

Asheville Police Department
Operations Bureau Standard Operating Procedure
SOP 3102 - Body-Worn Cameras

Bureau/Division:	Criminal Investigation Division	Section/Unit:	N/A
Original Issue:	1/29/2018	Last Revision:	1/5/2022
Replaces:	N/A		

Contents

Introduction

Definitions

Procedures

3102.1 Guidelines for Use

3102.2 Activation and Wear

3102.3 Activation Exceptions

Associated Directives

[Policy 509 - Body-Worn Cameras](#)

Introduction

The following procedures will apply to the use of body-worn cameras for officers assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division. This directive provides guidance on the use of body-worn cameras for plainclothes officers and is supplemental to the procedures outlined in [Policy 509 - Body-Worn Cameras](#).

Definitions

Body-Worn Camera: an operational video or digital camera or other electronic device, including a microphone or other mechanism for allowing audio capture, affixed to the uniform or person of law enforcement agency personnel and positioned in a way that allows the camera or device to capture interactions the law enforcement personnel have with others.

Tactical Vest: external ballistic carrier utilized in lieu of or in addition to the issued concealed body armor carrier.

Procedures

3102.1 Guidelines for Use

- A. Unless otherwise specified in this procedure, officers must follow all guidelines outlined in [Policy 509 - Body-Worn Cameras](#).

3102.2 Activation and Wear

- A. Officers in a plainclothes assignment are not typically required to wear a body-worn camera during their normal tour of duty; however, [body-worn cameras must be worn in the following circumstances](#):
 - 1. A tactical vest and attached body-worn camera must be worn during any pre-planned tactical or enforcement actions.
 - 2. The body-worn camera will be powered on and on the officer's person when entering the field to conduct investigative activities, including but not limited to field interviews of victims, witnesses, or suspects.
- B. Anytime a body-worn camera is worn, it is the responsibility of the officer to ensure that the body-worn camera is properly placed/affixed for optimal use.
- C. Officers who typically work in plainclothes assignments must adhere to all provisions of [Policy 509 - Body-Worn Cameras](#) when acting in any uniformed capacity, to include working secondary or augment assignments.
- D. Nothing in this directive prohibits a plainclothes officer from utilizing a body-worn camera [anytime](#) during the course of their official duties if they have a reason to do so.

3102.3 Activation Exceptions

- A. Exceptions for body-worn camera use or activation may be requested for certain pre-planned operations with documented justification in the accompanying Event Operational Guideline. Requests for exceptions must be approved by the Criminal Investigation Division Commander.

By order of:



William M. Yelton
Deputy Chief
Operations Bureau