

E-Mail Request

From: Vasudevan, Kriththika
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 10:53 AM
To: Chadwick, Geoffrey N.
Cc: OIG/COC Requests
Subject: BWC questions

This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments

Dear Lt. Chadwick:

I am preparing the next body worn camera (BWC) update report for our office. I had a couple of questions that I was hoping you could assist me with.

1. Can you provide me with the latest stats on how many deputies and which stations have been outfitted with BWC?
2. In previous discussions, the Department has mentioned several infrastructure issues that may have delayed the rollout – have those issues been rectified? Have these issues, delayed the previously scheduled rollouts of cameras?
3. Are there any cost related issues that are becoming obstacles to the deployment of the BWC as previously scheduled? If so, what are they?
4. How many BWC videos have been uploaded thus far to Evidence.com? Have there been any issues such as lost video, corrupted files that have been damaged, access issues, etc.?
5. Have there been any violations, thus far, of the BWC policies? If so, how many and what have been the corrective actions to address those violations?
6. Have there been any critical incidents such as Cat. 3 or DIS where deputies had been outfitted with BWC, but failed to turn them on? If so, have there been any disciplinary or training to address those issues?
7. Have there been any complaints/suggestions from any criminal justice partners, such as prosecutorial agencies, defense attorneys, and/or judges, in regards to the BWC? If so, what are they? And how is the Department addressing those issues?

I know that many of these questions may require a more in-depth conversation to explain the issues properly, so please feel free to call me at the number listed below. Also, if you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you again for all your help – I really appreciate it!

Respectfully,
Kriththika Vasudevan, Deputy Inspector General
Los Angeles County Office of the Inspector General
312 S. Hill Street, 3rd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90013
(T)
(F)

Department Response

From: Chadwick, Geoffrey N.
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 3:51 PM
To: Vasudevan, Kriththika
Cc: OIG/COC Requests; Marks, Chris E.; Francisco, Holly A.; Mendoza, Jose G.; Kusayanagi, Chris M
Subject: RE: BWC questions

Good Afternoon Kriththika,

Hope all is well. Please see below regarding the responses to your questions. All of the date reflected is accurate as of June 1, 2021.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks,

Geoff

Lieutenant Geoffrey Chadwick

Homicide Bureau - Body Worn Camera Unit
12440 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA 90650
Office: (562)
Mobile: (213)



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To: Chadwick, Geoffrey N.
Cc: OIG/COC Requests
Subject: BWC questions

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Dear Lt. Chadwick:

I am preparing the next body worn camera (BWC) update report for our office. I had a couple of questions that I was hoping you could assist me with.

1. Can you provide me with the latest stats on how many deputies and which stations have been outfitted with BWC? As of June 1, 2021, the Department has assigned and deployed 2,131 body-worn cameras. They are currently deployed to the stations listed below. Also, please note the sections shaded in green, will be deployed during the indicated months.

Station	Month Deployed
Century	October 2020
Industry	October 2020
Lakewood	October 2020
Lancaster	October 2020
West Hollywood	October 2020
Compton	November 2020
East Los Angeles	November 2020
Crescenta Valley	January 2021
Lomita	January 2021
Malibu/Lost Hills	January 2021
South Los Angeles	January 2021
Marina Del Rey	April 2021
Altadena	April 2021
Temple	April 2021
Palmdale	April 2021
Norwalk/La Mirada	June 2021
Pico Rivera	June 2021
San Dimas	July 2021
Walnut	July 2021

2. In previous discussions, the Department has mentioned several infrastructure issues that may have delayed the rollout – have those issues been rectified? Have these issues, delayed the previously scheduled rollouts of cameras? Many of the infrastructure issues have been rectified, but there are still several more locations that we are awaiting for the network upgrade. Some of these upgrades are dependent on the internet provider (Spectrum) while others are reliant upon the delivery of the required network equipment which is delayed due to supply chain issues related to COVID-19.
3. Are there any cost related issues that are becoming obstacles to the deployment of the BWC as previously scheduled? If so, what are they? We appear to be properly funded to complete the project, however, we are working with CEO to properly align the budget so the expenditures are reflected correctly.
4. How many BWC videos have been uploaded thus far to Evidence.com? Have there been any issues such as lost video, corrupted files that have been damaged, access issues, etc.? As of June 1, 2021, the Department has uploaded 428,813 videos. There have been no reports of corrupted or lost videos. There have been intermittent access issues to the video, in Evidence.com, but these are usually resolved quickly by the vendor.
5. Have there been any violations, thus far, of the BWC policies? If so, how many and what have been the corrective actions to address those violations? Currently, there appears to be two active administrative investigations indicating a BWC policy violation. Those investigations are pending completion at this time. Please note, the deputies are given a 90-day grace period for BWC activation pursuant to policy, allowing them to learn to use the system. We expect more accurate policy violation totals in the future. As for corrective actions, those are handled case by case at the unit level and are not currently tracked. However, the BWC policies have been added to the Guidelines for Discipline (effective August 2020) that allow unit commanders to cite those policies in their investigations.

6. Have there been any critical incidents such as Cat. 3 or DIS where deputies had been outfitted with BWC, but failed to turn them on? If so, have there been any disciplinary or training to address those issues? Yes, there have been a small number of BWC activation failures related to critical incidents (Category 3 and Hit/Non-Hit DIS). Each appeared to be either within the 90-day grace period or close to it. Thus far, the prescribed corrective action was to attend the 8-hour BWC training course again and conduct station briefings.
7. Have there been any complaints/suggestions from any criminal justice partners, such as prosecutorial agencies, defense attorneys, and/or judges, in regards to the BWC? If so, what are they? And how is the Department addressing those issues? Most of the complaints have generally revolved around proper case sharing procedures between the Department and the District Attorney's office. Some of these are technological issues while others are process change issues for both the local Sheriff's station and the DA groups located at the different court locations.

I know that many of these questions may require a more in-depth conversation to explain the issues properly, so please feel free to call me at the number listed below. Also, if you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you again for all your help – I really appreciate it!

Respectfully,
Kriththika Vasudevan, Deputy Inspector General
Los Angeles County Office of the Inspector General
312 S. Hill Street, 3rd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90013
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