



BODY-WORN CAMERA

Fact Sheet



Basic Information about Body Camera Systems

- A body camera would be a small box or lens worn by the officer. Different camera systems may be worn on the front of the officer's uniform or attached to the officer's shoulder.
- The cameras record video and sound from the officer's location.



How Body Cameras Could Be Used



- Cameras are expected to be used during any enforcement action:
 - Making arrests or stopping people on the street
 - Giving citations, writing tickets, or giving warnings
- Body Cameras could be turned on any time the officer feels they are needed to safeguard themselves or the department.
- Body Cameras could record even if officers are away from their vehicle.

Possible Benefits of Camera Use

Could improve officer accountability and increase transparency of police actions with the community

Could result in improved citizen behavior if they know the officers are recording them

Would provide video to be used as evidence in court and could improve conviction rates

Could improve officer behavior and increase civility with citizens

Would allow supervisors to review officers' contacts with the public and could more easily and quickly resolve complaints

Supervisors could also review officers' actions and improve performance through training

Potential Problems with Cameras

Cameras do not see exactly the same things that an officer's eyes and brain do: perspective, field of view, lighting, and night vision ability will appear different

Cameras will record events inside people's homes and vehicles while officers are present, affecting citizen's privacy

Videos of the public and citizens could potentially be shown by the news media or appear on the internet

The cameras and storage system will cost money to buy and maintain