SRT INSIGHTS

THE SMALL RURAL TRIBAL BODY-WORN CAMERA PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

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Tips for Policy Development

Developing, creating, and submitting a BWC policy for review is an important component of the SRT BWC program. Based on extensive research, a comprehensive policy addresses the following elements:

- Who is assigned a BWC; decisions to activate/deactivate; whether to notify citizens;
- Who and when should footage be reviewed:
- External viewing/public release-FOIA, redaction
- Training requirements
- Annual policy evaluations

To assist you with your policy, go to: www.srtbwc.com/bwc-policy/

To create your policy using the Policy Wizard:

www.srtbwc.com/policy-wizard

FOLLOW-UP TO SRT WEBINARS

The recording of the second Webinar and PowerPoint slides are now available on our Webinars Page.



U.S. Department of Justice







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Impacts of BWCs on Police: What do we know in the short-term and long-term?

The first controlled experiment of the effects of BWCs was conducted in Rialto, CA in 2012-2013. This mid-size city of 107,000 with about 150 sworn and civilian employees tested the use of cameras on 54 patrol officers over a one-year period. An experimental design was used where officers were randomly assigned to treatment or control shifts, either wearing a camera during a specific time or not.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SRT Webinars

The Second 'P': Getting Paid March 23, 2022 at 11am PDT/2pm EDT

Learn About the Latest Research Findings on BWCs March 30, 2022 at 11:30am PDT/2:30pm EDT Results from the original Rialto study showed that there was a significant decrease in the use of force during shifts when officers wore BWCs. In addition, results showed that there was an overall reduction in citizens' complaints from the year before the experiment to the experimental year (Read the report here).

Three years later another study was done to see if the decreases in use of force and complaints continued. The entire force was outfitted with cameras and the research showed that the initial declines in the rate of complaints and police use of force continued during the three years after the experiment ended.

This follow-up study offers support for the benefit of BWC programs as it shows the lasting success of this technology. Rather than becoming desensitized to the influence of cameras during shifts, the results indicate that Rialto officers may have adopted a greater degree of accountability and made positive changes in their practice (Read the report here).