



# Project Abstract

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**Applicant:** Orlando Police Department

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**Solicitation Name:** Body-Worn Camera Pilot Implementation Program FY 2015

**Project Title:** OPD Body-Worn Camera Program

**Proposed Start Date:** October 1, 2015

**Proposed End Date:** September 30, 2017

**Funding Amount Requested:** \$497,480

**Project Location:** Orlando, Florida

**Applicant Type:** City

The current problem facing law enforcement is the critical need for public safety agencies to enhance transparency and accountability and improve police services in an effort to improve interactions with the public. Community policing efforts to address this need, and continue to build community trust, are directly linked to the need to incorporate improved technology.

The Orlando Police Department intends to implement a body-worn camera program to address this problem, outfitting 450 first responders with body-worn cameras (BWC). The City of Orlando has a population which is richly diverse with a residential population of 255,483 and a service population of more than 62 million visitors to Orlando. With this large service population, officers made 114,651 traffic stops and suspicious contacts in 2014. With that, there were 610 response to resistance incidents (use of force), out of those incidents, there were 10 use of force complaints. Three of these resulted in use of excessive force complaints that were sustained. Although the number of actual excessive force complaints is low, these incidents have received an enormous amount of negative media attention, creating tension in the community.

The goal of the of OPD's BWC program is to enhance transparency and accountability and improve police services in an effort to improve interactions with the public. The program objectives include implementing a phased approached BWC program, establishing agency policies and procedures, and improving transparency and accountability in encounters between police and the public by deploying BWC's. To reach these goals and objectives the agency is using data and information obtained from a recent year-long study OPD completed with the University of South Florida, as well as various national research reports and best practices, to

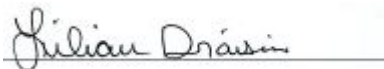
implement a comprehensive, phased approach strategy, involving numerous stakeholders. The large collaborative effort includes other local agencies, community leaders, the Fraternal Order of Police, the Office of the State Attorney, the Valencia College Peace and Justice Initiative as well as local government leaders.

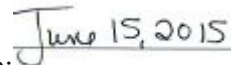
The anticipated outcome is that the implementation of a body-worn camera (BWC) program will assist in reducing complaints of police misconduct; deescalating conflicts, reducing the instances of use of force events and reducing injuries to both police officers and citizens. In addition, the implementation of a BWC program will increase officer professionalism and advance criminal investigations. This program will be implemented in a phased approach and will be managed by highly competent staff.

### **Permission to Share Project Abstract**

The Orlando Police Department grants permission for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), in its discretion, to make the information in the project abstract above publicly available.

On behalf of the applicant named above, I consent to the information in the project abstract above (including contact information) being made public, at the discretion of OJP consistent with applicable policies. I understand that this consent is only necessary to the extent that my application is unfunded; information submitted in an application that is funded (including this abstract) is always releasable to the public consistent with FOIA rules. I certify that I have the authority to provide this consent.

Signature: 

Date: 

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