



City of Casa Grande Police Department

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CGPD Testing Body Worn Cameras

Casa Grande, AZ – The Casa Grande Police Department has implemented a pilot program testing body worn cameras for use by patrol officers. The department, based on a successful completion of the trial test, plans to move forward with the purchase of body worn cameras to outfit the entire patrol division which consists of approximately 38 officers.

Over the past year, CGPD, along with City of Casa Grande Information Technology staff, has conducted research into different companies who make and sell body worn cameras for law enforcement. Recently, we outfitted two of our patrol officers with test cameras. Our goal is to provide our training officers the opportunity to test the equipment for functionality and durability. The camera purchase will ultimately be for a total of 40 cameras, although due to current budget restraints, we plan to make an initial purchase of only 10 cameras and then 10 more per year for the next three years. The first 10 cameras will be issued throughout various shifts and squads in the department in an effort to gain as much exposure to the officers and public as possible.

Director of Police Services Chris Vasquez stated “Our overall goal is to provide transparency and accountability in our daily interaction with the citizens of our community. The cameras will record most interactions with citizens and can influence both the behavior of officers and those they encounter in a positive way, and as a result, reduce the potential for use of force and complaints.” All officers will be trained on the use of cameras and will be required to upload the videos to a cloud-based storage system using a docking station at the department headquarters. The CGPD will finalize all policies regarding body worn cameras and a strict adherence to those policies and state legislated public retention laws will be utilized for maintaining video in storage. ###