instances when the camera is useful. However, I have found just as many that it is a burden. An astute officer knows when the camera is necessary, and when it should be turned on (evidence, use of force, assist in investigation, prove innocence) and should be able to decide when to turn it on- not every single call.
- I think the policy is fine.
- Having to download videos at end of every shift. Having 24 hours, meaning before or after roll call the next shift would be nice as an option on late days.
- **USE AT OFFICERS DISGRETION.**

- if two officers have a camera in the same car both shouldn't have to automatically turn it on.
- I feel the BWC would be useful for officers who are on personnel concerns. Or in select situations that an individual officer may use at his/her own discretion. Other than that, I see the entire program as a waste of our budget and only an effort to appear as if we are trying to keep up with technology.
- I think undercover units like tactical units should not have to wear the cameras. I have only worn my camera twice.
- I think that the policy is adequate from what I have seen so far with the camera.
- Have not had a situation where i needed to question the policy.
- OFFICERS SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO TURN IT ON AT ALL TIMES DURING CITIZEN ENCOUNTER. OFFICERS ARE HUMANS AND MAKE MISTAKES AS WELL SOMETIMES WE FORGET TO TURN THEM ON. WHEN WE REMEMBER AFTER THE FACT OFFICERS FEEL AS IF THEY ARE GOING TO GET BURNED FOR NOT TURNING IT ON.
- [REDACTED]
- In a stressful situation such as a code 1 arrival, it can be easy to forget to turn it on. If this happens, the situation needs to be considered before punishment handed out. As is, the officer seems to be at the mercy of their supervisor.
- Good tactics should always take precedence over activating the camera.
- [REDACTED]
- I THINK THE POLICY IS SOUND AS OF NOW. I BELIEVE THE OFFICER SHOULD ME GIVEN MORE DISCRETION ON WHEN TO USE IT.
- i dont see up to date anything that should be changed about the policy
- DWI TF should not be required to wear it. Most our interactions occur in front of our shops where we already have dash cams and mics. BWC our GREAT when we have to interview suspects at the hospital
- OFFICER SAFETY SHOULD TAKE PRIORITY OVER VIDEO RECORDING. THERE SHOULD NEVER BE ANY KIND OF PUNISHMENT FOR FAILURE TO TURN IT ON OR OFF.
- Uploading at the end of the week would be more convenient.
- I don't think every encounter we should have to turn the camera on. There is no need for a video of me on a barking dog scene. If things escalate I can then turn it on.
- in order to position the camera at an optimum level for traffic stops, I was forced to use the pinned on application instead of the alligator clip. [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- only turn on during arrests

Additionally three different group debriefings were held with officers who participated in the 70 day trial period below are comments are remarks collected during the meetings.

Safety

Question – Any concerns that the camera caused a safety issue. No

Camera on occasions perceived as a distraction – from their primary focus.

Distraction – when thinking about turning it off and on.

Distraction – when it comes off accidentally (unclipped) and efforts are made to retrieve so that officer can comply with policy on use.

[Redacted text block containing multiple lines of blacked-out information, enclosed in brackets.]

Behavioral Change

Behavior – altered their position to capture video of encounter.

Reproduction

[Redacted text block containing blacked-out information, enclosed in brackets.]

Complaints On Officer

Officer arrested female suspect who filed a complaint on the officer. Video reflected officer's version and complaint was found – not sustained.

Complaint came in on officer – complaint alleged officer was abusive and unprofessional. Audio indicated that officer was not abusive and unprofessional.

Evidence of Crime

Officer arrested suspect for Aggravated Robbery – Mirandized suspect and received confession. Collected on BWC

Video documents consent to search. “May I look in the trunk?” “Yes” – captured by BWC

Other Issues

Forgetting to turn off. Capturing personal comments.

Officer gets in trouble for improper conduct not alleged that was discovered in video.

Officers not wearing BWC – not wanting officers with BWC at their scene.

Suggested [REDACTED]