Los Angeles County

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

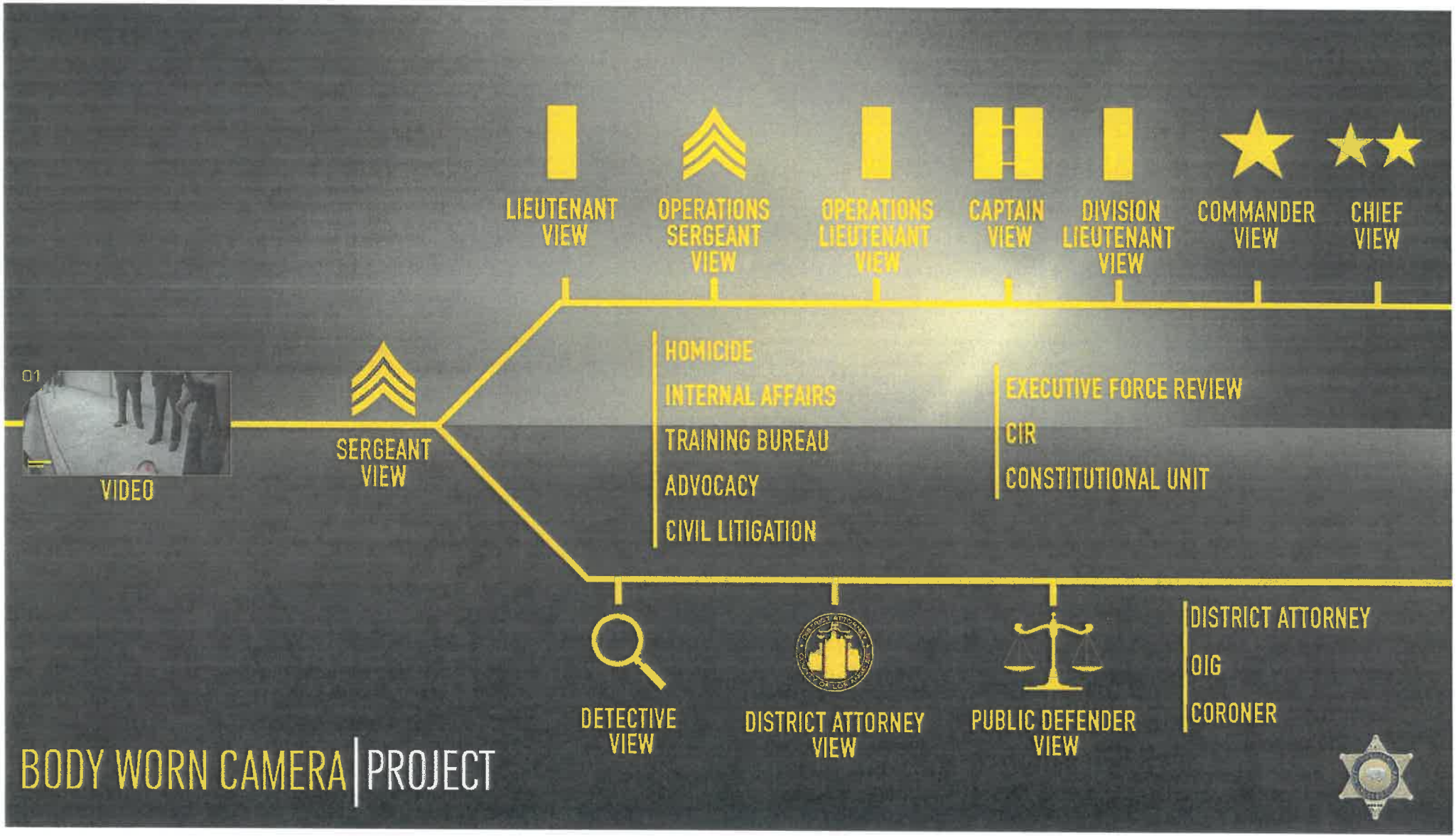
BODY WORN CAMERA | PROJECT

Body Worn Camera Program Impacts

BODY WORN CAMERA | PROJECT

ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

BODY WORN CAMERA | PROJECT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INVESTIGATIVE OPERATIONS

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Questions?

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Body-Worn Cameras: What do we know?

A Presentation to the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission

Dr. Craig D. Uchida
Justice & Security Strategies, Inc.

BODY-WORN CAMERA
TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Los Angeles, CA
November 16, 2017

Overview

Background

What are the major issues?

What does the research tell us?

What makes good 'policy' for BWCs?

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BJA BWC Policy and Implementation Program (PIP)

- National Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Team
- BJA: 280+ grants awarded totaling $50 Million (2015-2017)
- TTA Services
  - Administrative policy review
  - Webinars and podcasts
  - On-site assistance
  - Speakers bureau
  - Regional workshops
  - Peer-to-Peer connections
  - BWC TTA website (http://www.bwctta.com/)

CNA ANALYSIS & SOLUTIONS

ASU ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

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What are the potential benefits of body-worn cameras?

Possible BWC Benefits
Increased Transparency
Enhanced Legitimacy and Public Satisfaction
Improved Police Officer Behavior
Improved Citizen Behavior
Reduced Citizen Complaints and Police Use of Force
Expedited Resolution of Complaints and Lawsuits
Improved Evidence for Arrest and Prosecution
Opportunities for Police Training

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What are the potential costs?

Possible Costs/Consequences
Citizens' and Officers' Privacy
Officer Productivity/Morale
HIPAA Concerns
Policy Changes
Training Requirements
Public Records/FOIA Issues
Additional Resources for footage review, redaction, etc.
Impact on prosecutors, public defenders and courts

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What Does the Research Tell Us?

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Selected Research on BWCs

Country	Study	Citation	Independent Evaluation	Comparative Design
England	Plymouth Head Camera Project	Goodall (2007)	Yes	No
Scotland	Renfrewshire/Aberdeen Studies	ODS Consulting (2011)	Yes	No
United States	Rialto (CA) Police Department	Farrar (2013); Ariel et al. (2015)	No	Yes
United States	Mesa (AZ) Police Department	MPD (2013); Young & Ready (2015, 2016)	Yes	Yes
United States	Phoenix (AZ) Police Department	Katz et al. (2015)	Yes	Yes
United States	Orlando Police (FL) Department	Jennings et al. (2014; 2015)	Yes	Yes
England	London Metropolitan Police	Grossmith et al. (2015)	Yes	Yes
Canada	Edmonton Police Service	Edmonton Police Service (2015)	No	Yes
United States	Spokane (WA) & Tempe (AZ) Police Departments	White et al (2016, 2017)	Yes	Yes

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Research: Citizen Complaints and Use of Force

Rialto (CA) Police Department
- Citizen complaints: 88% (24 to 3)
- Use of force: 60% (61 to 25)

Mesa (AZ) Police Department
- Citizen complaints: 60%
- Use of force: 75%

Orlando (FL) Police Department
- Citizen complaints: 60%
- Use of force: 75%

Phoenix (AZ) Police Department
- Complaints -- BWC officers: declined by 23%
- Complaints -- Comparison officers: increased by 10.6%

Washington, DC Metro Police Department
- No effect on use of force or complaints

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Research: BWCs Have Evidentiary Value

UK Studies

- Guilty pleas 70–80%

Phoenix (AZ) and Essex (UK) studies

- Enhanced Outcomes in Domestic Violence cases. BWC cases:
  - **Initiated** by the prosecutor's office
  - **Charges filed**
  - **Guilty plea**
  - **Guilty verdict** at trial

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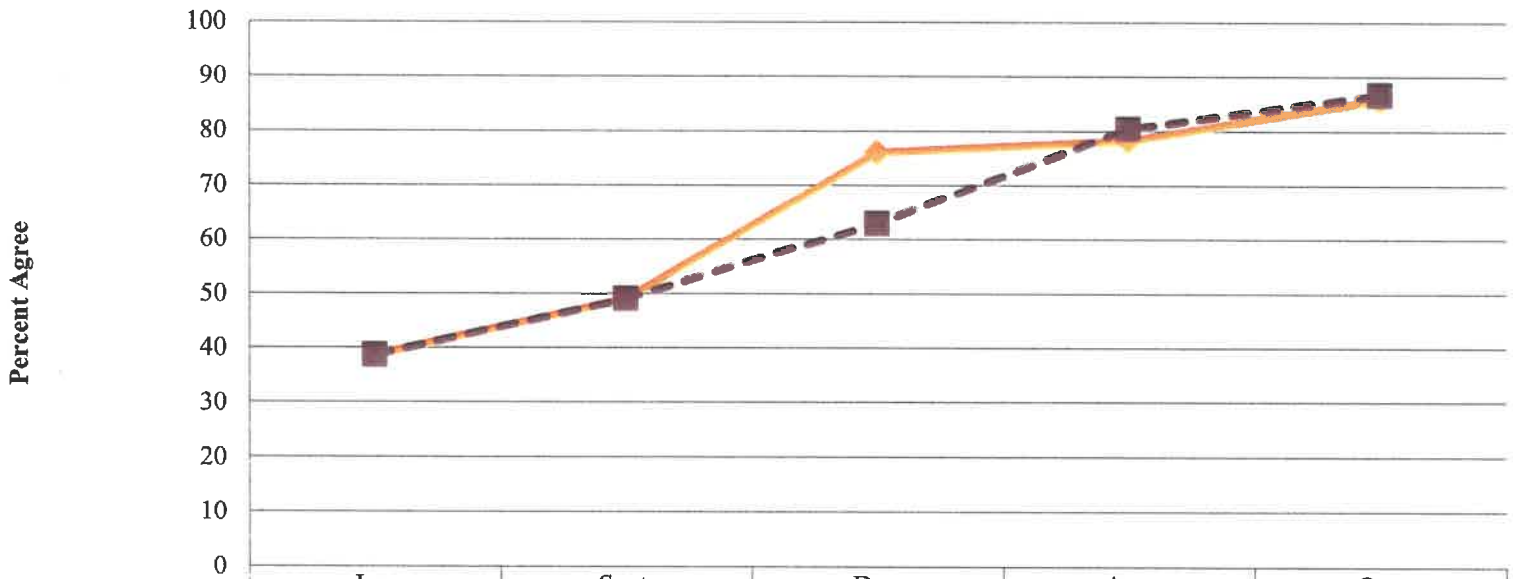
Research: High Levels of Police Officer Support

General Perceptions: Body Cameras Are Well Received By Coworkers



	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Apr.	Oct.
		2015		2016	
Phase 1	38.6	49.0	75.9	78.1	85.7
Phase 2	38.6	49.0	62.8	80.3	86.6

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Research: High Levels of Citizen Support (consumers of police services)

	Spokane (249)	Tempe (383)
	% Agree/ Strongly Agree	% Agree/ Strongly Agree
Video cameras should be worn by all officers in Spokane/Tempe PD.	85.9%	92.2%
Using video cameras will make officers act more professionally.	76.6%	79.3%
Citizens will be more cooperative when they become aware that an officer is wearing a video camera.	70.2%	76.2%
Police will be more respectful to citizens when wearing video cameras.	78.9%	79.6%
The benefits of police using video cameras outweigh the costs.	77.0%	82.5%

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What makes 'good' BWC policy?

Goal: Good Policy → Good Practice

- Policy Development
- General Issues
- Video Capture – Activation
- Video Capture – Deactivation
- Data Transfer/Download
- Data Storage/Retention
- BWC Viewing
- BWC Training
- Public Release
- Policy and Program Evaluation
- BWCs and Use of Force

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BWC Policy Issues

- BWC Activation and Deactivation
- Citizen Notification
- Officer Authority to Review
- Supervisor Authority to Review
- Releasing video footage

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BJA National Body-Worn Camera Toolkit

On-line toolkit provides more information

https://www.bja.gov/bwc/

Serves as an information warehouse - everything you need to know about BWCs

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THANK YOU!

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