

EXECUTIVE ORDER



Subject:	BWCs: New Activation Requirements and Policy Reminder
Number	16-009
Effective Date	September 15, 2016
Related To:	GO-SPT-302.13 (Body-Worn Camera Program)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this executive order is to announce new procedures related to the activation of body-worn cameras (BWCs) and to remind members of the existing activation procedures outlined in GO-SPT-302.13 (Body-Worn Camera Program). In order to provide an additional reminder to members to activate their BWCs for radio runs initiated over the air, members who are assigned BWCs and Office of Unified Communications (OUC) dispatchers will acknowledge and confirm the activation of BWCs over the air.

II. PROCEDURES

- A. Effective immediately, when members who are equipped with BWCs acknowledge receipt of a radio run over the air, or are advising the dispatcher of self-initiated police action over the air, members shall verbally acknowledge activation of their BWC.

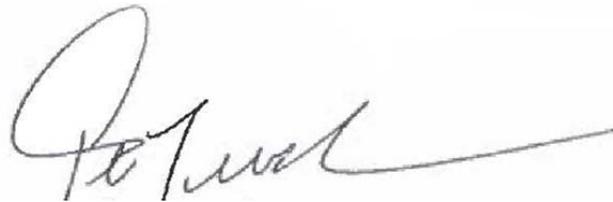
NOTE: To facilitate member notifications, OUC has agreed to have dispatchers confirm over the air that members' BWCs are activated, when practicable.

- B. Members are reminded that pursuant to GO-SPT-302.13 (Body-Worn Camera Program):
1. Members shall activate their BWCs for all dispatched and self-initiated calls-for-service.
 2. Members, including primary, secondary, and assisting members, shall start their BWC recordings as soon as a call is initiated via radio or communication from the OUC on their mobile data computer (MDC), or at the beginning of any self-initiated police action.
 3. Members shall not deactivate their BWC until/unless:

- a. They have notified the dispatcher of their assignment's disposition, and they have cleared the assignment or, in the case of arrest, have transferred custody of the arrestee to another member.
- b. Their involvement in the citizen contact or detention has concluded.
- c. They receive an order from a higher-ranking member. In such cases, members shall document the order and the name of the official in their associated incident or arrest reports and on the BWC when practicable.
- d. The search requiring activation as outlined in Part V.A.4.p of GO-SPT-302.13 has concluded, and the member believes he or she will have no further interaction with the person or property.
- e. A pursuit has been terminated, and the member has returned to service through the dispatcher.
- f. In the event of a prolonged crime scene or an incident during which time they need to take a break (e.g., restroom break). In those cases, members shall contact the dispatcher to request a break and later document in the non-public narrative section of all related reports or their notebook the interruption of the BWC recording.

III. POINT OF CONTACT

Members may direct questions to their District Body Worn Camera Coordinator or Mr. Derek Meeks, Program Manager at derek.meeks@dc.gov.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Newsham", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter Newsham
Interim Chief of Police