

Mental Health Alliance

Position on Body Worn Cameras

January 2019 - all comments to Jason by COB 1/22/2019

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Because most people arrested by the Portland Police Bureau are persons with a history of mental illness, addiction, and / or alcoholism, the Mental Health Alliance has a great interest in their rights, privacy and dignity.

Mental Health Alliance supports the use of body worn cameras for the Portland Police Bureau within the following provisions:

About Cameras

Cameras will not be operated or record persons in the following circumstances:

- On hospital property - including hospital parking lots.
- On welfare checks.
- When a person is not a suspect and is in an ambulance or being assisted by medical personnel.
- When intervening in suicide or self-harm.
- On requests for medical assistance.
- On the property of a community mental health agency, an alcohol and drug treatment facility, or housing owned and / or operated by such organization.
- On the property of clean and sober housing - such as an Oxford House.
- When a person is not a suspect and is known or suspected to be experiencing symptoms of mental illness, have a brain injury, or an intellectual disability.
- When a person is not a suspect and is known or suspected to be intoxicated or under the influence of drugs.
- When a person is not a suspect and alleges a sex crime has been committed against them.
- When a person is not a suspect and is known or suspected to be demented.
- When a person is not a suspect and is known or suspected to be in shock.
- Without permission of parent or guardian when a person is a minor.
- If a person is not a suspect and has a guardian or conservator, without the permission of the guardian or conservator.

About Recordings

- City Council should create a process whereby civilian oversight can request and review recordings.
- Recordings should be made available to civilian police oversight to review, such as the Auditor's office, city commissioners, the Independent Police Review, the Police Review Board, the Citizen's Review Commission, the Committee on Community-Engaged Policing, the Behavioral Health Unity Advisory Committee, and others.
- Recordings should not be accessible without a court order to any Portland Police Bureau officers who were at the recorded event.
- Recordings should be accessible to Portland Police Bureau commanding officers for use in supervision and to the Training Department for assistance in officer instruction.
- Recordings should be made available on request to defendants directly and without cost if charges are not filed or are dropped.
 - JAN FRIEDMAN - language for giving recordings for victims. Who is a victim? Should they be charged for the service.
- Recordings should be made available on request to defendant attorneys if charges are filed.
- Recordings should not be used by the Portland Police Bureau or the City of Portland in any public documents or messages, promotions, or recruitment materials. Recordings should not be shared publicly online by the Portland Police Bureau or individual officers.
- Recordings should be kept for at least two years.
- All persons appearing in recordings shared with defendants or their attorneys, introduced as evidence in a trial, used in police trainings, reviewed by civilian oversight committees, or by city employees should be advised prior to the release.

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