553.0 Body-Worn Cameras

The Oklahoma City Police Department utilizes body-worn cameras to improve openness, transparency and public confidence in the performance of law enforcement functions. Body-worn cameras provide unbiased documentation of law enforcement activities including traffic enforcement, public contacts, emergency responses and critical incidents. These recordings may increase the level of detail in police department records, reports and employee testimony, thereby providing valuable information to the judicial system. While utilizing body-worn cameras, the department will maintain confidentiality and privacy interests of persons and employees consistent with state and federal laws.

188.30 When a Body-Worn Camera Shall Be Activated

Each officer shall activate his or her body-worn camera under the following circumstances:

- 1. Voluntary contact (only in a public place or a place where the public and the officer have a right to be). If a voluntary contact is initiated in a location where a person has a reasonable expectation of privacy, and one of the criteria listed in numbers 2-9 below do not apply, the officer shall receive consent from the person prior to continuing to record the voluntary contact;
- 2. Prior to any investigative detention, mental health detention, traffic or vehicle stop or custodial arrest;
- 3. Prior to a use of force;
- 4. Prior to initiating any Code 3 response;
- 5. Prior to exiting the police vehicle on a Priority 1 or Priority 2 call;
- 6. While involved in any vehicle or foot pursuit;
- 7. When conducting a Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST) or Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) evaluation;
- 8. While transporting, guarding or coming into contact with any person who becomes uncooperative, agitated, combative, threatening or makes statements related to his or her arrest/protective custody;
- 9. For the purpose of documenting a dying declaration; or
- 10. When directed by a supervisor.

Adopted 12/16

188.31 When a Body-Worn Camera May Be Activated

An officer may activate his or her body-worn camera anytime the officer deems it appropriate to record for official purposes, except as prohibited under Procedure 188.32.

Adopted 12/16

188.32 When Body-Worn Cameras Shall Not Be Activated or Shall Be Deactivated

An officer shall not activate or shall deactivate his or her body-worn camera:

- 1. In a healthcare facility, unless required by Procedure 188.36;
- 2. During a conversation with any supervisor or investigator after an incident has been resolved;
- 3. During activities, conversations or meetings with law enforcement employees while not on a call or incident;
- 4. During planning or briefing with the TACT Team, Bomb Squad or Hostage Negotiator Team at any time;
- 5. At the conclusion of a call or incident; or
- 6. While maintaining a secured crime scene after an incident has been resolved, if approved by a supervisor.

Other than at the conclusion of a call or incident, the body-worn camera shall be reactivated immediately after the end of the above circumstances.