



AUDIT HIGHLIGHTS

Police On-Body Cameras

June 14, 2018

Audit Report No. 1808

WHY WE DID THIS AUDIT

An audit of *Police On-Body Cameras* was included on the City Council-approved Fiscal Year 2017/18 Audit Plan. The audit objective was to evaluate recordkeeping, policies and compliance with policies for use of on-body cameras (OBC).

BACKGROUND

Scottsdale Police Department started its OBC program with 10 cameras in FY 2012/13 and now has 198 OBCs in use. OBCs are issued to all patrol officers and certain other sworn staff.

Original OBC videos are stored on Evidence.com, the camera manufacturer's secure website, and cannot be edited. The software logs an audit trail when a video is viewed, downloaded or shared. The video retention period is determined by the type of event captured based on the department's retention schedule.

An OBC Working Group that includes both technical and sworn staff manages the program. Additionally, SPD has established a Valley-wide coalition of 15 departments that use Axon body cameras.

By the end of FY 2017/18, the City expects to spend more than \$770,000 on equipment, accessories, data storage and training, including \$556,000 already paid since the program's inception in FY 2012/13.

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WHAT WE FOUND

Technology access controls can be improved.

- Some retired and resigned employees, including one with full administrative rights, still have access to Evidence.com.
- Some former staff and City consultants have access to network areas where copies of OBC videos are stored.
- The OBC Working Group has not reviewed Axon's SOC report.

OBC-related policy enforcement can be improved.

- Stored videos are not consistently tagged and categorized.
- Documentation was not always retained for manually deleted videos and available documentation was not stored in a shared file location.
- Supervisors do not have access to reports that would allow them to efficiently review their officers' OBC use, and one OBC supervisor had not logged in to the system since August 2016.

The department can improve its On-Body Camera program policies and procedures.

Several professional law enforcement organizations have issued model OBC policies. SPD can use these to enhance its policies and ensure greater transparency and clarity.

WHAT WE RECOMMEND

- Regularly review OBC-related storage to ensure compliance with the least privilege principle and annually review Axon's SOC report.
- Ensure untagged and uncategorized videos are labeled.
- Update the General Order to specify the level of authority to approve deletions and require supervisors to check videos to be deleted.
- Provide supervisors with access to Evidence.com reports.
- Consider updating the G.O. to include additional areas from the model policies.

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

The department agreed with the recommendations.