

**Audits of Body Worn Camera Footage
Salt Lake City Police Department
Pursuant to City Code 2.10.200
April 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 March, 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 5,659 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 sitting in the patrol vehicle and calls Subject Female on the phone. Subject Officer informs the Subject Female that her car was found. It appears that the Subject Female's car was stolen. Subject Female asks for directions to the location of her car. Subject Officer says car has a key in the car and has a "temp tag" but the car does not start, possibly from a dead battery. Subject Female says the car should not have a key in it or have a temp tag. Subject Officer states that license plates are not on the car. Subject Female says car has been missing for over a month and that insurance has "paid her out" for the stolen car. Subject Officer informs Subject Female that the state has already canceled the registration. Subject Officer recommends that Subject Female call the insurance and seek their advice on how she should move forward with the car, which may be that the car gets impounded by the state and Subject Female does not have to go to the location of the stolen car. Subject Officer informs Subject Female that there are some articles in the car. Subject Female says that she does want to get her personal property from the car.

Subject Officer informs dispatch about stolen car being found. Subject Officer conducts what appears to be an evidentiary search & an inventory of the property in the car.

Subject Officer calls Subject Female and she informs him that her insurance company is closed and that she's on her way to his location. Subject Officer says he will wait for her and will then take care of the impound once she collects her property.

Subject Officer called supervisors for guidance on the process for this particular case. Subject Officer calls dispatch to order a state tax impound.

Subject Female arrives and takes her personal property, such as toy grocery cart, battery cables, and child car seat. Subject Officer confirms insurance information with Subject Female. Subject Officer informs Subject Female what will occur once she leaves. Subject Female leaves the scene.

The tow truck arrives & takes the car. Subject Officer says "End of contact. Going off" & turns off BWC.

Finding

Subject Officer appeared to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy. Subject Officer was patient and empathetic with the Subject Female as she was trying to manage a complex situation.

Case No. 2

Summary

Subject Officer walks into a convenience store and begins speaking with a store employee. Subject Officer asks the employee if he knows the name of the Subject Male, which he does not.

Subject Officer walks outside the store where the Subject Male is sitting on the ground with another officer standing by him. The officer leaves to check for warrants on the Subject Male. The Subject Officer casually speaks with the Subject Male, keeping him calm. The Subject Male says he hasn't done anything. Three other officers arrive on scene.

Subject Officer informs Subject Male that he will be trespassed from that specific store. Subject Officer also informs the Subject Male that he has several warrants and the officers place handcuffs on the Subject Male. Subject Officer goes back inside the store and informs the employee that they are arresting the Subject Male and he will be trespassed. One of the other officers, who is male, conducts a search the Subject Male. Another officer, possibly an FTO, mentors the new officer on how to properly and safely search the Subject Male. Officers place Subject Male in the patrol car where he starts cursing at the Subject Officer. Subject Officer remains calm and asks the Subject Male he is hurt or injured from the interaction and he responded with a curse word.

Subject Officer goes back to the store employee and asks if and why Subject Male was asked to leave. Employee says Subject Male was asked to leave because he was asking for money from customers and that he had been trespassed in the past.

Subject Officer returns to the patrol car and mentors a young officer on being a new officer and how FTO's can be helpful. Subject Officer informs officer that he will "get it, he's not going to let you fail, it is a hard job, but you'll get it". Subject Officer provides officer examples of when she made mistakes in the past and how her FTO mentored her. The FTO shows up and also provides mentorship to the new officer.

Subject Officer gets in patrol car and drives the Subject Male to the jail. Subject Officer arrives at the jail with Subject Male. Subject Officer asks Subject Male to come out and he responds by continued cursing. Subject Officer shows Subject Male what a warrant looks like since he keeps saying that "warrants is not a word". Subject Male continues to respond with cursing.

Subject Officer walks away and turns off BWC.

Finding

Subject Officer appeared to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy. The Subject Officer did a great job at remaining calm, respectful and professional with the Subject Male, even as he was continually cursing at her and being extremely disrespectful. Additionally, the Subject Officer should be commended for her mentorship and support of a trainee officer who was struggling with tasks and duties of the profession. Subject Officer provided examples of her struggles as a young officer and encouraged him to continue to follow the guidance of his FTO for future success as a police officer.

Case No. 3

Summary

Subject Officer approaches what appears to be an unsheltered male that is sitting on the sidewalk next to a building and politely asks the male if he can clean up the mess around him. Another officer, a sergeant, informs a female to clean up her mess. The two officers then walk around the building and continue asking what appear to be unsheltered persons to clean up the mess around them.

The officers continue to walk on the sidewalk. One of the officers points to a female that is covering her upper body with a large shirt and tells the Subject Officer that she is smoking underneath the piece of clothing. The officers engage the Subject Female and when the officers pull up the cover shirt off her face, drug paraphernalia is seen and officers immediately place female under arrest and place handcuffs on her. Officers inform her that she is being arrested for drug paraphernalia. Subject Female struggles at first but then complies. The officers then walk the Subject Female to one of the patrol cars. Both officers are male and the Subject Officer searches the Subject Female in the presence of the second officer, who is the supervisor. Subject Officer conducts warrant check on Subject Female. Subject Officer found that there is a warrant for her arrest. The officers place Subject Female in the patrol car. Subject Officer places evidence in a bag. Subject Officer then drives the Subject Female to the jail.

Subject Officer arrives at the jail & says “end of contact” & turns off BWC.

Finding

Officers appeared to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy. Officers were professional with the Subject Female. Officers engaged unsheltered persons professionally and with respect, often times engaging them with friendly humor and calling the persons by name. This demonstrates that the officers built a rapport with the unsheltered community.

Case No. 4

Summary

Subject Officer walks into a hotel and waits to talk with a hotel employee. Two other officers arrive and Subject Officer asks if they can check other exits and the restaurant/bar.

Subject Officer informs the manager that police are looking for Subject Male from Arizona that has felony warrants and have information that he is staying in that hotel. Manager does not appear to find the Subject Male's name in the hotel's system. Manager informs Subject Officer that a phone number is a great method to find a person who is staying at any of their hotels. Subject Officer asks the manager for permission to connect the detectives in Arizona directly to him so they can continue their investigation directly and he agrees.

Subject Officer thanks the manager and says "going off contact" and turns off BWC.

Finding

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

Case No. 5

Summary

Subject Officer parks under the freeway and walks towards several what appear to be unsheltered persons sitting up against the wall and possibly residing there. Subject Officer asks if they are packing up to leave. Subject Officer collects names and DOB of the persons and then goes to patrol car to conduct warrant checks.

Subject Officer finds that one person, the Subject Male, has a warrant. Another officer arrives on scene. Subject Officer asks another officer if he would take care of the Subject Male's property and dog while he takes the Subject Male to jail. Officers place Subject Male in handcuffs. Other officer asks Subject Male if he wants his dog and property to be given to the other unsheltered persons and Subject Male says "yes". Officers search Subject Male. Subject Male asks if the officers can re-check again and one officer says he will and reports back that Subject Male still has a warrant for a Misdemeanor A. Subject Officer places a small amount of the Subject Male's property in a bag.

Officers see what appears to be another unsheltered person sleeping on the other side of the street. The other officer says he will check out the person while Subject Officer waits by the patrol cars. The other patrol officer returns and conducts a warrant check of

the apparent unsheltered person. Officer does not find any warrants on the other apparent unsheltered person.

Subject Officer returns to patrol car and drives the arrested individual to jail. Subject Officer informs Subject Male that he can go to Weigand Center and can get a case worker to help him and tell him date of “homeless court”. Subject Officer arrives at the jail.

Subject Officer says “Arrived to jail. Going off.” and turns off BWC.

Finding

Officers appeared to comply with State and City Codes and Police Department policy. Officers treated the apparent unsheltered persons with dignity and respect. Officers ensured that the subject's belongings were properly cared for by individuals known to him.

CONCLUSION

In four 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 one case, the Subject Officer appeared to have violated Police Department policy by consuming tobacco in a department vehicle.