

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
POLICY ON BODY WORN CAMERAS

1. In accordance with applicable Maryland law, the purpose of this Morgan State University Policy on Body Worn Cameras ("Policy") is to approve a Morgan State University Body-Worn Camera Program for the Morgan State University Police and Public Safety Department ("MSUPD"). In accordance with this Policy, the President may, and may further direct and/or collaborate with the Morgan State University Chief of Police to, develop and establish General Orders and Procedures ("Procedures") to provide MSUPD police officers with the guidelines for use, management, storage, and retrieval of Body - Worn Cameras, as well as the audio-visual media recorded by the Body Worn Camera equipment.
2. Body- Worn Cameras (BWCs) refer to a camera worn by an MSUPD police officer that records and stores audio and video data during the performance of their official duties.
3. BWCs are used to enhance police services to the community by accurately documenting events, actions, conditions, and statements made during citizen contacts, traffic stops, arrests, searches, and other incidents.
4. In addition to the general services provided by law enforcement, BWCs shall be worn by MSUPD police officers in accordance with all applicable laws, this Policy, and this Policy's related Procedures in order to address the following specific purposes:
 - a. To capture crimes in progress irrespective of whether they are perpetrated against officers or the community.
 - b. To aid in the documentation of crime scenes, the discovery of evidence, and the actions of police personnel.
 - c. To aid in the documentation of statements made by victims, witnesses, suspects, and/or accused individuals.
 - d. To document advice of rights when applicable.
 - e. To promote officer safety by deterring acts of aggression against police personnel.
 - f. To reduce unreasonable and false complaints made against officers during the course of their duties.
 - g. To enable the swift resolution of such complaints if they are received.
 - h. To facilitate training to ensure the courtesy and professionalism of all Morgan State University police personnel.
 - i. To address other matters of use or public benefit as may be identified from time to time.

5. This Policy does not govern the use of surreptitious recording devices used in undercover operations.
6. It is the intention of the BWC Program to utilize BWCs for the purpose of strengthening police accountability; promoting de-escalation by both law enforcement officers and those they encounter; enhancing the ability to resolve officer-involved incidents and complaints; improving transparency; identifying and correcting internal agency training, policy and other issues; strengthening officer performance and safety; and increasing community safety.