

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 23, 2019

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 11, 2019

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 11, 2019

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 233**

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**Introduced by Senator Wiener**

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Quirk)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Carrillo and Friedman)

February 7, 2019

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An act to repeal and add Section 782.1 of the Evidence Code, and to add Section 647.3 to the Penal Code, relating to crime.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 233, as amended, Wiener. Immunity from arrest.

Existing law criminalizes various aspects of sex work, including soliciting anyone to engage in, or engaging in, lewd or dissolute conduct in a public place, loitering in a public place with the intent to commit prostitution, or maintaining a public nuisance. Existing law, the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act (CUCSA), also criminalizes various offenses relating to the possession, transportation, and sale of specified controlled substances.

This bill would prohibit the arrest of a person for a misdemeanor violation of the CUCSA or specified sex work crimes, if that person is reporting a crime of sexual assault, human trafficking, stalking, robbery, assault, kidnapping, threats, blackmail, extortion, burglary, or another violent crime. The bill would also state that possession of condoms in any amount does not provide a basis for probable cause for arrest for specified sex work crimes.

Existing law specifies a procedure by which condoms may be introduced as evidence in a prosecution for various crimes, including soliciting or engaging in lewd or dissolute conduct in a public place, soliciting or engaging in acts of prostitution, loitering in or about a toilet open to the public for the purpose of engaging in or soliciting a lewd, lascivious, or unlawful act, or loitering in a public place with the intent to commit prostitution.

This bill, instead, would prohibit *introducing* the possession of a condom as evidence *in the prosecution* of a violation of soliciting or engaging in lewd or dissolute conduct in a public place if the offense is related to prostitution, soliciting or engaging in acts of prostitution, loitering in a public place with the intent to commit prostitution, or for maintaining a public nuisance.

The California Constitution includes the Right to Truth-In-Evidence, which requires a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of the Legislature to pass a bill that would exclude any relevant evidence from any criminal proceeding, as specified.

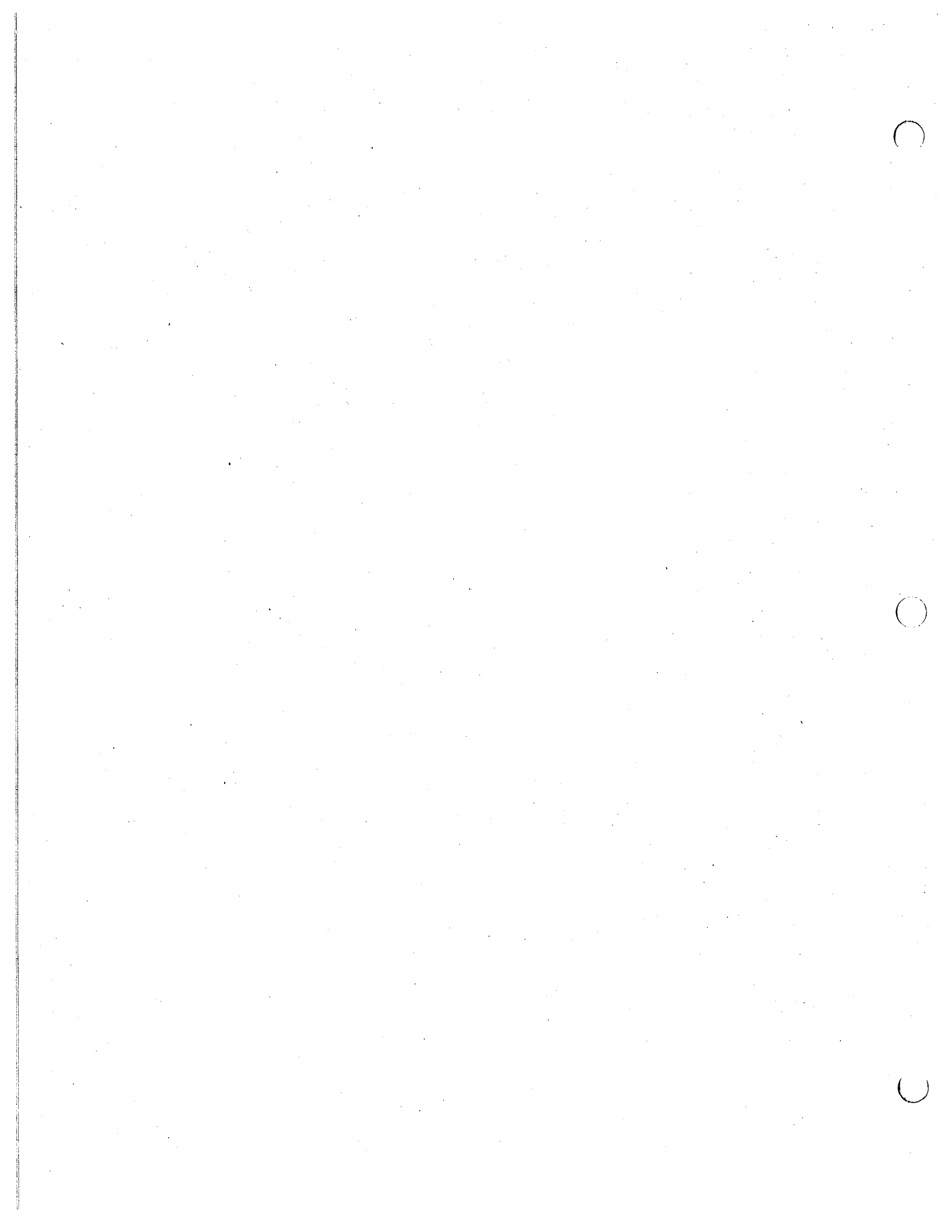
Because this bill would exclude from a criminal action evidence about a person's liability for an act of prostitution that is otherwise admissible, it requires a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of the Legislature.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 782.1 of the Evidence Code is repealed.
- 2 SEC. 2. Section 782.1 is added to the Evidence Code, to read:
- 3 782.1. The possession of a condom is not admissible as
- 4 evidence *in the prosecution* of a violation of subdivision (a) or (b)
- 5 of Section 647 of the Penal Code if the offense is related to
- 6 prostitution, or Section 372 or 653.22 of the Penal Code.
- 7 SEC. 3. Section 647.3 is added to the Penal Code, to read:
- 8 647.3. (a) A person who is reporting a crime of sexual assault,
- 9 human trafficking, stalking, robbery, assault, kidnapping, threats,
- 10 blackmail, extortion, burglary, or another violent crime shall not
- 11 be arrested for either of the following:
- 12 (1) A misdemeanor violation of the California Uniform
- 13 Controlled Substances Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section
- 14 11000) of the Health and Safety Code).

- 1 (2) A violation of subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 647 if the
- 2 offense is related to an act of prostitution, or of Section 372 or
- 3 653.22.
- 4 (b) Possession of condoms in any amount shall not provide a
- 5 basis for probable cause for arrest for a violation of subdivision
- 6 (a) or (b) of Section 647 if the offense is related to an act of
- 7 prostitution, or of Section 372 or 653.22.



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# SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Senator Nancy Skinner, Chair

2019 - 2020 Regular

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**Bill No:** SB 233                      **Hearing Date:** April 9, 2019  
**Author:** Wiener  
**Version:** March 11, 2019  
**Urgency:** No                              **Fiscal:** No  
**Consultant:** SC

**Subject:** *Immunity From Arrest*

## HISTORY

**Source:** St. James Infirmary  
Erotic Service Providers Legal, Education and Research Project

**Prior Legislation:** AB 2243 (Freidman), Ch. 27, Stats. 2018  
AB 336 (Ammiano), Ch. 403, Stats. 2014

**Support:** ACLU; APLA Health; Black AIDS Institute; California Attorneys for Criminal Justice; California Nurse-Midwives Association; Citizens for Choice; City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors; City and County of San Francisco Department on the Status of Women; City of West Hollywood; Conference of California Bar Association; Desert AIDS Project; Desiree Alliance; Ella Baker Center for Human Rights; Equality California; Free Speech Coalition; Gender Health Center; Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club; Human Impact Partners – Health Instead of Punishment Program; Legal Services for Prisoners with Children; Los Angeles LGBT Center; National Center for Lesbian Rights; Positive Women’s Network – USA; Public Health Justice Collective; Religious Sisters of Charity; San Francisco AIDS Foundation; San Francisco District Attorney’s Office; San Francisco Police Department; Santa Barbara Women’s Political Committee; Sex Workers Outreach Project – Los Angeles; Sex Workers Outreach Project – Sacramento; Sex Workers Outreach Project – USA; Transgender Service Provider Network of Los Angeles; US PROstitutes Collective; Young Women’s Freedom Center; a multiple of individuals

**Opposition:** California District Attorneys Association; California Public Defenders Association (oppose unless amended); California State Sheriffs’ Association

## PURPOSE

*The purpose of this bill is to prohibit the arrest of a person for misdemeanor drug or prostitution related offenses when the person is reporting a violent crime and to make inadmissible evidence of possession of a condom to prove a violation of specified crimes related to prostitution.*

*Existing law* makes it a misdemeanor to solicit anyone to engage in or engage in lewd or dissolute conduct in any public place or in any place open to the public or exposed to public view. (Pen. Code, § 647, subd. (a).)

*Existing law* makes it a misdemeanor to solicit, agree to engage in, or engage in any act of prostitution with the intent to receive compensation, money, or anything of value from another person. (Pen. Code, § 647, subd. (b)(1).)

*Existing law* makes it a misdemeanor to solicit, agree to engage in, or engage in, any act of prostitution with another person who is 18 years of age or older in exchange for the individual providing compensation, money, or anything of value to the other person. (Pen. Code § 647, subd. (b)(2).)

*Existing law* makes it a misdemeanor to loiter in a public place with the intent to commit prostitution. (Pen. Code § 653.22 & 653.26.)

*Existing law* provides that every person who maintains or commits any public nuisance, the punishment for which is not otherwise prescribed, or who willfully omits to perform any legal duty relating to the removal of a public nuisance, is guilty of a misdemeanor. (Pen. Code, § 372.)

*Existing law* provides that all relevant evidence is admissible in a criminal case, with defined, limited exceptions. (Cal. Const., Art. I, § 28, subd. (d); Evid. Code § 210.)

*Existing law* allows a judge to exclude relevant evidence if it will cause necessary delay, or create a danger of undue prejudice, confusion of the issues, or misleading the jury. (Evid. Code § 352.)

*Existing law* prohibits the admissibility of evidence that a victim of, or a witness to, extortion, stalking, or a violent felony, each as defined, has engaged in an act of prostitution at or around the time he or she was the victim of or witness to the crime in order to prove the victim's or witness's criminal liability in a separate prosecution for the act of prostitution. (Evid. Code, § 1162.)

*Existing law* mandates the following procedure prior to the introduction of possession of condoms as evidence that a crime was committed:

- The prosecutor shall make a written motion to the court and to the defendant stating that the prosecution has an offer of proof of the relevancy of the possession by the defendant of one or more condoms;
- The written motion shall be accompanied by an affidavit in which the offer of proof and shall be filed under seal and only unsealed by the court to determine if the offer of proof is sufficient to order a hearing. After that determination, the affidavit shall be resealed by the court;
- If the court finds that the offer of proof is sufficient, the court shall order a hearing out of the presence of the jury, if any, and at the hearing allow questioning regarding the offer of proof made by the prosecution;

- At the conclusion of the hearing, if the court finds that evidence proposed to be offered by the prosecutor regarding the possession of condoms is relevant and is not inadmissible, the court may make an order stating what evidence may be introduced by the prosecutor; and,
- An affidavit resealed by the court shall remain sealed, unless the defendant raises an issue on appeal or collateral review relating to the offer of proof contained in the sealed document. If the defendant raises that issue on appeal, the court shall allow the Attorney General and appellate counsel for the defendant access to the sealed affidavit. If the issue is raised on collateral review, the court shall allow the district attorney and defendant's counsel access to the sealed affidavit and the use of the information contained in the affidavit shall be limited solely to the pending proceeding.

(Evid. Code § 782.1.)

*This bill* repeals the procedure for introducing possession of condoms as evidence and instead provides that possession of a condom is not admissible as evidence of a violation of specified crimes related to prostitution.

*This bill* prohibits the arrest of a person for misdemeanor drug or prostitution related offenses if the person is reporting a crime of sexual assault, human trafficking, stalking, robbery, assault, kidnapping, threats, blackmail, extortion, burglary, or other violent crime.

*This bill* specifies that possession of condoms in any amount shall not provide a basis for probable cause for a violation of specified offenses related to prostitution.

## COMMENTS

### 1. Need for This Bill

According to the author of this bill:

Senate Bill 233 prohibits the arrest of individuals for sex work-related crimes when they come forward as witnesses or victims of specified violent and serious crimes. This bill also ensures that the possession of condoms may not be used as evidence to arrest or prosecute someone for sex work.

Sex workers are victims of violent crime at a disproportionately high rate. A 2014 study by the University of California, San Francisco and St. James Infirmary found that 60% of sex workers experience some form of violence while working. Specifically, 32% of sex workers reported a physical attack while engaging in sex work, and 29% reported being sexually assaulted while engaging in sex work. Unfortunately, this same report found that when a sex worker interacted with law enforcement as the victim of a violent crime, 40% of their interactions were negative experiences. Moreover, condoms have historically been confiscated and used as a tool to incriminate sex workers for prostitution.

It is critically important that sex workers feel safe reporting crimes and carrying condoms. If sex workers believe that reporting crimes and carrying condoms will

get them arrested, they will do neither. In an effort to improve the overall safety of sex workers and to reduce violence and crimes within the sex industry, the San Francisco Police Department released a bulletin stating that they, as a department, will not arrest someone for sex work when they come forward as the victim or witness of sexual assault, trafficking, stalking, robbery, assault, kidnapping, threats, blackmail, extortion, burglary, or other violent crimes.

The criminalization of prostitution results in sex workers largely not trusting law enforcement due to fear that they will be arrested or mistreated. This is particularly true for people of color, street-based sex workers, and transgender women who face the most harassment and arrests. Data shows that sex workers are a vulnerable population that is more likely to experience violence while working. Sex workers are unlikely to report crimes when they fear that they themselves will be treated as criminals.

Treating condoms as evidence of sex work exacerbates this unsafe work environment because it discourages sex workers from practicing safer sex. Data from multiple countries link the criminalization of sex work with up to a five-fold increase in the risk of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) or other sexually transmitted infections. Human Rights Watch reported that one woman in Los Angeles was so frightened to be caught with condoms by the police that she had to use a plastic bag as a condom to protect herself against HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. Research is clear that sex workers must be able to carry condoms without fear that they will be confiscated or used to criminalize them.

SB 233 ensures that when sex workers are the victim or witness of sexual assault, human trafficking, stalking, robbery, assault, kidnapping, threats, blackmail, extortion, burglary, or another violent crime they will not fear being arrested for prostitution. SB 233 also bans the use of condoms as evidence of sex work. Prohibiting the arrest of sex workers who are coming forward as victims or witnesses of violent crimes and decriminalizing condoms is a sensible approach. This bill simply prioritizes the health and safety of people engaged in sex work rather than criminalizing them.

## 2. Condoms as Evidence

Generally, all relevant evidence is admissible in criminal proceedings unless it must be excluded under federal law (Proposition 8, approved by voters June 8, 1982, "Right to Truth-in-Evidence" provision) or the court may exclude the evidence if it will cause unnecessary delay, or create a danger of undue prejudice, confusion of the issues, or misleading the jury. (Cal. Const., art. I, § 28(f)(2); Evid. Code, § 352.)

In 2012, Human Rights Watch (HRW) released a report titled "*Sex Workers at Risk: Condoms as Evidence of Prostitution in Four US Cities*" which reviewed research literature on sex workers in Los Angeles and San Francisco and conducted its own interviews with persons either in sex trades or in organizations that provide health and social services to that population. In addition to specific cases in which possession of condoms was used as evidence of prostitution, HRW found that the threats of harassment of sex workers about possessing condoms had resulted in a prevalent belief that one is risking arrest and prosecution as a prostitute by having any condoms



in one's possession when approached by law enforcement. As a result, many sex workers stopped carrying any condoms or a sufficient number of condoms, thereby creating multiple opportunities for transmission of HIV to and from the sex worker.

In 2013, AB 336 (Ammiano), Chapter 403, Statutes of 2014, established a new evidentiary procedure for admitting condoms into evidence. According to the bill analysis on AB 336:

This bill requires the prosecution to submit a sealed affidavit with an "offer or proof" stating the relevance of condom evidence the prosecutor intends to introduce at the trial of a prosecution charge. It is likely that a prosecutor would argue that the possession of condoms – especially more than one or two condoms for use with an intimate partner – shows that the person was planning to engage in commercial sex transactions.

....

It would appear that the ... concern about evidence of condom possession in a prostitution case might be that jurors might conclude that a person who carried numerous condoms was predisposed to engage in prostitution regardless of the particular facts of the alleged solicitation or act of prostitution, allowing conviction on assumptions about the defendant's conduct on other occasions. The prosecution would likely counter that the defendant's possession of numerous condoms at the time she or he is alleged to have solicited a person to engage in sexual conduct indicates that the interaction was for commercial purposes. That is, the condoms were essentially tools of the defendant's trade.

(Sen. Com. on Public Safety, Analysis of Assm. Bill No. 336 (2013-2014 Reg. Sess.) as amended May 29, 2014, pp. 5-6.) This bill repeals the evidentiary procedure established by SB 336 and instead states that possession of a condom is not admissible as evidence of a violation of specified crimes related to prostitution.

Because this bill excludes potentially relevant evidence which is not required to be excluded under Proposition 8's Truth-in-Evidence provision, a two-thirds vote by both the Assembly and the Senate is required.

### **3. Removing Fear of Arrest for Victims and Witnesses of Violent Crimes**

Last year, AB 2243 (Friedman), Chapter 27, Statutes of 2018, prohibited the use of evidence that victims of, or witnesses to, certain violent crimes were engaged in an act of prostitution at or around the time they were the witness or victim to the crime. The goal of that bill was to remove the fear of prosecution for victims and witnesses of violent crime in order to encourage reporting those crimes.

Prostitution is punishable as a misdemeanor offense in California and those engaged in acts of prostitution are often victims of, or witnesses to, more serious crimes that are subject to more serious punishment. Therefore, by providing immunity to a vulnerable population in exchange for evidence and testimony about more serious, often violent crimes, the effect is likely to be a safer community. The rationale for the immunity provided in SB 2243 is applicable to this bill which goes a step further and states that these victims and witnesses are also granted immunity from arrest for those specified misdemeanors. By removing the fear of arrest for drug use or

simple possession and prostitution-related misdemeanors, victims and witnesses will be more likely to seek law enforcement's help and offer assistance in the investigation and prosecution of these cases.

#### **4. Immunity from Arrest Provided under this Bill is Limited**

This bill does not provide immunity for most drug-related crimes, including selling, providing, giving or exchanging of drugs or alcohol for money, goods, or services, or for any of the more serious offenses related to prostitution such as pimping and pandering. This bill provides immunity from arrest only in the limited circumstances where a victim or witness is reporting a crime of sexual assault, human trafficking, stalking, robbery, assault, kidnapping, threats, blackmail, extortion, burglary, or another violent crime where the victim or witness may be in violation of either a misdemeanor drug or prostitution-related offenses. This policy recognizes that sex workers are particularly vulnerable to violent crimes and that the state's interest in enforcing misdemeanor drug use or prostitution laws is outweighed by the need to increase public safety by encouraging victims and witnesses to report these violent crimes.

#### **5. Argument in Support**

According to Desert AIDS Project:

Persons in commercial sex trade through choice, circumstance or trafficking are subject to witness extremely high rates of violence yet are often reluctant to report these crimes to law enforcement due to fear of arrest. SB 233 will create a pathway for persons in the sex trade to come forward and say "me too."

SB 233 also furthers important public health goals by preventing the possession of condoms to be used as evidence in prostitution-related crimes. Condoms have historically been confiscated and used as a tool to incriminate sex workers. Preventing the use of condoms in criminal prosecutions of prostitution will support sex workers' ability to protect themselves, a practice that promotes better health for sex workers and their clients.

#### **6. Argument in Opposition**

The California Public Defenders Association (CPDA) is opposed unless amended:

CPDA agrees that California's public policy should be that the importance of using condoms to protect both the possessor and their partners outweighs the slight extra bit of evidence that might be provided by use of a condom that might be provided by use of a condom in a prosecution for the crimes listed.

CPDA also feels, however, that a person who is wrongfully accused of another crime, such as robbery, by an unscrupulous prostitute who is claiming to be a law abiding person, and is making a false accusation, should be allowed to use possession of a condom as evidence that the accuser is in fact a prostitute, and possession of a condom should be allowed as evidence for that purpose.



# California

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### SB-233 Immunity from arrest. (2019-2020)

**SECTION 1.** Section 782.1 of the Evidence Code is repealed.

**782.1.**

~~In any prosecution under Sections 647 and 653.22 of the Penal Code, if the possession of one or more condoms is to be introduced as evidence in support of the commission of the crime, the following procedure shall be followed:~~

~~(a) A written motion shall be made by the prosecutor to the court and to the defendant stating that the prosecution has an offer of proof of the relevancy of the possession by the defendant of one or more condoms.~~

~~(b) The written motion shall be accompanied by an affidavit in which the offer of proof shall be stated. The affidavit shall be filed under seal and only unsealed by the court to determine if the offer of proof is sufficient to order a hearing pursuant to subdivision (c). After that determination, the affidavit shall be resealed by the court.~~

~~(c) If the court finds that the offer of proof is sufficient, the court shall order a hearing out of the presence of the jury, if any, and at the hearing allow questioning regarding the offer of proof made by the prosecution.~~

~~(d) At the conclusion of the hearing, if the court finds that evidence proposed to be offered by the prosecutor regarding the possession of condoms is relevant pursuant to Section 210, and is not inadmissible pursuant to Section 352, the court may make an order stating what evidence may be introduced by the prosecutor. The prosecutor may then offer evidence pursuant to the order of the court.~~

~~(e) An affidavit resealed by the court pursuant to subdivision (b) shall remain sealed, unless the defendant raises an issue on appeal or collateral review relating to the offer of proof contained in the sealed document. If the defendant raises that issue on appeal, the court shall allow the Attorney General and appellate counsel for the defendant access to the sealed affidavit. If the issue is~~

~~raised on collateral review, the court shall allow the district attorney and defendant's counsel access to the sealed affidavit. The use of the information contained in the affidavit shall be limited solely to the pending proceeding.~~

**SEC. 2.** *Section 782.1 is added to the Evidence Code, to read:*

**782.1.** *The possession of a condom is not admissible as evidence in the prosecution of a violation of subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 647 of the Penal Code if the offense is related to prostitution, or Section 372 or 653.22 of the Penal Code.*

**SEC. 3.** *Section 647.3 is added to the Penal Code, to read:*

**647.3.** *(a) A person who is reporting a crime of sexual assault, human trafficking, stalking, robbery, assault, kidnapping, threats, blackmail, extortion, burglary, or another violent crime shall not be arrested for either of the following:*

*(1) A misdemeanor violation of the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code).*

*(2) A violation of subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 647 if the offense is related to an act of prostitution, or of Section 372 or 653.22.*

*(b) Possession of condoms in any amount shall not provide a basis for probable cause for arrest for a violation of subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 647 if the offense is related to an act of prostitution, or of Section 372 or 653.22.*

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## Surveillance Use Policy - Body Worn Cameras

### 1300.1 PURPOSE

This Surveillance Use Policy is issued in compliance with BMC 2.99, and incorporates language from the Berkeley Police Department Body Worn Camera Policy #425 and adds elements as required by BMC 2.99.

The Berkeley Police Department recognizes that video recording of contacts between department personnel and the public provides an objective record of these events, and that the use of a recording system complements field personnel in the performance of their duties by providing a video record of enforcement and investigative field contacts, which can enhance criminal prosecutions, limit civil liability, increase transparency, and enhance professionalism in the delivery of police services to the community. A video recording of an event or contact also enables the delivery of timely, relevant, and appropriate training to maximize safety for both community members and BPD personnel. (Ref. policy 425.2)

### 1300.2 AUTHORIZED USE

This policy is not intended to describe every possible situation in which the BWC should be used. Members shall activate the BWC as required by this policy in (a)-(f) below, and may activate the BWC at any time the member believes it would be appropriate or valuable to record an incident within the limits of privacy described herein.

The BWC shall be activated in any of the following situations:

- (a) All in-person enforcement and investigative contacts including pedestrian stops and field interview (FI) situations.
- (b) Traffic stops including, but not limited to, traffic violations, stranded motorist assistance and all crime interdiction stops.
- (c) Self-initiated field contacts in which a member would normally notify the Communications Center.
- (d) Any search activity, including the service of search or arrest warrants; probation, parole, or consent searches where the member is seeking evidence of an offense, or conducting a safety sweep or community caretaking sweep of the premises. Once a location has been secured and the member is not interacting with detainees or arrestees, the member may mute their BWC when conducting a search for evidence.
- (e) Any other contact that the member determines has become adversarial after the initial contact in a situation where the member would not otherwise activate BWC recording.
- (f) Transporting any detained or arrested person and where a member facilitates entry into or out of a vehicle, or any time the member expects to have physical contact with that person.

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At no time is a member expected to jeopardize his or her safety in order to activate a BWC. The BWC should be activated by members in anticipation of situations described above, and in any unanticipated, rapidly unfolding situation where activation becomes required, as soon as the member can do so safely.

Members should activate their BWC when conducting custodial interviews unless there are other recording devices being used. Members shall document and explain in their report the reason for not recording custodial interviews, should a BWC be de-activated while conducting a custodial interview or interrogation. (Ref. policy 425.7)

#### **1300.2.1 PROHIBITED USE**

Members are prohibited from using a department-issued BWC for personal use and are prohibited from making personal copies of recordings created while on duty or while acting in their official capacity.

Members are prohibited from retaining BWC recordings. Members shall not duplicate or distribute such recordings, except for department business purposes. All such recordings shall be retained at the Department.

Recordings shall not be used by any member for the purpose of embarrassment, intimidation or ridicule. (Ref. policy 425.13)

#### **1300.3 DATA COLLECTION**

BWC use is limited to enforcement and investigative activities involving members of the public. The BWC recordings will capture video and audio evidence for use in criminal investigations, administrative reviews, training, civil litigation, and other proceedings protected by confidentiality laws and department policy. Improper use or release of BWC recordings may compromise ongoing criminal and administrative investigations or violate the privacy rights of those recorded and is prohibited. (Ref. policy 425.3)

#### **1300.4 DATA ACCESS**

Members are authorized to review their own BWC video files at any time in furtherance of official business. Such official business includes, but is not limited to, preparing written reports, prior to or while providing testimony in a case or being deposed. Members may review recordings as an evidentiary resource, except as stated in subsection 1300.4.1 below. Members shall not retain personal copies of recordings. Members shall not use the fact that a recording was made as a reason to write a less detailed report. (Ref. policy 425.17)

##### **1300.4.1 OFFICER INVOLVED INCIDENTS RESULTING IN GRAVE BODILY INJURY OR DEATH**

- (a) In the event of a critical incident that results in grave bodily injury or death, including an officer-involved shooting or an in-custody death, the BWC of the involved member(s) shall be taken from him or her and secured by a supervisor, commander, or appropriate investigator, as necessary. The involved member(s) shall not access or obtain their footage

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of the incident until such time as the criminal investigator(s) have reviewed the video files. It will be the responsibility of the investigation team's supervisor to coordinate with the involved member's supervisor to obtain footage of the incident on behalf of the member.

- (b) Personnel uploading secured BWC video files shall not view the files unless authorized.
- (c) No member involved in a critical incident may view any video recordings prior to an interview by the appropriate criminal investigative unit, and receiving command approval.
- (d) Prior to the conclusion of the criminal interview process, the involved member and/ or the member's representative will have an opportunity to review the member's recording(s). The involved member may choose to provide additional information to supplement his or her statement by providing a supplemental statement or separate supplemental document. In no case shall a member alter a report made prior to reviewing the recording.
- (e) The Department acknowledges that recordings taken during critical incidents obtained from BWCs do not necessarily reflect the full extent of the nature of the event or the experience, analysis, training, threat assessment or state of mind of the individual officers(s) in a given incident. Moreover, the recordings, especially video, have limitations and may depict events differently than the events recalled by the involved officer. Specifically, it is understood that the recording device will capture information that may not have been heard and/or observed by the involved officer and that officers may see and hear events that are not captured by the camera.

Officers who are involved in any critical incident where video recordings exist depicting the involved officer, either as a subject officer or witness, shall be provided the following admonishment to the initial interview or submission of the initial written report:

"In this case, there is video evidence that you will have an opportunity to view. Video evidence has limitations and may depict the events differently than you recall, and may not depict all of the events as seen or heard by you. Video has a limited field of view and may not capture events normally seen by the human eye. The "frame rate" of video may limit the camera's ability to capture movements normally seen by the human eye. Lighting as seen on the video may be different than what is seen by the human eye. Videos are a two-dimensional medium and may not capture depth, distance or positional orientation as well as the human eye. Remember, the video evidence is intended to assist your memory and ensure that your statement explains your state of mind at the time of the incident." (Ref. policy 425.17.1)

#### 1300.4.2 SUPERVISORY REVIEW

With the exception of section 1300.4.1 above, supervisors are authorized to review relevant recordings any time they are reviewing and approving case reports from their subordinates. (Ref. policy 425.17.2)

#### 1300.4.3 INVESTIGATORY REVIEW

Supervisors are authorized to review relevant recordings any time they are investigating alleged misconduct or reports of meritorious conduct, or whenever such recordings support review of the member's performance. (Ref. policy 425.17.3)

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(a) Recorded files may also be reviewed:

1. Upon approval by a supervisor, by any member of the Department who is participating in conduct of an official investigation, such as a personnel complaint, an administrative investigation or a criminal investigation.
2. Pursuant to lawful process or by court or District Attorney personnel who are otherwise authorized to review evidence in a related case.
3. By personnel assigned to investigatory units who are authorized to view any BWC video file associated to their active investigations, unless otherwise prohibited by policy.
4. Upon approval by the Chief of Police, Internal Affairs investigators may review BWC video with a complainant.

(b) Investigators conducting criminal or internal investigations shall:

1. Advise the coordinator to restrict access to the BWC file in criminal or internal investigations, as necessary.
2. Review the file to determine whether the BWC file is of evidentiary value and process it in accordance with established protocols.
3. Notify the coordinator to remove the access restriction when the criminal/internal investigation is closed.

#### 1300.4.4 TEACHING OR LEARNING TOOL

BWC files may also be reviewed by training staff regarding specific incidents where such files may serve as an internal learning or teaching tool. In the event that videos are intended to be used for training purposes, the involved officer(s) will first be consulted. If he/she objects to the use of the video, such objection shall be submitted to the person in charge of training who shall weigh the value of the video for training against the officer(s) objections and basis for the objection. Should the person in charge of training refuse to grant the request of the involved officer(s), the matter shall be heard by the Chief of Police, or his/her designee, prior to utilizing the video. (Ref. policy 425.17.4)

#### 1300.4.5 COB CIVIL CLAIMS AND LAWSUITS

BWC recordings may be reviewed and used by City of Berkeley defense counsel for the purposes of defending the city in civil claims and lawsuits, with the authorization of the Chief of Police, or his/her designee. (Ref. policy 425.17.5)

#### 1300.5 DATA PROTECTION

To assist with identifying and preserving data and recordings, members shall tag and download recordings in accordance with procedure, and document the existence of the recording in the related case report. Transfers must occur at the end of the member's shift, and any time the member is aware that the storage capacity of the BWC is nearing its limit. In circumstances when the officer cannot complete this task, the officer's supervisor shall immediately take custody of the BWC and be responsible for uploading the data. Officers shall tag each file with the appropriate case/incident number, provide a descriptive title, and select an appropriate category for each



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recording, using the Axon View app or via the Evidence.com site.

Members are prohibited from intentionally erasing, altering, reusing, modifying or tampering with original audio video recordings. (Ref. policy 425.14)

### **1300.6 CIVIL LIBERTIES AND RIGHTS PROTECTION:**

The Berkeley Police Department is dedicated to the most efficient utilization of its resources and services in its public safety endeavors. The Berkeley Police Department recognizes the need to protect its ownership and control over shared information and to protect the privacy and civil liberties of the public, in accordance with federal and state law. The procedures described within this policy (Data Access, Data Protection, Data Retention, Public Access and Third Party Data Sharing) protect against the unauthorized use of BWC data. These policies will ensure the data is not used in a way that would violate or infringe upon anyone's civil rights and/or liberties, including but not limited to potentially disparate or adverse impacts on any communities or groups.

### **1300.7 DATA RETENTION**

The Department shall retain all recordings for a minimum of 60 days. Incidents involving consensual contacts, and aid to citizens will be retained for six months; and cold reports will be retained for one year. Recordings of incidents involving use of force by a police officer, detentions, arrests, or recordings relevant to a formal or informal complaint shall be retained for a minimum of two years and one month. Recordings relating to court cases and personnel complaints that are being adjudicated will be manually deleted at the same time other evidence associated with the case is purged in line with the Department's evidence retention policy. Any recordings related to administrative or civil proceedings shall be maintained until such matter is fully adjudicated, at which time it shall be deleted in line with the Department's evidence retention policy, and any applicable orders from the court.

Recordings created by equipment testing or accidental activation may be deleted after 60 days. (Ref. policy 425.15)

### **1300.8 PUBLIC ACCESS**

Access to recorded files will be granted for the purposes of review in response to a public records request, as permitted under Government Code § 6254(f) and BPD General Order R-23 (Release of Public Records and Information). General Order R-23 does not authorize release of investigative files or documents that would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. Circumstances where this might arise in video include footage taken inside a home, a medical facility, the scene of a medical emergency, or where an individual recorded has a "reasonable expectation of privacy."

Access to recorded files will be granted for the purposes of review to media personnel or the general public with permission of the Chief of Police, or his/her designee, subject to General Order R-23 and privacy protections indicated in this policy. (Ref. policy 425.18)

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## **1300.9 THIRD-PARTY DATA-SHARING**

### **1300.9.1 CITY ATTORNEY**

All recordings should be reviewed by the Custodian of Records and the City Attorney's Office prior to public release, see General Order R-23 (Release of Public Records and Information).

In the event that the Police Department or City Department intends to release or publish for any purpose video recordings where officers are captured on video or the video depicts actions taken by them in the course of the performance of their official duties, those officers shall be given written notice of the intention to release or publish said video at least 48 hours prior to such release.

BPD may, without prior notice to involved officers, share video footage with law enforcement, national security, military, or other government agencies outside of Berkeley, when there is reasonable suspicion that criminal activity has occurred or is about to occur. (Ref. policy 425.18)

### **1300.9.2 POLICE REVIEW COMMISSION (PRC)**

Access to recorded files will be granted for the purposes of review to the Police Review Commission Officer and/or Investigator investigating a specific complaint where BWC evidence files are available, and are not part of any ongoing criminal investigation. (Ref. policy 425.18.1)

- (a) The PRC Officer and PRC Investigator will be provided user account access to evidence files through the evidence management system for their use during a complaint investigation and to facilitate viewing by Board of Inquiry members during a Board of Inquiry.
- (b) The PRC Officer and PRC investigator shall not make or create a copy of any evidence file, nor make or allow to be made any audio or video recording of any evidence file while it is being streamed and viewed from the evidence management system.
- (c) The PRC Officer and PRC Investigator shall not allow any unauthorized individuals to view or access evidence files.
- (d) The evidence management system associates an audit trail record with each evidence file, thereby logging the date, time, user, activity, and client IP address occurring during each evidence file access.
- (e) The evidence management system shall only be accessed on City premises.
- (f) The Department retains custody and control of the recordings, and content of the video will be subject to applicable legal standards including, but not limited to the confidentiality requirements of the Public Safety Officers' Procedural Bill of Rights, (Government Code § 3300, et seq., Penal Code § 832.7, and the California Public Records Act; Government Code § 6250, et seq.)

## **1300.10 TRAINING**

Training for the operation of BWC's shall be provided by BPD personnel. All BPD personnel who use BWC's shall be provided a copy of this Surveillance Use Policy.

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### **1300.11 AUDITING AND OVERSIGHT**

Division Captains for divisions utilizing BWC's shall ensure compliance with this Surveillance Use Policy.

### **1300.12 MAINTENANCE**

The BWC system will be maintained by the Applications Programmer Analyst and assigned Department of Information and Technology (IT) staff.

The Chief of Police, or his/her designee shall appoint a member of the Department to coordinate the use and maintenance of BWCs and the storage of recordings, including (Penal Code § 832.18) (Ref policy 425.4):

- (a) Establishing a system for uploading, storing and security of recordings.
- (b) Designating persons responsible for uploading recorded data.
- (c) Establishing a maintenance system to ensure availability of BWCs.
- (d) Establishing a system for tagging and categorizing data according to the type of incident captured.
- (e) Establishing a system to prevent tampering, deleting and copying recordings and ensure chain of custody integrity.
- (f) Working with the City Attorney's office to ensure an appropriate retention schedule is being applied to recordings and associated documentation.
- (g) Maintaining an audit trail record for all access to evidence files, wherein access information for each evidence file is logged through use of a secure log-in system. The Department's storage system associates an audit trail record with each evidence file, thereby logging the date, time, user name, activity and client IP address occurring during each evidence file access.
- (h) All recordings made by members acting in their official capacity shall remain the property of the Department. Subject to the provisions of this Policy, members shall have no expectation of privacy or ownership interest in the content of these recordings.

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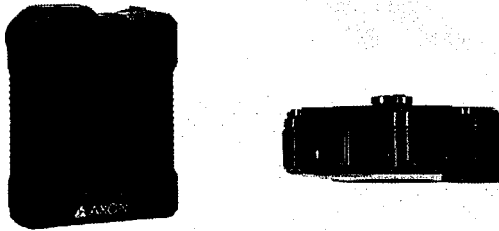
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## BODY WORN CAMERAS (BWCs)

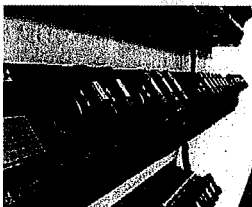
### A. DESCRIPTION

The BWC system consists of four main components: The camera, the docking station, and the Digital Information Management System (DIMS) and smartphone applications.

The first component, the Axon camera, is a system which incorporates an audio and video recording device. It is designed to record events in real time for secure storage, retrieval, and analysis. The camera is to be attached to an officer's uniform and is powered by an internal rechargeable battery. The camera features low-light performance, full-shift battery life, a capture rate of 30 frames per second with no dropped frames, HD video, pre-event buffering, multi-camera playback, and the ability to automatically categorize video using the police department's computer aided dispatch system. An officer can start and stop recording by pressing a button on the front of the camera. The camera does not contain a screen for footage review.



The second component of the system is the docking station. Once the Axon camera is placed in the docking station it recharges the camera's battery. The dock also triggers the uploading of data from the camera to a cloud based Digital Information Management System (DIMS) called Evidence.com. The dock does not directly provide functionality to view, modify or delete video data stored on Axon cameras.



The third component is the Digital Information Management System called Evidence.com. Evidence.com streamlines data management and sharing on one secure platform. The evidence management system is comprehensive, secure, and intuitive to use. The DIMS is located in a cloud-based data center for security, scalability, and ease of administration. Users can add

metadata to existing videos such as associated case numbers, incident type, incident dispositions, etc. to make the videos easier to find. However, the videos themselves cannot be altered by the user.

The fourth component of the system to be utilized are two Axon mobile applications, which allow officers to collect and review evidence in the field and more effectively use their BWCs. The applications use secure Bluetooth and Wi-Fi technology to access the BWC systems and footage. These applications are compliant with US Department of Justice evidentiary standards, meaning that they are both secure and are set up in a way that prohibits the altering or destruction of evidence. The applications are called Axon View and Axon Capture. Axon View allows users to change their camera settings, view live video, and review and tag recorded videos while they are stored on the BWC. Recorded videos remain in the BWC's memory, and cannot be manipulated or deleted. Axon Capture allows officers to use their city-issued smartphone's camera and microphone to take photographs, and record audio and video, and to upload this data directly to Evidence.com. These applications do not allow users to alter, manipulate, or edit any of the footage recorded by the BWC. These applications use secure technology to add value and efficiency to the BWC program.

#### **B. PURPOSE**

The primary objective of the BWC system is to document officer contacts, arrests, and critical incidents. Video footage collected by the BWCs will be used as evidence in both criminal and administrative investigations. Video footage not relevant to any investigation will be discarded after a defined retention period.

In instances where the officer might be expected to take law enforcement action of any kind, the officer is expected to record the encounter for the benefit of both the officer and the member of the public.

1. The BWC shall be activated in any of the following situations:
  - i. All in-person enforcement and investigative contacts including pedestrian stops and field interview (FI) situations.
  - ii. Traffic stops including, but not limited to, traffic violations, stranded motorist assistance and all crime interdiction stops.
  - iii. Self-initiated field contacts in which a member would normally notify the Communications Center.
  - iv. Any search activity, including the service of search or arrest warrants; probation, parole, or consent searches where the member is seeking evidence of an offense, or conducting a safety sweep or community caretaking sweep of the premises. Once a location has been secured and the member is not interacting with detainees or arrestees, the member may mute their BWC when conducting a search for evidence.

- v. Any other contact that the member determines has become adversarial after the initial contact in a situation where the member would not otherwise activate BWC recording.
- vi. Transporting any detained or arrested person and where a member facilitates entry into or out of a vehicle, or any time the member expects to have physical contact with that person.

At no time is an officer expected to jeopardize his or her safety in order to activate a BWC. The BWC should be activated in anticipation of situations described above, and in any unanticipated, rapidly unfolding situation where activation becomes required, as soon as the user can do so safely.

Officers should activate their BWC when conducting custodial interviews unless there are other recording devices being used. Officers shall document and explain in their report the reason for not recording custodial interviews, should a BWC be de-activated while conducting a custodial interview or interrogation.

2. Prohibited uses of the BWC system include:

- i. Officers shall not surreptitiously record another department member without a court order unless lawfully authorized by the Chief of Police, or his/her designee.
- ii. Officers are prohibited from using a department-issued BWC for personal use and are prohibited from making personal copies of recordings created while on duty or while acting in their official capacity.
- iii. Officers are prohibited from retaining BWC recordings.
- iv. Officers shall not duplicate or distribute such recordings, except for department business purposes.

**C. LOCATION**

Officers may use BWCs anywhere where officers have jurisdiction to operate as sworn officers, in accordance with BPD policy #425.

**D. IMPACT**

With the introduction of BWCs, officers record all enforcement contacts with the public. To that end, an officer could find themselves engaged in their lawful duties in both public and private areas. Additionally, due to the nature of law enforcement work, an officer may be required to engage in sensitive conversations with individuals of all ages, including children.

The right to maintain someone's anonymity versus the need to gain information to maintain public safety is of paramount concern. The Department recognizes that all people have a right to privacy and is committed to protecting and safeguarding civil rights by adhering to the

strictest requirements of both state and federal law concerning release of audio/video recordings.

#### **E. MITIGATION**

In order to minimize violations of privacy, BWC policy provides that:

3. Officers should record any incident they feel would be appropriate or valuable to document. The BWC policy shall require officers to activate the BWC under the criteria listed above.
4. Officers should not activate the BWC and/or use caution when entering a public locker room, changing room, restroom, doctor's or attorney's office, or other place where individuals unrelated to the investigation are present and would have a heightened expectation of privacy unless the officer is investigating criminal activity or responding to a call for service.
5. BWC use is limited to enforcement and investigative activities involving members of the public. The BWC recordings will capture video and audio evidence for use in criminal investigations, administrative reviews, training, civil litigation, and other proceedings protected by confidentiality laws and department policy.
6. BWC footage will be retained or released in accordance with applicable state and federal law. Criminal defendants will have access to relevant BWC footage via the court discovery process.
7. Officers are prohibited from retaining BWC recordings, Officers shall not duplicate or distribute such recordings, except for department business purposes. All such recordings shall be retained at the Department.
8. Officers are prohibited from intentionally erasing, altering, reusing, modifying or tampering with original audio video recordings. Officers may request restriction and subsequent deletion of an accidental recording according to the BWC policy.
9. Access to recorded files will be granted for the purposes of review in response to a public records request, as permitted by law and department policy. Department policy does not authorize release of investigative files or documents that would constitute an unwarranted invasions of privacy. Circumstances where this might arise in video include footage taken inside a home, a medical facility, the scene of a medical emergency, or where an individual recorded has a "reasonable expectation of privacy"

#### **F. DATA TYPES AND SOURCES**

BWC use is limited to enforcement and investigative activities involving members of the public. The BWC recordings will capture video and audio evidence for use in criminal investigations, administrative reviews, training, civil litigations, and other proceedings protected by confidentiality laws and department policy.



The BWC collects video and audio recordings of events occurring in the user's presence. As each video is created, the system automatically stamps the video with the current date/time and the camera user's identity. The user has the option to add metadata manually to existing recordings after they are created. Such metadata may include but is not limited to:

1. Category of contact (from Department's defined list)
2. Disposition of contact (arrest, citation, etc.)
3. Associated case number

**G. DATA SECURITY**

To assist with identifying and preserving data and recordings, members shall tag and download recordings in accordance with procedure, and document the existence of the recording in the related case report. Transfers must occur at the end of the member's shift, and any time the member is aware that the storage capacity of the BWC is nearing its limit. In circumstances when the officer cannot complete this task, the officer's supervisor shall immediately take custody of the BWC and be responsible for uploading the data. Officers shall tag each file with the appropriate case/incident number, provide a descriptive title, and select an appropriate category for each recording, using the Axon View app or via the Evidence.com site.

Members are prohibited from intentionally erasing, altering, reusing, modifying or tampering with original audio video recordings.

Improper use or release of BWC recordings may compromise ongoing criminal and administrative investigations or violate the privacy rights of those recorded and is prohibited. The Chief of Police, or his/her designee shall appoint a member of the Department to coordinate the use and maintenance of BWCs and the storage of recordings, including (Penal Code Section 832.18) (Ref. policy 425.14):

1. Establishing a system for uploading, storing and security of recordings.
2. Designating persons responsible for uploading recorded data.
3. Establishing a maintenance system to ensure availability of BWCs.
4. Establishing a system for tagging and categorizing data according to the type of incident captured.
5. Establishing a system to prevent tampering, deleting and copying recordings and ensure chain of custody integrity.
6. Working with the City Attorney's office to ensure an appropriate retention schedule is being applied to recordings and associated documentation.
7. Maintaining an audit trail record for all access to evidence files, wherein access information for each evidence file is logged through use of a secure log-in system. The Department's storage system associates an audit trail record with each evidence file,

thereby logging the date, time, user name, activity and client IP address occurring during each evidence file access.

**H. FISCAL COST**

In 2017, the Berkeley City Council approved a resolution authorizing a contract between BPD and Axon. Axon was chosen after a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The contract will not exceed \$1,218,103 and includes the cost of 200 body worn cameras, charging stations, accessories, software licenses, training and unlimited storage for five years. The purchase also includes replacement cameras and charging stations during the third and fifth year of the contract.

There will be an annual cost of approximately \$250,000 to the police department's budget for a staff person to administer the body worn camera program beginning in FY 2019.

**I. THIRD PARTY DEPENDENCE AND ACCESS**

All BWC data will be uploaded and stored on Axon Cloud Services, Evidence.com. Axon complies with the EU-U.S. Privacy Shield Framework and the Swiss-U.S. Privacy Shield Framework as set forth by the U.S. Department of Commerce regarding the collection, use, and retention of personal information transferred from the European Union and Switzerland to the United States (collectively, "Privacy Shield"). Axon has certified to the U.S. Department of Commerce that it adheres to the Privacy Shield Principles.

**J. ALTERNATIVES**

Officers rely primarily on traditional policing techniques to gather evidence related to criminal investigations such as speaking to witnesses and suspects, gathering information from observations, and using standard data aggregation systems. These methods will continue to be employed as primary investigative tools that will be supplemented by use of BWCs to document police activity.

BWC technology provides video and audio documentation of policing activity in addition to the oral and written statements of officers, victims, and witnesses. Alternatives to the use of BWCs would be vehicle-based cameras and/or not utilizing BWCs. However, BPD sees the use of BWCs as an integral strategy to strengthen police transparency, prevent and resolve complaints against the police by civilians, document police-public interaction, and promote the perceived legitimacy and sense of procedural justice that communities have about their departments. There is a broad consensus – among community leaders, the ACLU, the Department of Justice, the Berkeley Police Department, and elected officials – that body-worn cameras can be an important tool for improving the high-quality public service expected of police officers.

**K. EXPERIENCE OF OTHER ENTITIES**

Numerous police agencies have adopted BWCs as a tool to help combat crime, to reduce citizen complaints and to reduce use of force situations. Many departments have developed their own usage policies which may include standards for required officer use, supervisory review, storage and data retention standards, and internal and public access.

A report for the U.S. Bureau of Justice Administration, [https://www.bja.gov/bwc/pdfs/14-005\\_Report\\_BODY\\_WORN\\_CAMERAS.pdf](https://www.bja.gov/bwc/pdfs/14-005_Report_BODY_WORN_CAMERAS.pdf) - pages 6-8, cites a 2013 Rialto, CA study that showed that the use of BWCs led to a 59 percent decrease in UOF and an 87.5 percent decrease in citizen complaints. Likewise, the Mesa, AZ report noted in "Impact" Section above also points to large decreases in UOF and citizen complaints.

The 2017 Police Body Worn Cameras: A Policy Scorecard, <https://www.bwcorecard.org/>, provides an analysis of how scores of different police agencies have employed BWCs through a defined list of metrics.

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## Body Worn Cameras

### 425.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the use of portable Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) by members of this department while in the performance of their duties.

This policy does not apply to non-BWC evidence, including other methods of audio or video recordings, interviews or interrogations conducted at any Berkeley Police Department facility, authorized undercover operations, wiretaps or eavesdropping (concealed listening devices).

### 425.2 POLICY

The Berkeley Police Department recognizes that video recording of contacts between department personnel and the public provides an objective record of these events, and that the use of a recording system complements field personnel in the performance of their duties by providing a video record of enforcement and investigative field contacts, which can enhance criminal prosecutions, limit civil liability, increase transparency, and enhance professionalism in the delivery of police services to the community. A video recording of an event or contact also enables the delivery of timely, relevant, and appropriate training to maximize safety for both community members and BPD personnel.

While recordings obtained from BWCs provide an objective record of events, it is understood that video recordings do not necessarily capture all events, activities and information, or reflect the full experience of the individual member(s) in a given incident. Moreover, the recordings, especially video, have limitations and may depict events differently than the events as perceived and recalled by the involved member. Specifically, it is understood that the BWC will capture information that may not have been seen and/or heard by the involved member and that the involved member may see and hear information that may not have been captured by the BWC.

### 425.3 CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROPER USE OF RECORDINGS

BWC use is limited to enforcement and investigative activities involving members of the public. The BWC recordings will capture video and audio evidence for use in criminal investigations, administrative reviews, training, civil litigation, and other proceedings protected by confidentiality laws and department policy. Improper use or release of BWC recordings may compromise ongoing criminal and administrative investigations or violate the privacy rights of those recorded and is prohibited.

### 425.4 COORDINATOR

The Chief of Police, or his/her designee shall appoint a member of the Department to coordinate the use and maintenance of BWCs and the storage of recordings, including (Penal Code § 832.18):

- (a) Establishing a system for uploading, storing and security of recordings.
- (b) Designating persons responsible for uploading recorded data.

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- (c) Establishing a maintenance system to ensure availability of BWCs.
- (d) Establishing a system for tagging and categorizing data according to the type of incident captured.
- (e) Establishing a system to prevent tampering, deleting and copying recordings and ensure chain of custody integrity.
- (f) Working with the City Attorney's office to ensure an appropriate retention schedule is being applied to recordings and associated documentation.
- (g) Maintaining an audit trail record for all access to evidence files, wherein access information for each evidence file is logged through use of a secure log-in system. The Department's storage system associates an audit trail record with each evidence file, thereby logging the date, time, user name, activity and client IP address occurring during each evidence file access.

All recordings made by members acting in their official capacity shall remain the property of the Department. Subject to the provisions of this Policy, members shall have no expectation of privacy or ownership interest in the content of these recordings.

### **425.5 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Prior to going into service, each uniformed member who is assigned to wear a BWC will be responsible for making sure that he or she is equipped with a BWC issued by the Department, and that the BWC is in good working order. If the BWC is not in working order or the member becomes aware of a malfunction at any time, the member shall promptly report the failure to his/her supervisor to permit the supervisor or other department employee to provide the member with a functioning BWC as soon as practicable. Uniformed members should wear the recorder in a conspicuous manner as prescribed by the Department, to provide a generally unobstructed camera view of contacts between members of the public and department members.

Members lawfully engaged in their duties as a police officer are not required to obtain consent from, or give notice to, members of the public, prior to recording with their BWC.

Upon the approval of the Chief of Police, or his/her designee, non-uniformed members lawfully engaged in their duties as a police officer may use an approved BWC.

Members are required to document the existence of a recording in any report or other official record of the contact, such as a CAD entry, including any instance where the member is aware that the BWC malfunctioned or the member deactivated the recording. In the event activity outlined in section 425.7 is not captured in whole or in part the member shall document this and explain in their report their understanding, if any, of why the footage was not captured in the recording.

### **425.6 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

At such time as the scene is considered secure and safe, the on-scene supervisor shall take immediate physical custody of involved officer's/officers' BWC when the device may have captured an incident involving an officer-involved shooting or use of force resulting in death or great bodily injury, and shall ensure the data is uploaded in a timely manner as prescribed by BPD policy

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(Penal Code § 832.18). Supervisors may review relevant BWC video and audio files in the field in furtherance of their duties and responsibilities.

Supervisors shall also review relevant BWC recordings prior to submitting any administrative reports.

#### **425.7 ACTIVATION OF THE BODY WORN CAMERA**

This policy is not intended to describe every possible situation in which the BWC should be used. Members shall activate the BWC as required by this policy in (a)-(f) below, and may activate the BWC at any time the member believes it would be appropriate or valuable to record an incident within the limits of privacy described herein.

The BWC shall be activated in any of the following situations:

- (a) All in-person enforcement and investigative contacts including pedestrian stops and field interview (FI) situations.
- (b) Traffic stops including, but not limited to, traffic violations, stranded motorist assistance and all crime interdiction stops.
- (c) Self-initiated field contacts in which a member would normally notify the Communications Center.
- (d) Any search activity, including the service of search or arrest warrants; probation, parole, or consent searches where the member is seeking evidence of an offense, or conducting a safety sweep or community caretaking sweep of the premises. Once a location has been secured and the member is not interacting with detainees or arrestees, the member may mute their BWC when conducting a search for evidence.
- (e) Any other contact that the member determines has become adversarial after the initial contact in a situation where the member would not otherwise activate BWC recording.
- (f) Transporting any detained or arrested person and where a member facilitates entry into or out of a vehicle, or any time the member expects to have physical contact with that person.

At no time is a member expected to jeopardize his or her safety in order to activate a BWC. The BWC should be activated by members in anticipation of situations described above, and in any unanticipated, rapidly unfolding situation where activation becomes required, as soon as the member can do so safely.

Members should activate their BWC when conducting custodial interviews unless there are other recording devices being used. Members shall document and explain in their report the reason for not recording custodial interviews, should a BWC be de-activated while conducting a custodial interview or interrogation.

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### 425.8 VICTIMS AND WITNESSES OF CRIMES; INFORMANTS

In the event that an officer has the opportunity to record interviews of victims and witnesses of crimes, they shall consider the following:

- (a) **Witnesses:** In the event a crime witness or a member of the community wishes to report or discuss criminal activity anonymously, officers have the discretion to not record. Members may offer to avert their camera to capture only audio during the interview, when doing so would facilitate obtaining the witness's recorded statement. In cases where a witness requests they not be recorded, and the member agrees not to record, members should record their request prior to turning the camera off. When a member is already recording, the member shall record their explanation for turning the camera off prior to doing so.
- (b) **Victims:** Upon request by the victim, officers have the discretion to not record the interview. Members may offer to avert their camera to capture only audio during the interview, when doing so would facilitate obtaining the victim's recorded statement. In cases where a victim requests they not be recorded, and the member agrees not to record, members should record their request prior to turning the camera off. When a member is already recording, the member shall record their explanation for turning the camera off prior to doing so.
  - 1. **Domestic Violence Victims:** Members should attempt to record interviews of domestic violence victims to facilitate future prosecution efforts and discourage later recanting of statements. Members should also record interviews with children who witness domestic violence, when the child is willing.
  - 2. **Child Abuse and Sexual Assault Victims:** Members shall have the discretion to record, absent any request to not record the interview by victims, witnesses, or non-suspect parents of victims, during child abuse and/or sexual assault investigations.
- (c) **Informants:** Members shall not activate their recorders when conducting an interview or engaging in a conversation with a confidential informant, unless needed as evidence.

Members have no obligation to advise a victim or witness that he or she is being recorded, but may do so at their discretion. When a victim or witness requests they not be recorded, members may consider their request (See Penal Code 632).

Members shall remain sensitive to the dignity of all individuals being recorded and exercise discretion to respect privacy by discontinuing recording whenever it reasonably appears to the member that such privacy concerns may outweigh any legitimate law enforcement interest in recording. Recording should resume when privacy concerns are no longer at issue unless the member determines that the circumstances no longer fit the criteria for recording.

Informal community interactions differ from "consensual encounters" in which members make an effort to develop reasonable suspicion to detain or probable cause to arrest. To strengthen relationships between police and citizens, members may use discretion regarding the recording of informal, non-enforcement related interactions with members of the community.



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#### **425.9 ACTIVATION IN CROWD CONTROL SITUATIONS**

During crowd control, protest or mass arrest incidents, members shall use their BWCs consistent with this policy, or when directed by the Incident Commander. The Incident Commander shall document his or her orders to activate in an appropriate report (e.g. Operations Plan or After Action Report).

The limitations outlined in the Intelligence Procedures for First Amendment Activities Policy governing intelligence-gathering procedures for First Amendment activities, apply to the use of BWCs and other recording devices.

Video recording of individuals who are picketing or engaged in peaceful protest will be avoided unless the officer believes a violation of criminal law is occurring, may occur, or if the officer interacts with a participant or third party to the event, or a participant or third party initiates contact with the member.

#### **425.10 SURREPTITIOUS USE OF THE BWC**

Members of the Department may surreptitiously record any conversation during the course of a criminal investigation in which the member reasonably believes that such a recording will be lawful and beneficial to the investigation.

Members shall not surreptitiously record another department member without a court order unless lawfully authorized by the Chief of Police, or his/her designee.

Members are prohibited from using department-issued BWCs for non-work related personal activity. BWCs will not be activated in places where members have a reasonable expectation of privacy, such as workplace locker rooms, dressing rooms, members' private vehicles or restrooms.

#### **425.11 CESSATION OF RECORDING**

Once activated, the member may mute or deactivate their BWC at any time based on their discretion, in the following circumstances:

- (a) Discussion of tactical or confidential information with other law enforcement personnel.
- (b) Where members are on a perimeter or assigned to a static post where the member's direct participation in the incident is complete and they are not actively part of an investigation.
- (c) If it is necessary to discuss issues or concerns with an employee, supervisor, doctor, nurse, or paramedic in private.
- (d) In the member's judgment, a recording would interfere with his or her ability to conduct an investigation.

Decisions regarding the reason for muting or BWC deactivation shall be noted on the recording, or otherwise documented.

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Members shall cease audio/video recording whenever necessary to ensure conversations are not recorded between a person in custody and the person's attorney, religious advisor or physician, unless there is explicit consent from all parties to the conversation. This does not apply to conversations with paramedics or EMTs during their response at a scene, and during transport.

#### **425.12 EXPLOSIVE DEVICE**

Many portable recorders, including BWCs and audio/video transmitters, emit radio waves that could trigger an explosive device. Therefore, these devices should not be used where an explosive device may be present.

Members believing that the use of a BWC may detonate an explosive device may deactivate their BWC in such cases.

#### **425.13 PROHIBITED USE OF BODY WORN CAMERAS**

Members are prohibited from using a department-issued BWC for personal use and are prohibited from making personal copies of recordings created while on duty or while acting in their official capacity.

Members are prohibited from retaining BWC recordings. Members shall not duplicate or distribute such recordings, except for department business purposes. All such recordings shall be retained at the Department.

Members may not use personally owned recorders (e.g. personal cell phone) to document contacts unless exigent circumstances exist to warrant the use of personally owned recording devices. Regardless, if a member is using a department-issued BWC, and/or another recording device, members shall comply with the provisions of this policy, including retention and release requirements. In every event where members use any recording device aside from or in addition to their department-issued BWC, the member shall document and explain the use and the exigent circumstance in their police report (e.g. the BWC failed and evidence needed to be captured at that moment in time).

Recordings shall not be used by any member for the purpose of embarrassment, intimidation or ridicule.

#### **425.14 PROCESSING AND HANDLING OF RECORDINGS**

To assist with identifying and preserving data and recordings, members shall tag and download recordings in accordance with procedure, and document the existence of the recording in the related case report. Transfers must occur at the end of the member's shift, and any time the member is aware that the storage capacity of the BWC is nearing its limit. In circumstances when the officer cannot complete this task, the officer's supervisor shall immediately take custody of the BWC and be responsible for uploading the data. Officers shall tag each file with the appropriate case/incident number, provide a descriptive title, and select an appropriate category for each recording, using the Axon View app or via the Evidence.com site.

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Members are prohibited from intentionally erasing, altering, reusing, modifying or tampering with original audio video recordings. Members may request restriction and subsequent deletion of an accidental recording as described under section 425.16 below.

#### **425.15 RETENTION REQUIREMENTS**

The Department shall retain all recordings for a minimum of 60 days. Incidents involving consensual contacts, and aid to citizens will be retained for six months, and cold reports will be retained for one year. Recordings of incidents involving use of force by a police officer, detentions, arrests, or recordings relevant to a formal or informal complaint shall be retained for a minimum of two years and one month. Recordings relating to court cases and personnel complaints that are being adjudicated will be manually deleted at the same time other evidence associated with the case is purged in line with the Department's evidence retention policy. Any recordings related to administrative or civil proceedings shall be maintained until such matter is fully adjudicated, at which time it shall be deleted in line with the Department's evidence retention policy, and any applicable orders from the court.

Recordings created by equipment testing or accidental activation may be deleted after 60 days.

#### **425.16 ACCIDENTAL RECORDING - REQUEST FOR RESTRICTION**

In the event of an accidental or sensitive personal recording of non-departmental business activity, where the resulting recording is of no investigative or evidentiary value, the recording employee may request that the file be restricted pending 60-day deletion by submitting an email request via their chain of command to the Professional Standards Division Captain. The Professional Standards Division Captain will approve or deny the restriction request. In cases where the request is denied, an appeal may be submitted to the Chief of Police, or his/her designee, for restriction authorization. In all cases of restriction requests, a determination should be made within seven calendar days.

#### **425.17 REVIEW OF RECORDINGS BY A MEMBER**

Members are authorized to review their own BWC video files at any time in furtherance of official business. Such official business includes, but is not limited to, preparing written reports, prior to or while providing testimony in a case or being deposed. Members may review recordings as an evidentiary resource, except as stated in subsection 425.17.1 below. Members shall not retain personal copies of recordings. Members shall not use the fact that a recording was made as a reason to write a less detailed report.

##### **425.17.1 OFFICER INVOLVED INCIDENTS RESULTING IN GRAVE BODILY INJURY OR DEATH**

- (a) In the event of a critical incident that results in grave bodily injury or death, including an officer-involved shooting or an in-custody death, the BWC of the involved member(s) shall be taken from him or her and secured by a supervisor, commander, or appropriate investigator, as necessary. The involved member(s) shall not access or obtain their footage of the incident until such time as the criminal investigator(s) have reviewed

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- the video files. It will be the responsibility of the investigation team's supervisor to coordinate with the involved member's supervisor to obtain footage of the incident on behalf of the member.
- (b) Personnel uploading secured BWC video files shall not view the files unless authorized.
  - (c) No member involved in a critical incident may view any video recordings prior to an interview by the appropriate criminal investigative unit, and receiving command approval.
  - (d) Prior to the conclusion of the criminal interview process, the involved member and/or the member's representative will have an opportunity to review the member's recording(s). The involved member may choose to provide additional information to supplement his or her statement by providing a supplemental statement or separate supplemental document. In no case shall a member alter a report made prior to reviewing the recording.
  - (e) The Department acknowledges that recordings taken during critical incidents obtained from BWCs do not necessarily reflect the full extent of the nature of the event or the experience, analysis, training, threat assessment or state of mind of the individual officers(s) in a given incident. Moreover, the recordings, especially video, have limitations and may depict events differently than the events recalled by the involved officer. Specifically, it is understood that the recording device will capture information that may not have been heard and/or observed by the involved officer and that officers may see and hear events that are not captured by the camera.

Officers who are involved in any critical incident where video recordings exist depicting the involved officer, either as a subject officer or witness, shall be provided the following admonishment to the initial interview or submission of the initial written report:

"In this case, there is video evidence that you will have an opportunity to view. Video evidence has limitations and may depict the events differently than you recall, and may not depict all of the events as seen or heard by you. Video has a limited field of view and may not capture events normally seen by the human eye. The "frame rate" of video may limit the camera's ability to capture movements normally seen by the human eye. Lighting as seen on the video may be different than what is seen by the human eye. Videos are a two-dimensional medium and may not capture depth, distance or positional orientation as well as the human eye. Remember, the video evidence is intended to assist your memory and ensure that your statement explains your state of mind at the time of the incident."

#### 425.17.2 SUPERVISORY REVIEW

With the exception of section 425.17.1 above, supervisors are authorized to review relevant recordings any time they are reviewing and approving case reports from their subordinates.

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#### 425.17.3 INVESTIGATORY REVIEW

Supervisors are authorized to review relevant recordings any time they are investigating alleged misconduct or reports of meritorious conduct, or whenever such recordings support review of the member's performance.

Recorded files may also be reviewed:

- (a) Upon approval by a supervisor, by any member of the Department who is participating in conduct of an official investigation, such as a personnel complaint, an administrative investigation or a criminal investigation.
- (b) Pursuant to lawful process or by court or District Attorney personnel who are otherwise authorized to review evidence in a related case.
- (c) By personnel assigned to investigatory units who are authorized to view any BWC video file associated to their active investigations, unless otherwise prohibited by policy.
- (d) Upon approval by the Chief of Police, Internal Affairs investigators may review BWC video with a complainant.

Investigators conducting criminal or internal investigations shall:

1. Advise the coordinator to restrict access to the BWC file in criminal or internal investigations, as necessary.
2. Review the file to determine whether the BWC file is of evidentiary value and process it in accordance with established protocols.
3. Notify the coordinator to remove the access restriction when the criminal/internal investigation is closed.

#### 425.17.4 TEACHING OR LEARNING TOOL

BWC files may also be reviewed by training staff regarding specific incidents where such files may serve as an internal learning or teaching tool. In the event that videos are intended to be used for training purposes, the involved officer(s) will first be consulted. If he/she objects to the use of the video, such objection shall be submitted to the person in charge of training who shall weigh the value of the video for training against the officer(s) objections and basis for the objection. Should the person in charge of training refuse to grant the request of the involved officer(s), the matter shall be heard by the Chief of Police, or his/her designee, prior to utilizing the video.

#### 425.17.5 COB CIVIL CLAIMS AND LAWSUITS

BWC recordings may be reviewed and used by City of Berkeley defense counsel for the purposes of defending the city in civil claims and lawsuits, with the authorization of the Chief of Police, or his/her designee.

#### 425.18 RELEASE OF RECORDINGS

All recordings should be reviewed by the Custodian of Records and the City Attorney's Office prior to public release, see General Order R-23 (Release of Public Records and Information).

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In the event that the Police Department or City Department intends to release or publish for any purpose video recordings where officers are captured on video or the video depicts actions taken by them in the course of the performance of their official duties, those officers shall be given written notice of the intention to release or publish said video at least 48 hours prior to such release.

BPD may, without prior notice to involved officers, share video footage with law enforcement, national security, military, or other government agencies outside of Berkeley, when there is reasonable suspicion that criminal activity has occurred or is about to occur.

#### 425.18.1 POLICE REVIEW COMMISSION (PRC)

Access to recorded files will be granted for the purposes of review to the Police Review Commission Officer and/or Investigator investigating a specific complaint where BWC evidence files are available, and are not part of any ongoing criminal investigation.

- (a) The PRC Officer and PRC Investigator will be provided user account access to evidence files through the evidence management system for their use during a complaint investigation and to facilitate viewing by Board of Inquiry members during a Board of Inquiry.
- (b) The PRC Officer and PRC investigator shall not make or create a copy of any evidence file, nor make or allow to be made any audio or video recording of any evidence file while it is being streamed and viewed from the evidence management system.
- (c) The PRC Officer and PRC Investigator shall not allow any unauthorized individuals to view or access evidence files.
- (d) The evidence management system associates an audit trail record with each evidence file, thereby logging the date, time, user, activity, and client IP address occurring during each evidence file access.
- (e) The evidence management system shall only be accessed on City premises.
- (f) The Department retains custody and control of the recordings, and content of the video will be subject to applicable legal standards including, but not limited to the confidentiality requirements of the Public Safety Officers' Procedural Bill of Rights, (Government Code § 3300, et seq., Penal Code § 832.7, and the California Public Records Act; Government Code § 6250, et seq.)

#### 425.18.2 PUBLIC RECORDS ACT (PRA) REQUEST

Access to recorded files will be granted for the purposes of review in response to a public records request, as permitted under Government Code § 6254(f) and BPD General Order R-23 (Release of Public Records and Information). General Order R-23 does not authorize release of investigative files or documents that would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. Circumstances where this might arise in video include footage taken inside a home, a medical facility, the scene of a medical emergency, or where an individual recorded has a "reasonable expectation of privacy."

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### 425.18.3 MEDIA

Access to recorded files will be granted for the purposes of review to media personnel or the general public with permission of the Chief of Police, or his/her designee, subject to General Order R-23 and privacy protections indicated in this policy.

### **425.19 COMPLIANCE WITH BMC 2.99 ACQUISITION AND USE OF SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY**

This policy shall comply at all times with the requirement of BMC 2.99 Acquisition and Use of Surveillance Technology.

### **425.20 TRAINING REQUIRED**

Officers who are assigned BWCs must complete department-approved training in the proper use and maintenance of the devices before deploying to the field.

As part of a continual improvement process, regular review should be conducted by BPD staff of the training on this policy and the related use of BWCs under this policy. Information resulting from the outcomes of this review shall be incorporated into the City Manager's annual "Surveillance Technology Report" as required under BMC 2.99 Acquisition and Use of Surveillance Technology.

The Department, Police Review Commission and other City Departments shall maintain the confidentiality of Department sworn employee personnel records as required by state and local law. Failure to maintain the confidentiality of Department sworn employee personnel records, whether or not intentional, may subject individuals to civil penalties and discipline, up to and including termination of employment.





## Surveillance Use Policy - GPS Tracking Devices

### 1301.1 PURPOSE

Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking devices designed to track the movements of vehicles, bicycles, cargo, machinery, and other items. GPS trackers are utilized during active criminal investigations and shall be used pursuant to a lawfully issued search warrant, court order or with consent.

### 1301.2 AUTHORIZED USE

GPS trackers shall only be used pursuant to a valid search warrant; pursuant to court-ordered parole or probation conditions, if applicable; or with consent of the owner of the object to which the GPS tracker is attached.

GPS trackers shall only be utilized for law enforcement purposes.

### 1301.3 DATA COLLECTION

Location data may be obtained through the use of a GPS Tracker.

### 1301.4 DATA ACCESS

Access to GPS tracking data shall be limited to Berkeley Police Department (BPD) personnel utilizing the GPS Tracker(s) for active criminal investigations. Information may be shared in accordance with 1301.9 below.

### 1301.5 DATA PROTECTION

The data from the GPS tracker is encrypted by the vendor. The data is only accessible through a secure website to BPD personnel who have been granted security access.

### 1301.6 CIVIL LIBERTIES AND RIGHTS PROTECTION:

The Berkeley Police Department is dedicated to the most efficient utilization of its resources and services in its public safety endeavors. The Berkeley Police Department recognizes the need to protect its ownership and control over shared information and to protect the privacy and civil liberties of the public, in accordance with federal and state law. The procedures described within this policy (Data Access, Data Protection, Data Retention, Public Access and Third Party Data Sharing) protect against the unauthorized use of GPS tracker data. These procedures ensure the data is not used in a way that would violate or infringe upon anyone's civil rights and/or liberties, including but not limited to potentially disparate or adverse impacts on any communities or groups.

### 1301.7 DATA RETENTION

Data is stored electronically by the host company for 90 days, and then it is purged.

Printed data shall be kept in accordance with applicable laws, BPD policies that do not conflict with applicable law or court order, and/or as specified in a search warrant.

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**1301.8 PUBLIC ACCESS**

Data collected and used in a police report shall be made available to the public in accordance with department policy and applicable state or federal law.

**1301.9 THIRD-PARTY DATA-SHARING**

Data collected from the GPS trackers may be shared with the following:

- (a) The District Attorney's Office for use as evidence to aid in prosecution, in accordance with laws governing evidence;
- (b) Other law enforcement personnel as part of an active criminal investigation;
- (c) Other third parties, pursuant to a Court Order.

**1301.10 TRAINING**

Training for the operation of the GPS trackers shall be provided by BPD personnel. All BPD personnel shall be provided with this Surveillance Use Policy.

**1301.11 AUDITING AND OVERSIGHT**

Division Captains or their designee shall ensure compliance with this Surveillance Use Policy.

**1301.12 MAINTENANCE**

GPS trackers shall only be obtained with the permission of the Investigations Division Captain or his/her designee. The Investigations Division Captain or his/her designee will ensure the trackers are returned when the mission/investigation is completed.

## GPS TRACKING DEVICES

### A. DESCRIPTION

Global Positioning System (GPS) trackers are devices designed to track the movements of vehicles, bicycles, cargo, machinery, and/or individuals.

The Berkeley Police Department currently uses two types of GPS Tracking Devices. The manufacturer, 3SI Security System, describes them as follows:

1. The "Slap-n-Track" (SNT) tracker tracks vehicles, cargo, and other large assets for long deployments. Offers extended battery life, rugged and weatherproof housing, and optional magnets - per the manufacturer.
2. The "Electronic Stake Out" (ESO) tracker offers Law Enforcement miniaturized and covertly packaged GPS Tracking Solutions to target property crimes, especially pattern crimes, in their local jurisdictions.

### B. PURPOSE

The purpose of GPS trackers is to enhance the quality of active investigations. The trackers are utilized during active investigations and shall be used pursuant to a lawfully issued search warrant, court order, or with consent as described below.

### C. LOCATION

GPS tracking devices shall be deployed in locations consistent with the authority granted by consent or a lawfully issued search warrant or court order.

### D. IMPACT

The Berkeley Police Department is dedicated to the most efficient utilization of its resources and services in its public safety endeavors. The Berkeley Police Department recognizes the need to protect its ownership and control over shared information and to protect the privacy and civil liberties of the public, in accordance with federal and state law. The procedures utilized with GPS trackers help to ensure unauthorized use of its data. The policies ensure the data is not used in a way that would violate or infringe upon anyone's civil rights and/or liberties, including but not limited to potentially disparate or adverse impacts on any communities or groups.

### E. MITIGATION

Data from a GPS tracker is encrypted from the vendor. Data shall be maintained in a secure, non-public location, such as locations requiring security access or badge access, thereby safeguarding the public from any impacts identified in subsection (D).

### F. DATA TYPES AND SOURCES

Location data is obtained through the use of a GPS Tracker.

Latitude and longitude data is captured and stored indefinitely by 3SI when both types of trackers are used. This data is only shared with the District Attorney's Office for prosecution purposes.

**G. DATA SECURITY**

Data from a GPS tracker is encrypted from the vendor. Data shall be maintained in a secure, non-public location, such as locations requiring security access or badge access. In addition, Captains for Divisions utilizing GPS trackers are responsible for ensuring compliance with the procedures for utilizing GPS Trackers.

**H. FISCAL COST**

The initial cost of the GPS trackers totaled \$4,335.

- Between 2015-present BPD purchased 5 GPS "ESO" trackers for \$2,250 (\$450 each).
- In 2017 BPD purchased 3 GPS "SNT" trackers for \$2,085 (\$695 each).

The annual cost for the GPS data service totals \$1,920.

- The annual data service for the five ESO trackers is \$1,020 (\$204 each).
- The annual data service for the three SNT trackers is \$900 (\$300 each).

Personnel costs are minimal in that the GPS trackers are used as a resource during normal working hours.

GPS trackers are funded through the Investigations Division's general budget.

**I. THIRD PARTY DEPENDENCE AND ACCESS**

Data collected from the GPS trackers may be shared with the following:

- a. The District Attorney's Office for use as evidence to aid in prosecution, in accordance with laws governing evidence;
- b. Other law enforcement offices as part of a criminal investigation;
- c. Other third parties, pursuant to a Court Order.

**J. ALTERNATIVES**

None.

**K. EXPERIENCE OF OTHER ENTITIES**

The use of GPS technology is common amongst law enforcement agencies throughout the country.

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## Surveillance Use Policy - ALPR

### 1302.1 PURPOSE

This Surveillance Use Policy is issued in compliance with BMC 2.99, and incorporates language from the Berkeley Police Department ALPR Policy #422 and adds elements as required by BMC 2.99.

The policy of the Berkeley Police Department is to utilize ALPR technology to capture and store digital license plate data and images while recognizing the established privacy rights of the public.

All data and images gathered by the ALPR are for the official use of this department. Because such data may contain confidential information, it is not open to public review. (Ref. policy 422.2)

### 1302.2 AUTHORIZED AND PROHIBITED USES USE

Use of an ALPR is restricted to the purposes outlined below. Department members shall not use, or allow others to use the equipment or database records for any unauthorized purpose (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53). (Ref. policy 422.4)

- (a) An ALPR shall only be used for official law enforcement business.
- (b) An ALPR may be used in conjunction with any routine patrol operation or criminal investigation. Reasonable suspicion or probable cause is not required before using an ALPR.
- (c) While an ALPR may be used to canvass license plates around any crime scene, particular consideration should be given to using ALPR-equipped cars to canvass areas around homicides, shootings and other major incidents. Partial license plates reported during major crimes should be entered into the ALPR system in an attempt to identify suspect vehicles.

### 1302.3 DATA COLLECTION

All data and images gathered by an ALPR are for the official use of the Berkeley Police Department. Such data may contain confidential CLETS information and is not open to public review. ALPR information gathered and retained by this department may be used and shared with prosecutors or other law enforcement agencies only as permitted by law and Berkeley Police Department policy. (Ref. policy 422.5)

### 1302.4 DATA ACCESS

- (a) No member of this department shall operate ALPR equipment or access ALPR data without first completing department-approved training.
- (b) No ALPR operator may access California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) data unless otherwise authorized to do so.
- (c) If practicable, the officer should verify an ALPR response through the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) before taking enforcement action that

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is based solely on an ALPR alert.

### **1302.5 DATA PROTECTION**

All saved data will be safeguarded and protected by both procedural and technological means. The Berkeley Police Department will observe the following safeguards regarding access to and use of stored data (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53) (Ref. policy 422.6):

- (a) All ALPR data downloaded to any workstation or server shall be accessible only through a login/password-protected system capable of documenting all access of information by name, date and time (Civil Code § 1798.90.52).
- (b) Berkeley Police Department members approved to access ALPR data under these guidelines are permitted to access the data for legitimate law enforcement purposes only, such as when the data relate to a specific criminal investigation or department-related civil or administrative action and parking enforcement.
- (c) Aggregated ALPR data not related to specific criminal investigations shall not be released to any local, state or federal agency or entity without the express written consent of the City Manager.
- (d) Measures will be taken to ensure the accuracy of ALPR information. Errors discovered in ALPR data collected by ALPR units shall be marked, corrected or deleted in accordance with the type and severity of the error in question

### **1302.6 CIVIL LIBERTIES AND RIGHTS PROTECTION:**

The Berkeley Police Department is dedicated to the most efficient utilization of its resources and services in its public safety endeavors. The Berkeley Police Department recognizes the need to protect its ownership and control over shared information and to protect the privacy and civil liberties of the public, in accordance with federal and state law. The procedures described within this policy (Data Access, Data Protection, Data Retention, Public Access and Third Party Data Sharing) protect against the unauthorized use of ALPR data. These policies ensure the data is not used in a way that would violate or infringe upon anyone's civil rights and/or liberties, including but not limited to potentially disparate or adverse impacts on any communities or groups.

### **1302.7 DATA RETENTION**

The Investigations Division Captain, or his/her designee, is responsible for ensuring proper collection and retention of ALPR data. Technical support and assistance shall be provided by the City of Berkeley's Department of Information Technology (IT) and associated ALPR system providers/vendors as identified in Appendix A. IT staff will not have the ability to access or view individual records or reports, as they may contain CLETS information they are not authorized to receive. IT's role will be limited to providing initial infrastructure set-up, unless particular IT staff members have been cleared by DOJ background checks and authorized by the Chief of Police to receive ALPR records.

All ALPR data downloaded to the server should be stored for a minimum of one year (Government Code § 34090.6) and in accordance with the established records retention schedule. Thereafter, ALPR data should be purged unless it has become, or it is reasonable to believe it will become,

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evidence in a criminal or civil action or is subject to a lawful action to produce records. In those circumstances the applicable data should be downloaded from the server onto portable media and booked into evidence. (Ref. policy 422.5)

- (a) Collected images and metadata of hits will not be stored for more than 365 days. Metadata of reads will not be stored for more than 30 days. Images of reads will not be transferred to the server.

#### **1302.8 PUBLIC ACCESS**

- (a) Non-law enforcement requests for access to stored ALPR data shall be processed according to the Records Maintenance and Release Policy in accordance with applicable law. (Ref. policy 422.6 (a))
- (b) Non-law enforcement requests for information regarding a specific vehicle's license plate may be honored when the requester is the registered owner of the vehicle in question, and when providing such information will not invade the privacy of a third party. The requestor in such cases must provide acceptable proof of his or her identity and of ownership of the vehicle in question. (Ref. policy 422.6 (b))

#### **1302.9 THIRD-PARTY DATA-SHARING**

The ALPR data may be shared only with other law enforcement or prosecutorial agencies for official law enforcement purposes or as otherwise permitted by law.

Requests for ALPR data by non-law enforcement or non-prosecutorial agencies will be processed as provided in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy (Civil Code § 1798.90.55).

Aggregated ALPR data not related to specific criminal investigations shall not be released to any local, state or federal agency or entity without the express written consent of the City Manager. (Ref. policy 422.6 (e))

#### **1302.10 TRAINING**

Training for the operation of ALPR Technology shall be provided by BPD personnel. All BPD employees who utilize ALPR Technology shall be provided a copy of this Surveillance Use Policy.

#### **1302.11 AUDITING AND OVERSIGHT**

ALPR system audits will be conducted by the Professional Standards Bureau's Audit and Inspections Sergeant on a regular basis, at least biannually. (Ref. policy 422.6 (g))

#### **1302.12 MAINTENANCE**

Any installation and maintenance of ALPR equipment, as well as ALPR data retention and access, shall be managed by the Investigations Division Captain. The Investigations Division Captain will assign members under his/her command to administer the day-to-day operation of the ALPR equipment and data. (Ref. policy 422.3)

##### **1302.12.1 ALPR ADMINISTRATOR**

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The Investigations Division Captain, or his/her designee, shall be responsible for developing guidelines and procedures to comply with the requirements of Civil Code § 1798.90.5 et seq. This includes, but is not limited to (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53) (Ref. policy 422.3.1):

- (a) A description of the job title or other designation of the members and independent contractors who are authorized to use or access the ALPR system or to collect ALPR information.
- (b) Training requirements for authorized users.
- (c) A description of how the ALPR system will be monitored to ensure the security of the information and compliance with applicable privacy laws.
- (d) Procedures for system operators to maintain records of access in compliance with Civil Code § 1798.90.52.
- (e) The title and name of the current designee in overseeing the ALPR operation.
- (f) Ensuring this policy and related procedures are conspicuously posted on the City's website.

DRAFT



## AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER (ALPR) DEVICES

### A. DESCRIPTION

Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs) are high-speed, computer controlled camera systems that are typically mounted on Berkeley Police Department Parking Enforcement Vehicles.

ALPRs capture license plate numbers which come into view, along with the location, date and time. The data, which includes a photo of the front or the back of the car displaying the license plate, is then uploaded to a central server.

### B. PURPOSE

The Berkeley Police Department's Parking Enforcement Unit utilizes vehicles equipped with ALPRs to conduct enforcement of posted time limits in commercial areas and Residential Preferential Parking (RPP) permit areas. These ALPR's also access information in the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System's (CLETS) Stolen Vehicle System (SVS) database, which provides information on matches for stolen and wanted vehicles.

The Berkeley Police Department's Scofflaw Enforcement program (often referred to as the "booting" program) utilizes an ALPR to scan license plates, and check the scanned "reads" against a list of vehicles which have five or more outstanding parking citations exceeding 30 days old. Typically, upon a confirmed "hit," the vehicle is immobilized with a "boot", or towed, and the owner has to pay the outstanding citations and fees in order to release the boot and/or recover their car from storage. This allows the City to recover outstanding parking citation fees.

### C. LOCATION

Parking Enforcement vehicles travel throughout the city; using the ALPRs as described above.

### D. IMPACT

The Berkeley Police Department is dedicated to the most efficient utilization of its resources and services in its public safety endeavors. The Berkeley Police Department recognizes the need to protect its ownership and control over shared information and to protect the privacy and civil liberties of the public, in accordance with federal and state law. The procedures utilized with ALPR Units will help to ensure unauthorized use of its data. The procedures will ensure the data is not used in a way that would violate or infringe upon anyone's civil rights and/or liberties, including but not limited to potentially disparate or adverse impacts on any communities or groups.

**E. MITIGATION**

All saved data will be safeguarded and protected by both procedural and technological means which are implemented to safeguard the public from any impacts identified in subsection (D). See subsection (G) for further.

**F. DATA TYPES AND SOURCES**

Photographs of license plates and location data may be obtained through the use of ALPR Units.

**G. DATA SECURITY**

The Berkeley Police Department will observe the following safeguards regarding access to and use of stored data (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53):

1. All ALPR data downloaded to any workstation or server shall be accessible only through a login/password-protected system capable of documenting all access of information by name, date and time (Civil Code § 1798.90.52).
2. Berkeley Police Department members approved to access ALPR data under these guidelines are permitted to access the data for legitimate law enforcement purposes only, such as when the data relate to a specific criminal investigation or department-related civil or administrative action and parking enforcement.
3. Aggregated ALPR data not related to specific criminal investigations shall not be released to any local, state or federal agency or entity without the express written consent of the City Manager.
4. Measures will be taken to ensure the accuracy of ALPR information. Errors discovered in ALPR data collected by ALPR units shall be marked, corrected or deleted in accordance with the type and severity of the error in question.

**H. FISCAL COST**

In 2015, Public Works brought an ALPR Contract to City Council. Council approved a contract for Public Works to buy five Genetec ALPR Units with PCS Mobile communication, for a pilot program for \$450,000.

In 2017, after success with the program, City Council approved an amendment to the contract, allowing Public Works to purchase 15 more ALPR Units for Parking Enforcement vehicles, and to continue its use of PCS Mobile, for 1,200,000. The money was allocated from the goBerkeley/Federal Highway Administration Parking Meter Fund.

Yearly service for the ALPR Units includes warranties, hosting services, cellular connection, mobile computing, and training which varies. The costs through fiscal year 2022 are currently estimated at \$1,175,000.

Personnel costs are minimal in that the ALPR Units are used as a resource during normal working hours.

#### **I. THIRD PARTY DEPENDENCE AND ACCESS**

1. Vendor Access-Scofflaw Enforcement: The contracted vendor for the City's Scofflaw Enforcement program is currently Paylock. Paylock stores data on a secure server, and provides access to authorized personnel via Paylock's "Bootview" secure website, as described below:
  - a. All data captured by the ALPR is stored on the laptop for 30 days, and is only accessible during that period via the ALPR proprietary software. This includes reads, hits, and photographs associated with each.
  - b. When a car is booted and/or towed, the read, hit and photographic data relating to the booting and/or towing of scofflaw vehicles is uploaded to Paylock's secure server. No other data is uploaded to Paylock's secure server.
2. Vendor Access-General Parking Enforcement and goBerkeley Program: The contracted vendor for the City's Parking Enforcement ALPR is currently Genetec. The city uses Genetec ALPRs to support efficient enforcement of posted time limit parking and Residential Preferential Parking permits.
  - a. In addition, Genetec periodically provides reports to the City of Berkeley Transportation Division's "goBerkeley" parking management program so that the City's program can analyze data about parking demand. These reports do not contain any information about a vehicle's license plate number, the name of the registered owner, address of registered owner, or any other information gleaned from the license plate number associated with a particular vehicle. Rather, the reports consist of completely anonymized information, using identification numbers that are not associated with a particular license plate or registered owner.
  - b. The reports will provide only the date, time, location, approximate address, "goBerkeley" blockface ID, and Residential Permit Pass (RPP) area in which a vehicle was observed. If a citation was not issued for an RPP or other time limit violation, the report may also provide the reason a parking enforcement officer concluded there was no parking violation, e.g., RPP visitor pass, disabled placard or license plate, etc.
3. Department of Information Technology Access: Technical support and assistance for ALPR's is provided by the City of Berkeley's Department of Information Technology (IT) and associated ALPR system providers/vendors as identified herein. IT staff who

do not have the proper clearance and training do not have the ability to access or view individual records or reports, as they may contain CLETS information they are not authorized to receive. IT provides initial infrastructure set-up, and continued systems support as needed to ensure efficient and accurate performance of the ALPR hardware and software. Only IT staff members who have successfully undergone DOJ background checks and training are authorized by the Chief of Police to view specific ALPR records.

4. Other Law Enforcement Agency Access: ALPR data may only be shared with other law enforcement or prosecutorial agencies for official law enforcement purposes or as otherwise permitted by law. Requests for ALPR data by non-law enforcement or non-prosecutorial agencies will be processed as provided in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy (Civil Code § 1798.90.55). Aggregated ALPR data not related to specific criminal investigations shall not be released to any local, state or federal agency or entity without the express written consent of the City Manager.
5. Member Access: No member of this department shall operate ALPR equipment or access ALPR data without first completing department-approved training. No ALPR operator may access CLETS data unless otherwise authorized to do so. If practicable, the officer should verify an ALPR response through CLETS before taking enforcement action that is based solely on an ALPR alert.
6. Public Access: Non-law enforcement requests for access to stored ALPR data shall be processed according to the Records Maintenance and Release Policy in accordance with applicable law. Non-law enforcement requests for information regarding a specific vehicle's license plate may be honored when the requester is the registered owner of the vehicle in question, and when providing such information will not invade the privacy of a third party. The requestor in such cases must provide acceptable proof of his or her identity and of ownership of the vehicle in question.

#### **J. ALTERNATIVES**

None.

#### **K. EXPERIENCE OF OTHER ENTITIES**

The use of ALPR technology is common amongst law enforcement agencies throughout the country, in support of parking enforcement, and law enforcement criminal investigations.

## DEPARTMENT ORDER

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER #001-2016

DATE ISSUED: 02/18/16

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**SUBJECT: AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER (ALPR)**

### PURPOSE

- 1 - This order establishes guidelines for the use of the Berkeley Police Department's Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology and data. ALPR technology functions by automatically capturing an image of a vehicle's license plate, transforming that image into alphanumeric characters using optical character recognition software, and storing that information, along with relevant metadata (e.g. geo-location and temporal information, as well as data about the ALPR). ALPRs may be used by the Berkeley Police Department Parking Enforcement and Traffic Units for official law enforcement purposes.

### POLICY

#### **Administration of ALPR Data**

- 2- Any installation and maintenance of ALPR equipment, as well as ALPR data retention and access, shall be managed by the Investigations Division Captain through the Traffic Bureau. The Investigations Division Captain will assign personnel under his/her command to administer the day-to-day operation of the ALPR equipment and data.

#### **ALPR Operation**

- 3- Department personnel shall not use, or allow others to use, the ALPR equipment or database records for any unauthorized purpose.
  - a. An ALPR shall only be used for official and legitimate law enforcement business.
  - b. Reasonable suspicion or probable cause is not required before using an ALPR.
  - c. No member of this department shall operate ALPR equipment or access ALPR data without first completing department-approved training.
  - d. No ALPR operator may access California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) data unless otherwise authorized to do so.

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DATE ISSUED: 02/18/16

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### ALPR Data Collection and Retention

- 4- All data and images gathered by an ALPR are for the official use of the Berkeley Police Department. Such data may contain confidential CLETS information and is not open to public review. ALPR information gathered and retained by this department may be used and shared with prosecutors or other law enforcement agencies only as permitted by law.
- 5- The Parking Enforcement Manager is responsible for ensuring proper collection and retention of ALPR data. Technical support and assistance shall be provided by City Department of Information Technology personnel and associated ALPR system providers/vendors as identified below. IT staff will not have the ability to access or view individual records or reports, as they may contain CLETS information they are not authorized to receive. IT's role will be limited to providing initial infrastructure set-up, unless particular IT staff members have been cleared by DOJ background checks and authorized by the Chief of Police to receive ALPR records.
- 6- All ALPR data shall be stored as described in this order and thereafter shall be purged unless it has become, or it is reasonable to believe it will become, evidence in a criminal or civil action or is subject to a lawful action to produce records. In those circumstances the applicable data shall be downloaded from the server onto portable media and booked into evidence. The records will then be subject to standard evidence retention policies and statutes.
  - a. Collected images and metadata of hits will not be stored for more than 365 days. Metadata of reads will not be stored for more than 30 days. Images of reads will not be transferred to the server.

### Accountability and Safeguards

- 7- All saved data will be safeguarded and protected by both procedural and technological means. The Berkeley Police Department will observe the following safeguards regarding access to and use of stored data:
  - a. Non-law enforcement requests for access to stored ALPR data shall be processed according to General Order R-23 in accordance with applicable law.
  - b. Non-law enforcement requests for information regarding a specific vehicle's license plate may be honored when the requestor is the registered owner of the vehicle in question, and when providing such

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information will not invade the privacy of a third party. The requestor in such cases must provide acceptable proof of his or her identity and of ownership of the vehicle in question.

- c. ALPR data downloaded to any workstation or server shall be accessible only through a login/password-protected system capable of documenting all access of information by name, date and time.
- d. Berkeley Police personnel approved to access ALPR data under these guidelines are permitted to access the data for legitimate law enforcement purposes only, such as when the data relates to a specific criminal investigation or department-related civil or administrative action and parking enforcement.
- e. ALPR data may be released to other authorized and verified law enforcement officials and agencies for legitimate law enforcement purposes only in connection with specific criminal investigations.
- f. Aggregated ALPR data not related to specific criminal investigations shall not be released to any local, state, or federal agency or entity without the express written consent of the City Manager.
- g. Measures will be taken to ensure the accuracy of ALPR information. Errors discovered in ALPR data collected by ALPR units are marked, corrected, or deleted in accordance with the type and severity of the error in question.
- h. ALPR system audits will be conducted by personnel assigned to the Professional Standards Bureau on a regular basis, at least biennially.

### **Current ALPR Deployments**

- 9- The Berkeley Police Department uses ALPR technology in the Parking Enforcement Unit for parking and scofflaw enforcement.
- 10- Effective 2/18/16, the Parking Enforcement Unit will utilize five (5) Parking Enforcement Go-4 vehicles equipped with ALPR units to conduct enforcement of posted time limits in commercial areas and Residential Preferential Parking (RPP) permit areas. These ALPR's will also access information in the DMV/SVS database (stolen and wanted vehicles). The

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current contracted vendor for this system is PCS Mobile using Genetec ALPR technology.

- 11- The Scofflaw Enforcement program (often referred to as the "booting" program) utilizes an ALPR to scan license plates, and checks scanned "reads" against a file of vehicles which have five or more outstanding parking citations exceeding 30-days old. Typically, upon a confirmed "hit," the vehicle is immobilized with a "boot", or towed, and the owner has to pay the outstanding citations and fees in order to release the boot and/or recover their car from storage. This allows the city to recover outstanding citation fees and penalties. ALPR equipment is installed in the Parking Enforcement Unit's Scofflaw Enforcement vehicle.
- 12- The contracted vendor for the City's Scofflaw Enforcement program is currently Paylock. Paylock stores data on a secure server, and provides access to authorized personnel via Paylock's "Bootview" secure website, as described below:
  - a. All data captured by the ALPR is stored on the laptop for 30 days, and is only accessible during that period via the ALPR proprietary software. This includes reads, hits, and photographs associated with each.
- 13- When a car is booted and/or towed, the read, hit, and photographic data relating to the booting and/or towing of scofflaw vehicles is uploaded to Paylock's secure server. No other data is uploaded to Paylock's secure server.
- 14- The City's Parking Enforcement ALPR vendor (currently Genetec) will periodically provide reports to the City of Berkeley Transportation Division's goBerkeley parking management program so that it can analyze data about parking demand. These reports will not contain any information about a vehicle's license plate number, the name of the registered owner, address of registered owner, or any other information gleaned from the license plate number associated with a particular vehicle. Rather, the reports will consist of 100 percent anonymized information using identification numbers that are not associated with a particular license plate or registered owner. The reports will provide only the date, time, location, approximate address, goBerkeley blockface ID, and RPP area in which a vehicle was observed. If a citation was not issued for an RPP or other time limit violation, the report may also provide the reason a parking enforcement



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officer concluded there was no parking violation, e.g., RPP visitor pass, disabled placard or license plate, etc.



Michael K. Meehan  
Chief of Police

References: NCRIC ALPR Policy  
SB 34  
General Order R-23

Cc: All BPD Personnel



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## Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

### 422.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for the capture, storage and use of digital data obtained through the use of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology.

### 422.2 POLICY

The policy of the Berkeley Police Department is to utilize ALPR technology to capture and store digital license plate data and images while recognizing the established privacy rights of the public.

All data and images gathered by the ALPR are for the official use of this department. Because such data may contain confidential information, it is not open to public review.

### 422.3 ADMINISTRATION

Any installation and maintenance of ALPR equipment, as well as ALPR data retention and access, shall be managed by the Investigations Division Captain. The Investigations Division Captain will assign members under his/her command to administer the day-to-day operation of the ALPR equipment and data.

#### 422.3.1 ALPR ADMINISTRATOR

The Investigations Division Captain, or his/her designee, shall be responsible for developing guidelines and procedures to comply with the requirements of Civil Code § 1798.90.5 et seq. This includes, but is not limited to (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53):

- (a) A description of the job title or other designation of the members and independent contractors who are authorized to use or access the ALPR system or to collect ALPR information.
- (b) Training requirements for authorized users.
- (c) A description of how the ALPR system will be monitored to ensure the security of the information and compliance with applicable privacy laws.
- (d) Procedures for system operators to maintain records of access in compliance with Civil Code § 1798.90.52.
- (e) The title and name of the current designee in overseeing the ALPR operation.
- (f) Ensuring this policy and related procedures are conspicuously posted on the City's website.

### 422.4 OPERATIONS

Use of an ALPR is restricted to the purposes outlined below. Department members shall not use, or allow others to use the equipment or database records for any unauthorized purpose (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53).

- 
- (a) An ALPR shall only be used for official law enforcement business.
  - (b) An ALPR may be used in conjunction with any routine patrol operation or criminal investigation. Reasonable suspicion or probable cause is not required before using an ALPR.
  - (c) While an ALPR may be used to canvass license plates around any crime scene, particular consideration should be given to using ALPR-equipped cars to canvass areas around homicides, shootings and other major incidents. Partial license plates reported during major crimes should be entered into the ALPR system in an attempt to identify suspect vehicles.
  - (d) No member of this department shall operate ALPR equipment or access ALPR data without first completing department-approved training.
  - (e) No ALPR operator may access California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) data unless otherwise authorized to do so.
  - (f) If practicable, the officer should verify an ALPR response through the California Law CLETS before taking enforcement action that is based solely on an ALPR alert.

#### **422.5 DATA COLLECTION AND RETENTION**

All data and images gathered by an ALPR are for the official use of the Berkeley Police Department. Such data may contain confidential CLETS information and is not open to public review. ALPR information gathered and retained by this department may be used and shared with prosecutors or other law enforcement agencies only as permitted by law.

The Investigations Division Captain, or his/her designee, is responsible for ensuring proper collection and retention of ALPR data.

Technical support and assistance for ALPR's is provided by the City of Berkeley's Department of Information Technology (IT) and associated ALPR system providers/vendors as identified herein. IT staff who do not have the proper clearance and training do not have the ability to access or view individual records or reports, as they may contain CLETS information they are not authorized to receive. IT provides initial infrastructure set-up, and continued systems support as needed to ensure efficient and accurate performance of the ALPR hardware and software. Only IT staff members who have successfully undergone DOJ background checks and training are authorized by the Chief of Police to view specific ALPR records.

All ALPR data downloaded to the server should be stored for a minimum of one year (Government Code § 34090.6) and in accordance with the established records retention schedule. Thereafter, ALPR data should be purged unless it has become, or it is reasonable to believe it will become, evidence in a criminal or civil action or is subject to a lawful action to produce records. In those circumstances the applicable data should be downloaded from the server onto portable media and booked into evidence.

- (a) Collected images and metadata of hits will not be stored for more than 365 days. Metadata of reads will not be stored for more than 30 days. Images of reads will not be transferred to the server.

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#### **422.6 ACCOUNTABILITY**

All saved data will be safeguarded and protected by both procedural and technological means. The Berkeley Police Department will observe the following safeguards regarding access to and use of stored data (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53):

- (a) Non-law enforcement requests for access to stored ALPR data shall be processed according to the Records Maintenance and Release Policy in accordance with applicable law.
- (b) Non-law enforcement requests for information regarding a specific vehicle's license plate may be honored when the requester is the registered owner of the vehicle in question, and when providing such information will not invade the privacy of a third party. The requestor in such cases must provide acceptable proof of his or her identity and of ownership of the vehicle in question.
- (c) All ALPR data downloaded to any workstation or server shall be accessible only through a login/password-protected system capable of documenting all access of information by name, date and time (Civil Code § 1798.90.52).
- (d) Berkeley Police Department members approved to access ALPR data under these guidelines are permitted to access the data for legitimate law enforcement purposes only, such as when the data relate to a specific criminal investigation or department-related civil or administrative action or parking enforcement.
- (e) Aggregated ALPR data not related to specific criminal investigations shall not be released to any local, state or federal agency or entity without the express written consent of the City Manager.
- (f) Measures will be taken to ensure the accuracy of ALPR information. Errors discovered in ALPR data collected by ALPR units shall be marked, corrected or deleted in accordance with the type and severity of the error in question.
- (g) ALPR system audits will be conducted by the Professional Standards Bureau's Audit and Inspections Sergeant on a regular basis, at least biannually.

For security or data breaches, see the Records Release and Maintenance Policy.

#### **422.7 RELEASING ALPR DATA**

The ALPR data may be shared only with other law enforcement or prosecutorial agencies for official law enforcement purposes or as otherwise permitted by law, using the following procedures:

- (a) The agency makes a written request for the ALPR data that includes:
  - 1. The name of the agency.
  - 2. The name of the person requesting.
  - 3. The intended purpose of obtaining the information.

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(b) The request is reviewed by the Investigations Division Captain, or his/her designee, and approved before the request is fulfilled.

(c) The approved request is retained on file.

Requests for ALPR data by non-law enforcement or non-prosecutorial agencies will be processed as provided in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy (Civil Code § 1798.90.55).

#### **422.8 GENERAL PARKING AND SCOFFLAW ENFORCEMENT**

The Berkeley Police Department's Parking Enforcement Unit utilizes vehicles equipped with ALPRs to conduct enforcement of posted time limits in commercial areas and Residential Preferential Parking (RPP) permit areas. These ALPR's also access information in the CLETS Stolen Vehicle System (SVS) database, which provides information on matches for stolen and wanted vehicles.

The Berkeley Police Department's Scofflaw Enforcement program (often referred to as the "booting" program) utilizes an ALPR to scan license plates, and check the scanned "reads" against a list of vehicles which have five or more outstanding parking citations exceeding 30 days old. Typically, upon a confirmed "hit," the vehicle is immobilized with a "boot", or towed, and the owner has to pay the outstanding citations and fees in order to release the boot and/or recover their car from storage. This allows the City to recover outstanding parking citation fees.

The contracted vendor for the City's Scofflaw Enforcement program is currently Paylock. Paylock stores data on a secure server, and provides access to authorized personnel via Paylock's "Bootview" secure website, as described below:

All data captured by the ALPR is stored on the booting vehicle's laptop for 30 days, and is only accessible during that period via the ALPR proprietary software. This includes reads, hits, and photographs associated with each.

When a car is booted and/or towed, the read, hit and photographic data relating to the booting and/or towing of scofflaw vehicles is uploaded to Paylock's secure server. No other data is uploaded to Paylock's secure server.

The contracted vendor for the City's Parking Enforcement ALPR is currently Genetec. The city uses Genetec ALPRs to support efficient enforcement of posted time limit parking and Residential Preferential Parking permits.

In addition, Genetec periodically provides reports to the City of Berkeley Transportation Division's "goBerkeley" parking management program so that the City's program can analyze data about parking demand. These reports do not contain any information about a vehicle's license plate number, the name of the registered owner, address of registered owner, or any other information gleaned from the license plate number associated with a particular vehicle. Rather, the reports consist of completely anonymized information, using identification numbers that are not associated with a particular license plate or registered owner.

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The reports will provide only the date, time, location, approximate address, "goBerkeley" blockface ID, and Residential Permit Pass (RPP) area in which a vehicle was observed. If a citation was not issued for an RPP or other time limit violation, the report may also provide the reason a parking enforcement officer concluded there was no parking violation, e.g., RPP visitor pass, disabled placard or license plate, etc.







VIA EMAIL

May 22, 2019

To: Christopher Jensen, Berkeley Assistant City Attorney ([CJensen@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:CJensen@cityofberkeley.info))  
To: Berkeley Police Review Commission ([PRC@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:PRC@cityofberkeley.info))

**RE: Proposed Surveillance Use and Acquisition Policies 1300 (Body Word Cameras), 1301 (GPS Tracking), 1302 (ALPR)**

Mr. Jensen, Oakland Privacy thanks you for forwarding the above-listed proposed surveillance use policies and surveillance technology acquisition documents and for affording us the chance to comment on them. We look forward to continued discussion and perhaps a sit-down with you to go over in detail our concerns.

Oakland Privacy is a citizen's coalition that works regionally to defend the right to privacy, enhance public transparency, and increase oversight of law enforcement, particularly regarding the use of surveillance techniques and equipment. We were instrumental in the creation of the first standing municipal citizens' privacy advisory commission in the City of Oakland, and we have engaged in privacy enhancing legislative efforts with several Northern California cities and regional entities. As experts on municipal privacy reform, we have written use policies and impact reports for a variety of surveillance technologies, conducted research and investigations, and developed frameworks for the implementation of equipment with respect for civil rights, privacy protections and community control.

A general concern we have is the use of boilerplate in the texts, especially around authorized uses and in the Impacts and Civil Liberties and Rights Protection sections (which are all identical).

For example, we do not believe that "any valid law enforcement purpose" (1302.2 (a)), language commonly found in Lexpol policies, is a reasonable specification for authorized uses. The ordinance requires policies to list "uses that are prohibited" - none of which are included in the ALPR documents - as well as uses that are authorized. On use policies in other municipalities we have strongly urged that lists of specific authorized uses, and lists of specifically prohibited uses (or a statement that no other uses are permitted), be provided. One of the principal aims of surveillance regulation ordinances is to guard against 'carte blanche' deployment of surveillance technology.

We have a set of concerns about the ALPR use policy.

1) The ALPR use policy provides no restrictions on the use of ALPR readers, as best we can tell. When the City Council debated obtaining prototypes and then again expanding the program, we believe it was made clear that their use would be limited to being mounted on parking carts. But there is apparently no restriction on, e.g.,

Berkeley Police (or any other city agency) taking these units and mounting them on other vehicles and patrolling with them all over Berkeley with no parking enforcement rationale.

2) In section 1302.5, it says "All ALPR data downloaded to any workstation or server shall be accessible only..." We believe a better wording would be "All ALPR data shall be accessible only..."

3) The ALPR retention section cites CA Government code 34090.6. We believe this part of the code does not apply to ALPR data, and in fact there is no California law specifying how long ALPR data must be kept. The BART Board recently passed an ALPR surveillance use policy (under similar surveillance ordinance legislation) that mandates no more than a 30 day retention. We believe it would be appropriate to consider a significantly reduced retention period. FYI, the California Legislature is currently considering AB 1782, which would require purging of ALPR data after 60 days.

4) The acquisition policy says that Berkeley's ALPR data may be shared "with other law enforcement or prosecutorial agencies for official law enforcement purposes or as otherwise permitted by law." It is not clear that this is consistent with Berkeley's Sanctuary ordinance which should prevent this data from being shared or obtained by ICE. Similar, but slightly different, language appears in the use policy.

5) In the ALPR policy, Section 1302.4 says "If practicable, the officer should verify an ALPR response through the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) before taking enforcement action that is based solely on an ALPR alert." We believe, again, that this should say "the officer shall." In fact this is a critically important detail, because the error rate on ALPR reads is significant: we have seen numbers quoted of between a 1% and 5% chance of error per license plate read. Translated to hundreds of license plates a day, errors become a certainty, and the chance of a tragedy based on an error becomes all too real).

We have specific concerns with the GPS documents:

1. The use policy states in one place (section 1301.2) that "GPS trackers shall only be used pursuant to a valid search warrant" but in another place that "Data collected from the GPS trackers may be shared with the following: ... (b) Other law enforcement personnel as part of an active criminal investigation." The acquisition report has similar language. This seems to be somewhat inconsistent, a bit of a loophole, allowing another law enforcement agency to potentially obtain GPS data authorized by a BPD warrant, but in a circumstance where the case being investigated by the outside agency has nothing to do with the alleged crime the warrant was issued about, and for which no warrant for the information was obtained.

2. The GPS acquisition report, says that the devices may be used "with consent as described below." But there is no elaboration in the document. The Use policy simply says "with consent," omitting the "as described below" phrasing. In any case how consent is to be obtained should be laid out as part of the use policy.

Finally, we have a few, smaller points.

1. In the BWC use policy, section 1300.2, in the last paragraph it reads "Members should activate their BWC when conducting custodial interviews unless there are other recording devices being used." We believe that 'should' should be a 'shall.'

2. In the BWC use policy, section 1300.3, it states that "BWC use is limited to enforcement and investigative activities involving members of the public." But body camera recordings are also used to investigate possible criminal or policy violations by police officers. In fact, section 1300.4.2 states that "Supervisors are authorized to review relevant recordings any time they are investigating alleged misconduct." We believe the policy needs

to clearly state - so that there is absolutely no ambiguity - that body camera footage can be used to investigate police officer possible policy issues, misconduct, civil rights violations and crimes.

3. In the BWC use policy, section 1300.7 specifies specific retention parameters, but later in section 1300.12 (f) it says that the Chief of Police shall work with the City Attorney's office to ensure an appropriate retention schedule, which seems like an unnecessary clause given 1300.7

Thank you for your time and consideration.

JP Massar

Member of, and on behalf of, Oakland Privacy.

[massar@alum.mit.edu](mailto:massar@alum.mit.edu)

510 883 0580

