

**Audits of Body Worn Camera Footage
Salt Lake City Police Department
Pursuant to City Code 2.10.200
February 2025**

SUMMARY

This memorandum constitutes a random audit, pursuant to City Code 2.10.200.E, of body worn camera recordings for the month of February, 2025. 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 (BWC) recording based on a particular timeframe. Because of that limitation, a random number generator was used to identify 5 case numbers (out of 4,789 case numbers) from the month. If a case number had multiple recordings for that case number, a recording was randomly selected for review.

Body Worn Camera Reviews

Case No. 1

Summary

Subject Officer is talking with a Subject male on the phone while driving his patrol car. Subject Officer and the Subject male agree to meet at a location. Subject Officer arrives at the scene and waits in the patrol car for several minutes. Subject male arrives and Subject Officer meets him at a parking lot outside a bar. Subject male walks Subject Officer to his vehicle that is parked on the street. Subject male informs Subject Officer that a neighbor told him that someone hit his parked car. The neighbor told the Subject male that someone at the bar has video footage of the incident, but it does not include license plates.

Subject Officer takes pictures of the vehicle damage using his mobile phone. Subject Officer goes to the bar to see if they have video footage of the incident. The bartender tells the Subject Officer that only the manager can access the video footage, but the manager won't be back until tomorrow. Subject Officer obtains contact information for manager. Subject Officer exits the bar and informs the Subject male of the planned follow-up actions.

Subject Officer says "going off, end of contact" & turns off BWC.

Finding

Subject Officer appears to have violated Police Department policy in his use of the cellphone while driving. Subject Officer engaged Subject male with empathy regarding the situation and conducted a good investigation of the case.

Case No. 2

Summary

Subject Officer is sitting at a desk with his laptop and speaking on a mobile phone with a Subject male. It is apparent that the Subject Officer is not wearing the BWC, as the BWC is facing the Subject Officer.

Subject male informs the Subject Officer over the phone that his wife's vehicle was broken into when parked in a parking garage. Subject male reports that some items from the vehicle were found on the ground; however, nothing appeared to be stolen, and the vehicle was not damaged. The Subject male mentions that the suspect left his mobile phone in his wife's vehicle. Subject male informs the Subject Officer that there are troubling text messages on the suspect's phone, including information about the suspect recently being released from prison and engaging in illegal drug dealing and vehicle break-ins. Subject male indicated that his wife did not discover that the suspect's phone was left on the passenger seat until she arrived at her home in another city. The Subject male informs Subject Officer that he worried that the suspect would go to their house looking for the phone, so he took the phone to the local police department in his city of residence.

Subject male shares that he is fearful that the suspect may return to the same parking garage of the break-in. Subject male also informs Subject Officer that he has a picture and the name of the suspect on the suspect's phone, which he provides to the Subject Officer. Subject male gives the Subject Officer the contact information for the officer he interacted with at his local police department.

Subject Officer and Subject male discuss possible safely solutions based on the Subject male's concerns.

Subject Officer says, "going off camera, (inaudible mumble) contact" and turns off BWC.

Finding

Subject Officer appeared to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy but may have committed a technical violation of Police Department Policy with placing the BWC on the desk rather than wearing the BWC. The Subject Officer engaged with the Subject male in a respectful manner while conducting a thorough investigation

and expressed his future efforts to coordinate with the local police department to obtain the suspect's mobile phone.

Case No. 3

Summary

Subject Officer meets a Subject female in front of a building, which appears to be a church. Subject female leads Subject Officer to an office and tells him that she has video footage of a male pulling the buildings doorbell camera off the wall and then walking around the building trying to open doors. Subject female shows Subject Officer several videos of the situation. Subject Officer takes pictures of certain sections of the videos.

Subject Officer requests that Subject female walk around the building with him to show him the areas where suspect was seen walking around the building. A sleeping bag and water container are found lying next to the building. Subject female says she had not seen the sleeping bag before. Subject Officer inspects sleeping bag and canister and finds no identifying marks of ownership or evidence connecting the items to this incident. Subject office then asks Subject female if she'd like him to throw it away in a dumpster. Subject female says she'll take care of it.

Subject Officer takes picture of damaged doorbell and wall. Subject Officer and Subject female walk around the building and inspect areas where other property was damaged. Subject Officer takes notes of damage.

Subject Officer asks Subject female if she would like to "trespass" the suspect male if he is found. Subject female says "yes".

Subject Officer informs her of what will occur after he departs.

Subject Officer returns to patrol vehicle and calls the church's IT person and asks for an approximate cost for the doorbell damage but the IT person is not sure. Subject Officer informs the IT person why a dollar amount is relevant to the case. The IT person says he will call Subject Officer back with requested information. Subject Officer informs the IT person that he will be on the lookout for the suspect in case he is still around the area.

Subject Officer says "(inaudible mumble)" and turns off BWC.

Finding

Subject Officer appeared to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy. Subject Officer engaged professionally the Subject female, gathered detailed evidence, and provided her with guidance on how to help facilitate the furtherance of the case.

Case No. 4

Summary

Subject Officer and another unidentifiable male (in civilian clothes) are walking through a clothing department store and meet a female employee and ask her if the store had called the police. A Subject female leads the Subject Officer and the male to another employee, the Subject female, who then brings them into an office. Subject female informs the Subject Officer and the male that there was shoplifting incident and begins to show them the surveillance video. While showing the video, the Subject female describes the suspect female shoplifting clothing, placing into a bag and holding some in her arms. Subject female said that the suspect walked past her by the front doors knowing that the Subject female could not do anything. Suspect female informs officers direction of where suspect walked. Subject Officer and Subject female discuss the process of how to provide evidence to the police department.

Subject Officer and the male leave the store and return to the patrol car. Subject Officer says, "end of contact" and turns off BWC.

Finding

The Subject Officer appeared to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy.

Case No. 5

Summary

Subject Officer drives to the scene and meets with a Subject female. The Subject female informs the Subject Officer that her husband is cheating on her with another female. Subject female says that the other female ran away after arguing with the husband and that he then chased after her. Other officers arrive on scene.

Subject female informs the Subject Officer that earlier she had a verbal altercation with her husband at their home, but it was not violent. Subject female says that they are "done" and moved out his property out of home. Subject female says she is worried about the other female because he is very intoxicated, and the other female is only 18 years old. Subject Officer informs Subject female that if she sees him or has another altercation, to call the police.

One of the officers says he's done domestic violence reports before, and both the Subject female and husband have "profiles".

Subject Officer says, “End of contact” and turns off BWC.

Finding

All officers appeared to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy. The officers asked relevant questions regarding the potential for domestic violence between the husband and the Subject female and the other female. Subject Officer was very patient with the Subject female to collect the information required for the case.

CONCLUSION

In three of the five cases that were reviewed, the audit found that police officers appeared to materially comply with City Code and State law, and Police Department policies. In two cases, officers appeared to have committed violations of Police Department policy, with one instance identified as a technical violation.