

WDFW Police Body Cameras



2023-25 Funding Request

Emergent need

\$1.6 million for 2023-25
biennium

At-risk services

Departments across the
globe who implement
BWCs are seeing
reductions in citizen
complaints and injuries



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Investments in body worn camera (BWC) technologies support modern policies in law enforcement transparency and reduce officer safety liability. These devices are essential tools that support public expectations regarding police interactions and accountability. By providing audio and video footage, BWCs affirm or refute claims of wrongdoing, resolving the potential for lawsuits and costly internal investigations that detract from the primary mission of public service.

The Problem

Law enforcement agencies nationwide are implementing body worn cameras for the purposes of improving officer safety, enhancing the quality of evidence, reducing civilian complaints, increasing transparency and accountability, and reducing liability. Not enhancing officer support through BWCs exposes officers and the state to elevated risk and liability.

The Solution

With this funding, commissioned police officers at the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) can be equipped with BWCs to advance public safety and police accountability. The legislative constituencies, police reform initiatives, and the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs strongly support the procurement of BWCs.

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