POLICE

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG

Body Worn Cameras

January 29, 2015

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Introduction

- In car video
  - CMPD implemented in car video in 1997 to capture officer and citizen interactions during traffic stops
    - Video limited to what is in front of patrol car
    - Audio limited in distance away from patrol car
- Body worn cameras (BWC)
  - Newest technology
    - Small lightweight cameras
    - Worn on uniform, hat, helmet or head
    - Goes with the officer away from the car
    - Provides higher level of transparency with new perspective

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BACKGROUND

- Current BWC Deployment
  - August, 2012
    - Motorcycle Unit (16)
    - Primarily used for traffic stops
  - September, 2013
    - Twenty-Six officer pilot in Patrol
      - Use expanded beyond traffic stops
      - Well accepted by officers
      - Well accepted by the public
      - Highly publicized

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

- July 2014
  - Five vendors submitted proposals
    - Narrowed to two vendors
      - Field tested two models of cameras
        - » Ten days
          - Patrol Officers
          - Supervisors

- Video
- Video

CAMERA SYSTEM

- Taser Axon Flex Body Worn Camera Selected
  - Ease of use
  - Durability
  - Security
  - Mounting options
  - Automatic Activations
    - Blue lights
    - TASER

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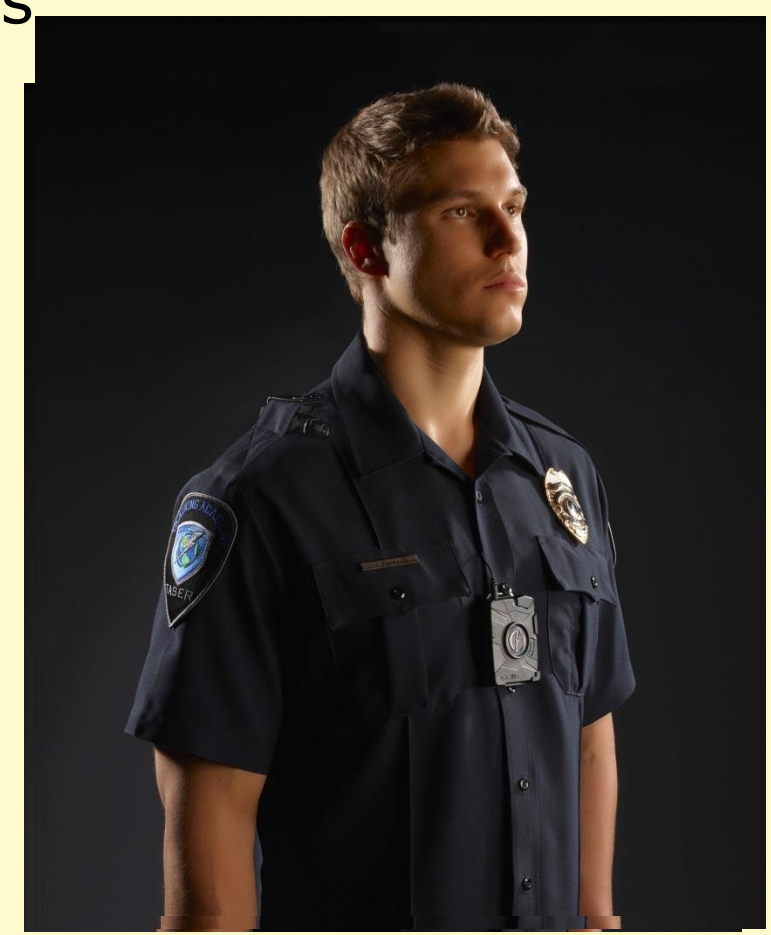
CAMERA SYSTEM

- Improved transparency recording
  - 75 degree field of view capturing new perspective of officer and citizens
- Thirty second pre-activation video buffer
  - Capture the thirty seconds of video immediately prior to the recording being started
- Retina low light
  - Advanced technology allows camera to capture light comparable to the human eye
- Security
  - Officers do not have access to delete or edit video
  - Video is automatically and securely uploaded at the end of an officer's shift
  - Retention rules provide storage of video for criminal investigations, citizen complaints and training

CAMERA SYSTEM

- Multiple mounting options
  - Sunglasses
  - Headband
  - Collar
  - Ball cap
  - Helmet
  - Epaulette



VIDEO STORAGE

- Year One
  - Taser's Evidence.Com
    - Hosted cloud-based system
      - Storage location of all year-one video
- Year Two
  - Digital Evidence Management System (DEMS)
    - City owned/maintained server based system
    - Integration with Evidence.Com
      - Storage location of all video marked for criminal or personnel investigations and citizen complaints (long term storage)
      - Evidence.Com will maintain all other video for 45 days

STORAGE/SECURITY

- Evidence.Com and DEMS are secure password/permissions enabled systems that create audit logs based on video access
- All recordings are securely stored on the camera until uploaded
- Recordings cannot be edited or deleted by officers

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- Body Worn Camera (BWC) recordings
  - Traffic stops
  - Stop and Frisk (reasonable suspicion of criminal activity)
  - Arrests
  - Uses of Force
  - During consent searches of persons and/or property
  - When requested by a citizen during an interaction with an officer
  - When operating a vehicle in a manner that requires activation of its blue lights and siren

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- BWC calls for service recordings
  - Disturbances or disorders
  - Involving emotionally or mentally disturbed persons
  - Involving weapons or violence
  - Identified as “in progress”

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- BWC recordings are intended to capture interactions between officers and citizens
- BWC's will not be used to record
  - Criminal investigations
  - Interviews with victims and/or witnesses
  - Conversations between officers and citizens that are not associated with a required activation
- Recording will cease once an officer's actions change to an investigative role

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- Office of Professional Responsibility
  - Analyze data
  - Currently developing policies and procedures for the random audit of video
    - In-car
    - Body worn
    - Interview room
  - Major Mike Adams assigned to oversee audit development
  - Audits conducted to address
    - Compliance with policies and procedures
    - Courtesy
    - Training
      - » Tactics/Officer safety

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- Public access/release
  - NC Law
    - Video recordings related to a criminal investigation are not considered a public record. NCGS 132-1
    - Video recordings related to Departmental disciplinary action against an employee are not considered a public record. NCGS 160A-168

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POLICY

- Public access/release
  - NC Law
    - BWC Video
      - Seeking to obtain new local modification of personnel record law NC 160A-168 to include BWC video. “A person alleging a complaint against an officer may be allowed to review video recording of the incident”
      - Already in place for in-car video, 1997

IMPLEMENTATION and TRAINING

- March, 2015
  - Two divisions per month
    - A shift at a time
    - All officers on a shift will deploy with cameras the following day
- April, 2015
  - Three divisions per month
- Expect to complete training by end of September 2015

ESTIMATED COSTS & ANTICIPATED FUNDING SOURCES

Costs	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	Totals
Capital	$2,012,525	$1,782,110	$984,481	$984,481	$961,283	**$6,224,880**
Operating		77,000	78,540	80,111	81,713	**317,364**
TOTAL COSTS	2,012,525	1,859,110	1,063,021	1,064,592	1,042,996	**7,042,244**
Funding Sources						
Police Foundation	250,000					**250,000**
Asset Forfeiture	574,880					**574,880**
Capital	1,512,525	1,782,110	984,481	984,481	500,000	**5,900,000**
Future CMPD Operating		77,000	78,540	80,111	81,713	**317,364**
TOTAL SOURCES	**2,012,525**	**1,859,110**	**1,063,021**	**1,064,592**	**1,042,996**	**7,042,244**