



## Body-Worn Cameras Policy Statement

### Purpose and Scope

The Clark University Police Department (CUPD) adopts the use of Body-Worn Cameras (BWCs) to visually and audibly record certain interactions between officers and the Clark community as well as the general public and to retain associated video for a period of time. Officers shall utilize the device in accordance with the provisions of this policy statement and any related CUPD's General Orders.

A **body-worn camera** (BWC) is a forward-facing audio and video capturing system that is attached to the officer's uniform at the front and center the officer's chest.

CUPD uses Axon's body-worn camera system and Axon's cloud-based video management system (VMS) to manage the videos that have been captured.

### Use of BWCs

The use of BWC is guided by CUPD General Orders.

In general, police officers assigned a BWC will activate their BWC for all enforcement encounters where there is at least reasonable suspicion that the person(s) has committed, is committing or may be involved in criminal activity. Officers are not required to record normal casual conversations/encounters with citizens.

When initiating a police action, it is recommended that officers wearing a BWC notify the persons that they are being recorded. Officers may take into account tactical considerations as to if, or when, to notify a person of the BWC recording.

It is the policy of the CUPD to not release any BWC except in limited circumstances under CUPD's General Orders. BWC video will only be reviewed at the University Police station.

Non-evidentiary BWC video will be retained for 30 days. Evidentiary video, in accordance with the University data retention schedule, will be retained for a period of up to seven years or longer if related to any criminal or civil proceeding, investigation, or any use of force on a secure off-site server.

While Clark appreciates that some individuals will have privacy concerns, if an officer has a legal right to be somewhere, they can also record video. This includes on public and private property. Concern for privacy is also why CUPD carefully guards the release of the captured video.

<b>Related Policies and Regulations</b>
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<b>History/Revision Information</b>
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**Responsible Office/Division:** Clark University Police

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Last Amended Date:** September 16, 2024

**Next Review Date:** September 16, 2025