Audits of Body Worn Camera Footage Pursuant to City Code 2.10.200 August 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 August 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 5,355 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 that officers appeared to materially comply with City Code, State law, and Department policies.

BODY WORN CAMERA REVIEWS

Case No. 1

Summary

Officer responds to a call at a long-term care facility where it appears that staff have called on a resident who struck a staff member and threatened other staff. A staff member informs the officer that the resident suffers from dementia, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and anxiety. The staff member who was struck indicates that she does not want to press charges. Staff manager wants to ensure that the resident does not hurt other residents or staff members. The staff manager confirms that they want to take the resident to a hospital on a "blue sheet."

The officer speaks to the resident who struck the staff member and advises him that he will be transported via ambulance to the hospital. Officer walks the resident to the ambulance and maintains a good rapport with the resident. After transferring him to the EMTs with the ambulance, the officer speaks to the staff and returns to his vehicle. The officer deactivates his camera as he returns to his vehicle.

Findings

The officer appears to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy.

Case No. 2

Summary

Officer's body camera recording captures an interaction in a hospital entrance area where a person who had been discharged from the hospital was yelling at security and asking for police to assist. The officer was apparently there on another matter and came out from the secure area of the hospital to attend to the matter at hand. The person was upset because staff would not help him with using the bathroom. The person was belligerent and agitated and when the officer came out to speak to him, he would not let the subject officer talk to him and told the officer to "shut the fuck up." The officer let the person speak and the person indicated that he was in pain and needed assistance from hospital staff to use the bathroom.

The officer indicates to the person that the situation is not one where law enforcement can assist him. Other officers arrive and the subject officer explains what is happening. The subject officer returns to the secure area of the hospital presumably to return to his previous matter and deactivates his camera.

Findings

The officer appears to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy.

Case No. 3

Summary

Officer responds to a call of a patron of a bar who was asked by the bar's security staff to leave and refused. The security staff indicated that the patron was belligerent to other patrons and employees, and they would like this individual permanently trespassed from their premises. The subject officer and another officer interact with the patron, obtain his information, and advise the patron that he has been permanently trespassed from the bar. Officers do not issue a citation. Subject officer deactivates his camera as he enters his vehicle.

Finding

The officers appear to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy.

Case No. 4

Summary

Officer responds to a call from an employee at a convenience store regarding an individual who has returned to their premises after being previously trespassed. The officer interacts with the trespassed individual and discovers that he has multiple trespass citations from this store. Officer issues a trespass citation to the individual and advises that if he returns today that he will be taken to the jail. The officer deactivates his camera as he returns to his vehicle.

Finding

The officer appears to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy.

Case No. 5

Summary

Recording begins as officer is driving with what appears to be lights and sirens activated. After a few moments, the lights and sirens do not appear to be activated as officer continues to drive. Officers pulls into a convenience store and encounters other officers who have detained an individual in the parking lot. Subject officer apologizes to other officers for not getting there sooner because he had misheard the address. Officer deactivates his camera as his involvement in the call appears to be complete.

Findings

The officer appears to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy.

CONCLUSION

Of the five matters that were reviewed, the audit found that officers appeared to materially comply with City Code, State law, and Department policies.