Audits of Body Worn Camera Footage Pursuant to City Code 2.10.200 July 2022

SUMMARY

This memorandum constitutes a random audit, pursuant to City Code 2.10.200.E, of body worn camera recordings for the month of July 2022. The ordinance requires that any findings of material non-compliance with state law, City Code and Police Department policy to be referred to the Chief of Police, the Mayor, the Council Chair, the Mayor's Chief of Staff, and the City Attorney.

The system used by the Department, at the time this audit was conducted, cannot randomly generate a body worn camera recording based on a particular timeframe Because of that limitation, a random number generator was used to identify 5 case numbers (out of 5,375 case numbers) from the month. If a case number had multiple recordings for that case number, a recording was randomly selected for review.

Of the five matters that were reviewed, the audit found no material non-compliance with City Code, State law, and/or Department policy.

BODY WORN CAMERA REVIEWS

Case No. 1

Summary

Video begins with officer driving his car. Officer pulls up next to a truck, who had just called 911 about a road rage incident. A man in another car was driving aggressively and following them. It appears that shortly before the video started, the aggressive driver (who was unknown to the officer at the time) yelled to the officer that the truck was driving aggressively. The officer talks with dispatch and the individuals in the truck, and checks the MDT for any other information, e.g., if the other driver also called 911. It appears that no one got the other driver's plates or other identifying information. The officer discusses the situation with the truck driver and passenger and tells them that he's filed a report and that he'll drive around the area to look for the other driver.

Finding

The officer appears to materially comply with State and City Codes and Departmental Policy.

Case No. 2

Summary

Officers, along with members of the Fire Department, climb stairs to an apartment where a woman is unresponsive on the ground. The firefighters clear some space and begin providing care. The officers wait by the door while care is given. Later EMT's arrive to assist. The officer discusses the situation with the firefighters and EMT's and gets some information from the person who called in the emergency. Eventually, the firefighters and EMT's get the woman on a backboard and take her down to begin transport to the hospital. The officer helps put a few things back into the apartment and proceeds downstairs and the call ends.

Finding

Officers appear to materially comply with State and City Codes and Departmental Policy.

Case No. 3

Summary

The officers arrive and approach a home, where a man greets them and explains that his former roommate, who had been evicted the day before, arrived at the home and curled up on the couch. The former roommate was an alcoholic and was inebriated to the point that they could not wake him. Officers attempted to talk to him, and he moved a little bit. Officers called medical, who arrived and provided care and eventually, with help from the landlord, convinced the man to go to the hospital. The officers gathered relevant information and explained to the landlord how the non-emergency line worked in case he needed it for future calls related to this tenant.

Finding

Officers appear to materially comply with State and City Codes and Departmental Policy.

Case No. 4

Summary

Officers arrive at a Verizon store in response to a burglary. They ask the security guard if it's just broken glass. The officers look at the broken window, and find out that the district manager is getting a key so they can enter the store. While they wait for the district manager, the officers speak with each other. The subject officer mutes his camera while conferring with the other officer. When the manager arrives, the officer unmutes his camera. The manager unlocks the door and the officers draw their guns and shout that if anyone is in the store they need to make themselves known. No one answers, and the officers go into the store and verify that no one is inside. The alarm goes off and the officers exit the store to wait while the manager deactivates the alarm.

Once the alarm is off, the officers look for evidence and gather information regarding what was stolen (a few phones). The officers give the manager a link to upload security video and discuss where they may be able to get fingerprints from. The officers find out that the crime lab is delayed and so they decide to leave to handle other calls.

Finding

Officers appear to materially comply with State and City Codes and Departmental Policy. Additionally, the muting of the camera without first stating the reasons for muting also appears to be a technical violation. The officer can be seen conferring with his fellow officer, which, under State law, is an allowable reason to mute a recording.

Case No. 5

Summary

The officer arrives at the scene of an overdose where other officers have already responded. The officer finds out that bystanders already administered Narcan and suggests that they give the patient a dose to ensure that it is administered correctly. While he is there, the man begins to wake up. The officer

discusses the situation with the other officers and asks them to write the report. The officer then leaves since he is no longer needed.

Finding

Officers appear to materially comply with State and City Codes and Departmental Policy.

CONCLUSION

Of the five body camera recordings viewed, officers appear to materially comply with State and City Codes and Departmental Policy.