

CAPE GIRARDEAU PD SOLIDIFIES COMMUNITY TRUST WITH BODY-WORN CAMERAS.

Body-worn cameras and data management technology provide a reliable solution to capture and manage evidence and reduce unwarranted complaints.

THE CHALLENGE

Cape Girardeau PD, Cape Girardeau, MO, receives about five complaints annually for alleged police misconduct. While this is not an overwhelming number of complaints, the negative impact it has on the officers and community relations can be harmful and unnecessarily expend valuable resources.

Studies have shown that these types of complaints create a perception of mistrust for police officers nationwide. The impact of this is two-fold, the officer's ability to do their job with confidence is hindered and the public starts to think officers cannot be trusted.

Cape Girardeau PD decided they needed to do something to protect them from these misconceptions. They needed a solution they could trust and one that would create efficiencies and be reliable. Cape Girardeau PD enlisted Getac Video Solutions to help them solve the problem.

Body-worn cameras provide "transparency about what it is we do. Now it is not just a he-said, she-said thing."

- Police Chief Wes Blair

SECTOR:

Police Department (Public Service)

SOLUTION:

Getac Video body-worn cameras, Getac Enterprise data management, Cloud Services

CLIENT:

Cape Girardeau Police Dept.

CHALLENGE:

Reduce unwarranted complaints of alleged police misconduct that creates unnecessary tension and mistrust between officers and the community.



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THE SOLUTION

Creating transparency, capturing secure data evidence and managing it efficiently and effectively became key drivers to determining a solution for Cape Girardeau PD.

Selecting body-worn cameras as a primary device for deterring unwarranted complaints was one of the first steps to moving the initiative forward.

Police Chief Wes Blair said body-worn cameras provide “transparency about what it is we do. Now it is not just a he-said, she-said thing.”

Having body-worn cameras at the scene as things are happening, and capturing secure video, removes any doubt about the validity of the data and shows how well officers are doing their jobs. There are also triggers that turn the camera on to ensure video is being captured when it is needed.

The cameras are crucial to reducing complaints and liabilities because the data captured on these videos can be used as evidence on cases, providing multiple views of an incident.

The body-worn cameras were chosen initially as a way to mitigate allegations of misconduct, but the Cape Girardeau PD chose them for a multitude of reasons.

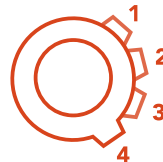
The reliable build and efficiencies that are created by the camera and the software were a value-added benefit. Crime Analyst, Corporal Ryan Droege says the high-end cameras were a good investment because the HD video quality works well in low-light, they have a great storage capacity, a long-life battery and the software is easy to use.



**HD VIDEO
QUALITY**



**LOW-LIGHT
RECORDING**



**IN-FIELD
TAGGING**



**AUTOMATIC
TRIGGERS**

Each camera has a small spin wheel on it that allows an officer to catalog the video for the incident in an easy, time-saving manner. When the officers return to the station, they upload the recordings to the cloud to store, manage and process the data. Local prosecutors can easily and securely access the cloud to view recordings, eliminating the need for officers to copy a CD and bring the evidence to them.

As an added bonus, Cape Girardeau plans to leverage Getac Video body-worn cameras as a training tool to help officers hone their skills for an escalated incident or something as simple as a traffic stop. “The cameras provide a hands-on, interactive and more real-world training so everyone is operating at a higher level to help provide a better service to the community,” Droege said. Supervisors will be able to review recordings from their own computers with the officers to train and point out ways to improve their interactions with the public



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THE RESULTS

Cape Girardeau PD entered into a three-year, \$154,000 contract with Getac Video for 50 cameras and the cloud to store the video and audio. The contract includes replacing all 50 cameras after the first two years. The patrol and traffic divisions of Cape Girardeau have more than 40 officers combined who use the cameras. The extra cameras are held in reserve for use by other officers when needed, and as backup. Blair said having a three-year contract allows them to take advantage of future improvements in the body-worn cameras.

Bringing devices and data together, Getac Video is a real-time intelligence solution that fully integrates systems, technologies and hardware to enable comprehensive data capture and evidence management. Getac Video provided Cape Girardeau PD with body-worn cameras to build trust between officers and the community.

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- Crime Analyst, Corporal Ryan Droege