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**News Release**

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**Body-Worn Camera Distribution Now Complete at the Toledo Police Department**

Toledo, OH (April 15, 2021): A crucial goal has been accomplished now that 100% of uniformed Toledo police officers who interact with residents have been equipped with Body-Worn Cameras (BWCs). The process of equipping TPD with BWCs began in 2017 but after technological compatibility issues, all the BWCs had to be returned in 2018. After purchasing a new set of BWCs in 2018, the first group of cameras went to Field Operations Patrol Officers because they interact with residents the most. The department has now expanded the list of officers that wear BWCs to include:

- Toledo Police Cadets
- Field Operations patrol & command officers
- SWAT Section
- Gang Task Force
- Community Services Officers
- Records Bureau
- Property Room
- Traffic Bureau
- Backgrounds & Recruitment
- Video Unit
- Tow Low
- School Resource Officers
- Police Athletic League (PAL)

Plain-clothed officers including VICE/Narcotics Detective, and persons and property detectives, will not be issued BWCs due to the nature of their work. There is also a small pool of BWCs that officers may utilize while working privately off-duty if their daily uniform does not include a BWC. The BWCs cost approximately \$700 each, taken out of the department’s budget. The department also pays for unlimited storage for the footage which is an additional \$280,000 per year.

“BWC footage has proven to be beneficial to both residents and police departments across the country; the cameras improve public confidence in officers and increase transparency. This has been a long-term goal of mine and I am proud to say today, every uniformed TPD officer that interacts with residents has a Body-Worn Camera,” said Toledo Police Chief George Kral.

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