

## BODY-WORN CAMERAS

The use of a body-worn camera can provide powerful evidence of criminal activity. The audio and/or visual recording of a suspect's actions and statements can be a most useful asset in meeting the burden of proof. Recording devices have also been proven to be a valuable tool for law enforcement practitioners by documenting their honesty, integrity, and professionalism. The use of this type of equipment will quickly resolve many unfounded complaints against officers. These devices may also deter many unfounded and frivolous lawsuits against the Sheriff's Office and Johnston County alike.

### I. Officer Integrity

By virtue of their authority, law enforcement personnel are held to a higher degree of accountability by the community and must continuously strive to ensure that this contract is not violated.

### II. Standard of Operation

In maintaining the trust of citizens and maximizing the effectiveness of this valuable tool, the following procedures for the use of body-worn cameras are hereby set forth.

- a) It shall be the policy of the Johnston County Sheriff's Office to provide available body-worn cameras to be carried by all deputies while on duty.
- b) The body-worn camera shall be utilized during all traffic stops and during any other official capacity as necessary.
- c) The stored audio/video shall be downloaded to the Johnston County Sheriff's Office computer, hard drive, or mass storage device as designated by the Sheriff or Undersheriff at the end of every shift.
- d) All audio/video recordings shall remain the property of the Johnston County Sheriff's Office and shall not be released without the expressed consent or permission of the Sheriff.
- e) All body-worn cameras will be logged in and out on the daily log.
- f) All audio/video recordings will be maintained for the entirety of sixty (60) days, before being permanently purged from data storage.