



**BODY-WORN
CAMERA**

TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Body-Worn Cameras in Correctional Settings Webinar

Lieutenant Dan Brodie, Internal Affairs, Alameda County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Director Wes Kirkland, Institutional Operations, Florida Department of Corrections

First Deputy Superintendent Scott Kelly, New York State Department of Corrections and
Community Supervision

Webinar Overview and Logistics

- ▶ Webinar is recorded
- ▶ Webinar evaluation
- ▶ Questions
- ▶ Resources

Webinar Introduction

- ▶ **Introductions** – James “Chip” Coldren, Ph.D.
- ▶ **Overview** – Elliot Harkavy
- ▶ **Alameda County Sheriff’s Office** - Lieutenant Dan Brodie
- ▶ **NY State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision** - First Deputy Superintendent Scott Kelly
- ▶ **Florida Department of Corrections** - Deputy Director Wes Kirkland
- ▶ **Questions and Closing Remarks** – James “Chip” Coldren, Ph.D.



BWCs in Corrections Overview

Elliot Harkavy, Technology
Advisor, CNA



Introduction

- ▶ Relatively little is known about BWCs in correction settings
 - ▶ Not much research to date
 - ▶ 3 studies found
 - ▶ New NIJ Study likely the first RCT on BWC in corrections (est. 2021)
 - ▶ A handful of media articles
- ▶ Time lag in acceptance and deployment relative to law enforcement
 - ▶ No “sentinel event” catalyst for deployment
 - ▶ Many common barriers to corrections adoption
- ▶ Initial adoption in special operations
 - ▶ A number of facilities now have full rollout



History of BWC in Corrections

- ▶ First documented deployment:
 - ▶ 2012 – Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center, Charleston County Sheriff's Office, South Carolina
 - ▶ Limited to Special Operations
 - ▶ BWC provided better A/V, with one fewer deputy involved in the response
- ▶ First documented multi-facility prison deployment:
 - ▶ 2014 – New Zealand Department of Corrections
 - ▶ 6-month pilot across two prison units & K9 Officer
 - ▶ Findings:
 - ▶ Increased officer and inmate safety
 - ▶ Decreased Uses of Force
 - ▶ Supported internal misconducts and external prosecutions
 - ▶ Provided officer training and development opportunities
 - ▶ Provided inmate coaching opportunities
 - ▶ Ability to modify behavior is dependent on how they are applied



More Corrections BWC Early Adopters

Year	Site	Deployment
2014	Alameda County, CA Sheriff's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First documented US corrections multi-facility deployment • Included Special Operations and many deputies. covering inmate supervision
2016	Atlanta Department of Corrections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First documented US corrections facility to equip all COs with BWCs • 130 cameras for COs and supervisors deployed by January 2016
2016	Tulare County, CA Sheriff's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First BWC PIP Grant specifically for corrections
2016	Florida Legislature funds FDC BWC Pilot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First US State Corrections Pilot required by legislation
2016	NY DOCCS Pilots BWC in two facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First documented US multi-site State Corrections pilot
2017	NY DOCCS BWC PIP Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First BWC PIP Grant for State Corrections • First documented State Corrections Department to begin system-wide BWC deployment



Other BWC-PIP Corrections Grantees

- Alameda County, CA
- Wilkinson County, GA
- Lake County, IL
- Newport News, VA
- Broward County, FL
- Fulton County, GA
- Nye County, NV
- Beaver County, PA
- Eaton County, MI
- Bexar County, TX
- Essex County, MA
- Franklin County, FL
- Douglas County, NE
- GA CJCC/DOC
- NJ DOC
- NH DOC
- AL DOC
- PR DOCR

Note: there are likely other sheriff's offices who received BWCPPIP grants for patrol that also rolled out BWC for corrections

Looking Forward

- ▶ BWC use in corrections will likely become more common
- ▶ Future deployments can leverage lessons learned by early adopters
- ▶ BWCs have shown value in corrections, but research is still needed to identify the scope and scale of value
- ▶ Lessons learned need to be documented, disseminated, and kept up to date as requirements change
- ▶ Criminal justice reform could have an impact on the requirements and use of BWCs in corrections



BWCs in Corrections: Alameda County Sheriff's Office

Lieutenant Dan Brodie, Internal Affairs and Body-Worn Camera Administrator, Alameda County Sheriff's Office



Agency Overview



1000 sworn, 200 Civilians w/ cameras (1800 employees total)



6 Divisions Including Detentions, Law Enforcement, Courts, Coroner



Currently only operate one jail, 4000 inmate capacity, ADP Approx 2500



About 400 sworn in Detentions/Corrections



Law Enforcement includes unincorporated, A Contract City, Oakland Airport, Hospitals, and Transit System



BWC History

- ▶ Implemented VieVU in December 2012
- ▶ Slow roll out unit to unit
- ▶ Initially LE focused, Corrections came online somewhat last
- ▶ Infrastructure did not keep up, program became unwieldy without central management
- ▶ Example: Acquired approximately 816 cameras over the life of VieVU, but never more than about 500 operated at once
- ▶ Cameras were often pooled

BWC Evolution

- ▶ Commissioned in December 2015 to revamp the BWC program
- ▶ Two parts: Policy and Hardware
- ▶ Switched from “should” to “shall” and followed best practices (including grant approval)
- ▶ Greatly increased activation requirements

BWC Test and Evaluation



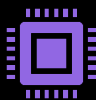
Mid 2016



Conducted a Test/Evaluation of 7 vendors



Weighed On-Premises and Cloud Storage



More than willing to share offline, however technology has changed



Current BWC Program



AXON Officer Safety Plan for 1000 + 200 camera only for non-sworn



Everyone, including Sheriff, has a BWC, personally assigned



Started July 2017, fully implemented December 2017



Approaching 2,500,000 videos, 46 TB, 28.31 years



3-year Retention for Non evidence



Cloud Centralization



Auto-Activation



30 second pre-recording without audio



Differences Between Corrections and Law Enforcement

- ▶ A lot more use in Correctional Settings (~40 activations a day)
- ▶ Privacy for searches and medical
 - ▶ Sound only
 - ▶ Pill service vs. Appointments
- ▶ Classification
- ▶ When to activate
- ▶ With logs, assignments, and documentation, it is much easier to find involved staff



Utilization of BWC

- ▶ Activate upon any contact with an inmate
- ▶ Interview/Counts/Observation Checks
- ▶ Supervision of recreational time
- ▶ Supervision of meals
- ▶ Distribution of Items
- ▶ Refusals
- ▶ Consider assigning to all staff (makes overtime, rotations, etc. much easier)

Multiple Facilities/Size Considerations



Prior to mid 2019
we operated two
facilities (900 bed
jail in Oakland)



Central
Management/inven
tory is a must



As before, issuing
to individuals
instead of units
allows staff to move
between facilities



Record transfers
between facilities



Space and
Bandwidth
considerations



Lessons Learned



**Dedicated
Bandwidth/
Connections**



**Dedicated
Docks/
Charging
Areas**



**Issue to
individual
staff**



**We do not
worry about
annotation**

When issued to
individuals we can
locate the video,
particularly in
corrections

No MDT, No
CAD/RMS, means
no automatic
tagging



**Allow staff to
review
before
reports**



Lessons Learned Continued...

- ▶ Consider a strong policy position on activation and enforce it
 - ▶ The Sheriff directly advises staff they will be fired for not activating
- ▶ Training from day one
 - ▶ Academy and muscle memory
- ▶ Work with District Attorney to remain digital
- ▶ The system/training/time pays for itself in complaints and lawsuits

BWCs in Corrections: NY State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision



Corrections and
Community Supervision

First Deputy Superintendent Scott
Kelly, Director of Special Operations
and Emergency Management, New
York State Department of Corrections
and Community Supervision



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Considerations for State Prison vs. Local Jails

- ▶ Size
 - ▶ Currently fully deployed in 8 sites spanning several hundred miles
 - ▶ Size of system at each site
- ▶ Administration and Central Office oversight at multiple sites



Correctional Policy Considerations

- ▶ Creating/rewriting Departmental Directives as they relate handheld video recording, Unusual Incidents, and Use of Force
- ▶ Ensuring compliance with policy and methods to audit
- ▶ Allowing access to recording without divulging security protocols

Lessons Learned from Pilot to Rollout

- ▶ Logistics involved in maintaining a system at multiple sites
- ▶ Storage capacity requirements and retention of media



BWCs in Corrections: Florida

Department of Corrections

Body Camera and Electrical Conduction Weapon Pilot Test and Results

Deputy Director Wes Kirkland,
Institutional Operations, Florida
Department of Corrections



Body Camera Pilot Test at Sumter CI

- ▶ In early 2017, the Department began a pilot test using Axon International's Axon body cameras at Sumter Correctional Institution (CI) in Bushnell, FL.
- ▶ In order to accurately test the impact of the body cameras on allegations of abuse/misconduct, staff assaults, and use of force incidents, we established testing metrics.
- ▶ Based on the data gathered during the pilot, there was no positive impact on the identified areas. Our current fixed wing camera systems and use of handheld cameras during use of force incidents sufficiently provides video documentation of events. Additionally, the added recordings that had to be reviewed by institutional leadership added to an already overwhelming workload.
- ▶ We did receive positive comments from the institutional leadership regarding the benefits of using the body cameras when unexpected events occur such as during visitation, more concerns were raised regarding the legal rights of recording when visitors were involved, and the potential to inadvertently record confidential information that would violate the privacy rights of staff and inmates.
- ▶ In summation, when considering the continued cost for licensure and storage, the results of the pilot test, and concerns for privacy, the Department determined not to implement body cameras statewide.

Camera and Weapon Integrated Pilot Test

- ▶ In August 2018, the Department began a pilot of the Axon (Taser) electrical conduction weapon with an integrated body camera that would activate upon drawing the weapon. We selected an institution with historical high rates of staff assaults and reactionary use of force incidents and issued weapons/cameras to staff assigned to specific posts and emergency response teams.
- ▶ To evaluate the effectiveness of the weapon/camera pilot the selected institution had a Main Unit and Annex with similar populations to provide a control group for comparison purposes. We reviewed the following factors between the units:
 - Staff assaults
 - Reactionary use of force incidents
 - Allegations of excessive force
- ▶ The weapons/cameras were not used in segregation or confinement settings and only used to respond to spontaneous events with a reactionary response.



Camera and Weapon Integrated Pilot Results

- ▶ We compared incidents from August 2017-January 2018, prior to the pilot, with August 2018-January 2019, using the weapon/cameras.

Metric	Change from Aug 17-Jan 18 to Aug 18-Jan 19
Staff Assaults	42% reduction
Reactionary Use of Force Incidents	51% reduction
Allegations of Excessive Force	70% reduction

- ▶ When reviewing the number of incidents between the Main Unit vs. the Annex, the results clearly showed that the weapon/camera use was significantly impactful.
- ▶ Based on these results, the Department has begun the process to implement Taser weapons and body cameras at all appropriate institutions.

Questions and Answers

- ▶ Please let us know your thoughts.

Resources

- ▶ BJA Body-Worn Camera Toolkit (<https://www.bja.gov/bwc>)
- ▶ Getting started guide (<https://www.bja.gov/bwc/topics-gettingstarted.html>)
- ▶ TTA website (www.bwctta.com)
- ▶ BWC subject matter experts
(<https://bwctta.com/Ask%20a%20BWC%20Expert>)
- ▶ TTA email address (BWCTTA@cna.org)

Contact Information

- ▶ **Alameda County Sheriff's Office - Lieutenant Dan Brodie**
 - ▶ dbrodie@acgov.org
- ▶ **NY State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision - First Deputy Superintendent Scott Kelly**
 - ▶ Scott.Kelly@doccs.ny.gov
- ▶ **Florida Department of Corrections - Deputy Director Wes Kirkland**
 - ▶ Wes.Kirkland@fdc.myflorida.com

