SCPRC RECOMMENDATION

GO 525.07 Body Worn Camera

If an officer responds to a dispatch call, SPD policy does not specify that the officer is required to have the body worn camera recording before an interaction with a member of the public. Amend GO 525.07(E)(3): Add the following language:

3. Employees shall activate their BWC during investigations and enforcement activity, including evidence collection, whether self-initiated or in response to a dispatch call. When responding to a dispatch call, the officer shall turn the BWC before approaching the location for the call for services.

SCPRC RECOMMENDATION RATIONALE

The language clarifies that the officer must have the body worn camera recording before interaction with a member of the public as a result of a dispatch call.

SPD RESPONSE

As of 08/09/2023, a revision of In-Car Cameras (GO 525.03) and Body-Worn Camera (GO 525.07) are combined into one general order, “In-Car and Body-Worn Cameras” (GO 525.03).

The current draft dictates that “when feasible,” employees shall activate their devices when arriving on scene, engaging in self-initiated enforcement activity, and initiating investigative activity. Further, if immediate activation is not feasible due to risk or safety of any person, the device shall be activated as soon as it is safe.

SPD cannot mandate activation of in-car and body-worn cameras before interaction with a member of the public or prior to arriving at a call for service due to contractual issues subject to labor group negotiations.

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS

N/A

APPENDIX

N/A