



CITY OF RICHMOND
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THE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE
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Richmond- the Richmond City Sheriff's Office announces that it is using Axon Body Worn Cameras starting this week to record daily encounters. The decision to use Body Worn Cameras at the Richmond City Sheriff's Office is about transparency and will help protect deputies, citizens, and inmates. According to Sheriff Antionette V. Irving, "Several offices across the country are now using body worn cameras as an extra layer of security. This decision was made after determining how effective they are elsewhere and learning some best practices."

The BWC is a tool to ensure officer safety and professionalism and to ensure that the deputy abides by the agency policy and procedures. The BWC will provide a means to monitor and evaluate staff training and interactions during potentially volatile incidents. The BWC also provides a de-escalation tactic for situations that could potentially get out of hand. Sheriff Irving continued, "When incidents occur, I personally welcome this higher level of accountability at our office."

Under Sheriff Irving's leadership, the Richmond City Sheriff's Office has secured over \$6.5 million in grant funding on its own to use for internal programs to rehabilitate inmates, recruit deputies, and to purchase security equipment at the jail. Sheriff Irving indicated that securing additional funding above what is allotted by the city and the state is necessary to address the increased challenges that the jails face today. It is how they are able to fund new security measures like body cameras.

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