



# INSIGHTS

THE SMALL RURAL TRIBAL BODY-WORN CAMERA PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

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## Commentary: Implementing a BWC Program

By Dr. Craig D. Uchida

The adoption of body-worn cameras (BWC) has increased dramatically since 2014. In 2016 the Bureau of Justice Statistics estimated that nearly 60% of municipal police and over 49% of sheriffs' agencies had deployed BWCs. These numbers have undoubtedly increased as the demand by the public has grown and funding by states and BJA has risen. But what does it take to implement a solid and robust BWC program?

Research on small, rural, and tribal (SRT) law enforcement agencies shows that planning, policy development, and management are key factors in implementation. As part of an overall plan, goal-setting, training, and collecting data are important elements to consider. Goals like improving transparency and accountability, reducing complaints, and enhancing evidence gathering are among the major aims of BWC programs among SRTs.

It's also important to acknowledge the challenges that SRTs face with respect to a BWC program. Limited resources (funds), people to oversee the program, and technology infrastructure (e.g., internet connectivity, hardware, and software) often inhibit SRTs and other agencies from purchasing BWCs and implementing a program. Further, questions about data storage, redaction, and public release of video, are of concern. What do we know about these issues?

Reports, sample policies, and case studies will be available on the SRT website and address many of these questions shortly. We are in the process of collecting, curating, and summarizing documents for ease of use. Go to: [www.srtbwc.com/grantee-resources](http://www.srtbwc.com/grantee-resources) for more information.

## Follow-up to SRT Welcome Webinar

The recording of the webinar is now available and the PowerPoint slides are also available.

We received numerous questions during the webinar and have provided answers to them in a separate FAQ document. In particular, many questions were raised about the waitlist. Answers about your waitlisted status are included.

You can find these materials on the Webinar Page of our website.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Policy Review Process Webinar

February 23, 2022  
at 11am PST/2pm EST

Join the SRT Team and learn about the policy review process.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Getting Paid Webinar

March 23, 2022  
at 11am PST/2pm EST



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