

Report to The Vermont Legislature

Report on the Status of Use of Body Cameras in the Departments of Fish & Wildlife, Liquor & Lottery, and Motor Vehicles

In Accordance with Section 57 of [Act 3](#) of 2021 (H.138)

Submitted to: Joint Fiscal and Joint Justice Oversight Committees
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Due: September 30, 2021
Report date: September 30, 2021

In accordance with section 57 of [Act 3](#) of 2021 (H.138), above, the following is a status report on the “use of body cameras” in the Department of Fish & Wildlife, the Department of Liquor & Lottery, and the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Report Requirement

Sec. 57. BODY CAMERA DEPLOYMENT

The Departments of Fish and Wildlife, of Liquor Control, of Motor Vehicles shall only deploy the use of body cameras after appropriate training of staff and the adoptions of policies on use and retention of records. The departments shall identify the on-going cost and funding source for training, data storage and redaction and report these findings to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on or before March 15, 2021. *The Secretary of Administration shall provide a report to the Joint Fiscal and the Joint Justice Oversight Committees in September 2021 on the status of use of body cameras in these departments.* (emphasis added)

Department of Motor Vehicles

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has had internal discussions on minor modifications to the state “Body Worn Camera” (BWC) model policy that would take into account the needs of the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit such as conducting inspections (allowing for limited removal cameras) and modifying camera use by detectives when visiting public businesses during non-enforcement interactions.

The Agency of Transportation has allocated \$138,000 in the DMV budget for the BWC program. At this time, the DMV is working with the vendor that supplies its 4RE in-car camera systems and is the vendor for DPS. Acquisition and implementation of the “Cradlepoint” hardware has begun. The Cradlepoint hardware is necessary to upload the in-car and body worn camera data to the cloud storage solution--once it comes on-line. DMV has experienced delays with the vendor providing the needed cloud storage data solutions for DMV. ADS has been working with DMV and the vendor to move this project forward. Once the cloud storage data management solution is set, DMV will purchase the BWCs, conduct training on both the policy and devices and how they integrate with the current 4RE in-car camera systems.

Department of Fish and Wildlife

The Department of Fish and Wildlife has not deployed body cameras for wardens as no legislative appropriation was provided to fund the purchase of the cameras. The Department will include an appropriation request in its FY23 budget.

Department of Liquor and Lottery

The Office of Compliance and Enforcement (OCE) of the Department of Liquor & Lottery (DLL) has not purchased or deployed any BWC. The Department will include an appropriation request in its FY23 budget. New leadership at the department is reviewing the BWC policy and the opportunities to employ body-worn cameras in all or some of the three core programs of the Department-- Undercover Minor Compliance, Regulatory Inspections, and Investigations of Administrative/Civil/Criminal violations.

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