




# CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor Eisenbeisz and Assembly Members

**Thru:** John Leach, Municipal Administrator 

**From:** Robert Baty, Chief of Police

**Date:** June 28, 2024

**Subject:** Approval of Application for U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) 50/50 Matching Grant for Body-Worn Cameras

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### **Background**

Body-worn camera (BWC) programs have evolved to become indispensable tools, that when strategically implemented, can be integrated as part of a jurisdiction's holistic problem-solving and community-engagement strategy, helping to increase both trust and communication between the police and the communities they serve. Properly implemented BWC programs also can be highly effective in providing an objective audio and visual record of interactions, capturing empirical evidence at crime scenes, during police-citizen interaction, and in use-of-force incidents.

### **Analysis**

With this solicitation, BJA seeks to support the purchase and lease of BWCs by publicly funded law enforcement agencies as part of comprehensive BWC programs guided by sound policy and broad stakeholder input. In addition, the solicitation seeks to support demonstration projects that advance digital evidence management, leveraging BWC digital footage to promote evidence-based and procedurally just practices in agencies with established BWC programs.

### **Fiscal Note**

This is a 50/50 matching grant. CBS would be responsible for 50% of the cost of all body-worn cameras purchased. With this request CBS will be asking for a \$120,000 grant and would be committing \$120,000 in working capital as a match. A new appropriation of \$240,000 would be required if this grant is approved.

**Recommendation**

Approve this Resolution authorizing the Municipal Administrator to apply for this grant and execute it should it be awarded.

Encl: Res 2024-15

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-15

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA AUTHORIZING A 50/50 MATCHING GRANT APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE FOR BODY-WORN CAMERAS**

**WHEREAS**, the City and Borough of Sitka Police Department seeks to obtain financial assistance to purchase body-worn cameras; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Justice has a 50/50 Federal Matching Grant program thru the Bureau of Justice Assistance for Body-Worn Cameras; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Matching Grant program will provide 50% reimbursement for the purchase of all standard issue body-worn cameras.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka that the Administrator is authorized to apply for and execute a grant with the Bureau of Justice Assistance for the purchase of Body-Worn Cameras.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2024.

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Steven Eisenbeisz, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sara Peterson, MMC  
Municipal Clerk

1<sup>st</sup> and final reading: 7/9/24

Sponsor: Administrator