
Chatham Police Department

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CHIEF OF POLICE
VERNON M. FOLI



04/30/19

General Assembly

To Whom It May Concern:

The Village of Chatham Police Department received one in car camera from the ILETSB (Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board) in the fall of 2018. This camera was installed in September of 2018.

In 2014, The Chatham Police Department updated and implemented new policies and procedures pertaining to the operations and use of the mobile video camera. In August of 2018 this policy was updated. This policy lays out not only the purpose of the policy for the officers but it also spells out the supervisor's role as well. The following text below is taken from the policy manual of what the supervisor's role is specifically:

- A. Recordings shall be held for (90) ninety days before being "degaussed" for reuse, unless so ordered for an extended period of time by an order of the court.
 - B. Recordings shall be subject to review by the Chief of Police or the Deputy Chief or their designees.
 - C. At least once every (30) thirty day period, first line supervisors should review a recorded event of each officer under his or her supervision. The supervisor will log this review in the "video review database" (database to be implemented by Data Processing under the officer's name). Thus each officer should have at least one notation of review in any given (30) thirty-day period, commencing with the full implementation of this policy.
 - D. Supervisors should use these reviews as a quality control measure. Following such a review, the supervisor will hold a meeting with the officer and provide the officer with either positive reinforcement or constructive criticism with respect to the stop reviewed. Constructive criticism may relate to officer safety issues, demeanor, policy issues or legal issues related to the stop as well as any other supervisory observation relative to performance.
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E. If upon review, the supervisor finds while stored, the recording medium shall be catalogued by the officer's name and ID number.

F. that corrective action is necessary regarding an officer's conduct, the Deputy Chief or his/her designee, along with the officer's direct supervisor may take the necessary action. In such cases, a special MVR review schedule should be implemented with respect to that particular officer for a set duration in order to ensure compliance with the corrective action.

G. In cases of median infractions requiring mid-level disciplinary actions, Deputy Chief or their designee conducting the review shall then determine the proper disciplinary action. In such cases, special MVR review schedule shall be implemented with respect to the particular officer for a set duration in order to ensure compliance with the corrective action.

H. In cases of serious infractions, the Deputy Chief or their designee shall forward all information regarding the incident to the Chief of Police for determination of the proper disciplinary action. In such cases, a special MVR review schedule shall be implemented with respect to the particular officer for a set duration in order to ensure compliance with the corrective action.

Since the installation of this in car camera was installed late in the fall of 2018 there is a limited amount of quantified data pertaining to traffic citations, dui arrest, etc. Although I can speak of other cameras that we have installed in other squad cars, the cameras have greatly reduced the amount of overtime cost pertaining to officers needing to appear in court on a traffic citation, or needing to testify in front of jury when it comes to an DUI arrest, or an individual who has been charged with disorderly conduct, or even battering a police officer. We believe the camera reduces the amount of complaints that the department may receive. The cameras also help supervisors' better train and make recommendations on how an officer could have conducted the traffic stop in a safer manner. The camera is an invaluable tool today and in the times we live in today when it comes social media and public scrutiny the in car camera is no longer a special request it is must that all agencies have cameras in their squad cars today.

Respectfully,

Vernon Foli
Chief of Police
