

Kent PD	WASPC	Title
#6.70	N/A	Portable Observation Device

Discussion

The Kent Police Department operates i4-POD-P camera systems. The cameras are designed to be placed on street light poles or other structures in "hot spot" areas of the city where data shows criminal activity is at increased levels or at large public events such as Cornucopia and SPLASH.

The cameras are visible to the public which can be a deterrent to criminal behavior. Police personnel can see 'live' activity or select personnel can retrieve/review historical recordings via cellular connection.

Equipment

The i4-POD-P camera system from Security Lines US is about 30 pounds in weight, and contains three pan/tilt/zoom cameras and one stationary camera. The camera system has a light on the exterior that can be set to on (blinking) or off. The system uses a SIM card for cellular/wireless connection allowing the user to remotely access the video (live or historical). The images are recorded directly on the internal DVR of the POD.

Video Retention

The system is designed to record on an internal DVR system. The system can be accessed via cellular connectivity in order to review and retrieve data/video images. The DVR has a 2000GB storage capability at which time it will re-write over existing images. The Kent Police Department follows the Office of the Secretary of State Washington State Archives Law Enforcement Records Retention Schedule under Section 8.1 for Case Management, "Recordings from Mobile Devices-Buffered Data/Images" and "Recordings from Mobile Devices – Incident Identified".

Image and data recordings that are NOT accessed will be automatically and continuously recorded over as the 2000 GB limit is reached and destroyed as part of the routine device operations.

Image and data recordings that are accessed as part of an identified incident will be assigned a case report and will be copied and placed into the video evidence system under the assigned case number. Image and data recordings from identified incidents will be retained until the matter is resolved, until exhaustion of any appeals process, and then destroyed.

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Maintenance

The POD system will be maintained by the Neighborhood Response Team and Special Investigations Units.

Location Record

Police Department personnel responsible for moving the POD system will maintain a log to track the location of each POD, which includes the date and time a POD is installed and removed. This log will be stored on the department's internal public drive (known as the P: Drive).

City of Kent Public Works/Puget Sound Energy Notification

When Police Department personnel install a POD, notification may be made to the City of Kent Public Works Department and/or Puget Sound Energy. Notification will include the location and approximate duration of the installation.

Installation of the POD cameras requires the system to be powered by electricity. The PODS are outfitted with photo-cell adaptors that are inserted into the street light photo-cell socket as one source of power or direct wired to a power source.

Social Media Release

As these POD systems are designed to be visible to the public, the Kent Police Department may post information on their installation and purpose on department social media sites, such as Twitter and Facebook.

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