

Police Department Body Worn Camera Pilot Program Update

Public Safety Committee

January 25, 2018



Timeline Background

- Direction from Chief of Police
- Jan 2015 – PD convened exploratory committee
- May 2015 – City Request For Proposals issued
- Jan 2016 – City Council approves Body Worn Camera (BWC) contract with Dell, Inc./Utility Associates, Inc.



Fiscal Impact

- \$210,000 contract
- Funded by a one-time FY15 appropriation
- Included the purchase of:
 - 60 Cameras
 - 45 rocket modems-network components
 - Software applications
 - Cloud storage
 - Training of staff
 - System support to interface with existing PD systems



Pilot Program

- Camera deployment began on Nov 5, 2016
 - 40 Cameras
 - West Division
 - Patrol Officers and Supervisors
 - Watch III – Afternoon Shift
- Operational pilot concluded Nov 4, 2017
- LBPD personnel continue to use BWC in field



Nationwide BWC Efforts

- BWC use in the field varies substantially nationwide
- As of Oct 2017, 63 police departments were contacted regionally; 43 in LA County and 20 in Orange County
 - 17 agencies have permanent contracted programs
 - 8 agencies have pilot programs or have previously tested cameras
 - The remaining 38 agencies have no BWC program at all



Regional LEA Benchmarks

Agency	BWC Program	Vendor	Status/Notes
Glendale	No program	-	-
Pasadena	Full Implementation	Axon	300 cameras/3 FTEs
Santa Monica	Pilot/Tested	Watchguard	2 FTEs
Torrance	Pilot/Tested	Utility	3 FTEs
LAPD	Full Implementation	Axon	4000 cameras/24 FTEs
LASD	Proposed 4 year phase in	4 vendors tested	5,895 cameras/239 FTEs proposed
Anaheim	Full Implementation	Axon	450 cameras/3 FTEs
Santa Ana	Full Implementation	Axon	200 cameras/5 FTEs
Fullerton	Full Implementation	Axon	150 cameras/2 FTEs
OCSD	Pilot/Test Pending	Watchguard/Axon	pending
Newport Beach	No program	-	-
Huntington Beach	Pilot/Testing	Axon	50 cameras/1 FTE



LCPD BWC Program Objectives

- Increase Officer and community accountability
- Reduce injuries to officers
- Reduce community complaints
- Reduce uses of force
- Enhance Investigations



Findings

- Statistically significant reduction in desired program objectives
- **Complaints**
 - 62% reduction for BWC officers during test period
- **Uses of Force**
 - 14% reduction during test period for BWC officers
- **Injuries to Officers**
 - Figures are pending the completion of analysis
- **Enhanced Investigations**
 - IA investigations satisfactorily adjudicated after review of video
- **“Diffused” Beneficial Reductions**
 - 56% fewer complaints across the pilot Division
 - 31% reduction in UOF across the pilot Division



Limitations of Analysis

- Valid comparison group difficult to create
 - Implementation strategy limited to one shift in one Division
 - Created Spatial and Temporal differences
 - West Division different from other three Divisions
 - Nature of police-community interactions different across shifts
- Other external factors may not have been measured
- Randomized experiments were not performed
- Noted reductions do support previous research
- Supplemental analysis required to ensure findings are robust



Lessons Learned

- Program cannot be successfully run without dedicated FTEs
- Policy is critically important
 - Clear (what is and is not expected)
 - Known (training widely available)
 - Enforced (compliance monitored)



Pilot Performance Evaluation

- **Advantages of Program**

- Notable apparent achievement of program objectives
- Does not require additional investments to city infrastructure
- Can expand for full West Division deployment (roughly 25% of city geographic) with reasonable cost outlay

- **Drawbacks of Program**

- Full city-wide BWC program implementation is costly
- Competes for resources needed to implement other critical technology mandates that are unfunded
- Existing technology improvements warrant additional testing
- BWC program requires permanent PD budget enhancement for FTEs to successfully support the program



Next Steps

- Full report to City Council expected to be ready in Feb/March
- Options and recommendations will be presented



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