

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

NOTICE
1.2

November 2, 2020

TO: All Sworn Personnel

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: NARRATING ON BODY WORN VIDEO WHEN USING LESS LETHAL

The purpose of this Notice is to supplement the email that was sent by the Department Operations Center on October 23, 2020. This Notice serves as reminder to Department personnel that, whenever possible in crowd control situations, officers should narrate what they are seeing and what they are doing on Body Worn Video (BWV).

Narration is particularly important when the violent actions of a crowd result in the use of force, including less lethal force. Specifically, **officers should identify, by narrating on their BWV, why they are using less lethal force.** For example, an officer could say “the man in the red shirt is throwing rocks at officers and others, so I am deploying a 40mm less lethal.” Linebackers and others directing less-lethal equipped officers on specific targets should also articulate specific information for the basis for deploying less-lethal munitions.

The Department recognizes personnel assigned to street demonstrations or other assemblies are frequently detailed for extended times as well as at different locations. Utilizing the audio recording capabilities of the BWV provides an effective chronological record of critical information regarding the basis for the officer’s decision-making process, as well as to assist in disproving allegations that the officer’s actions were unnecessary or excessive.

Should you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact the Office of the Chief of Staff, at (213) 486-8740.



MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

Attachment

DISTRIBUTION “A”

Subject: FW: Message from the COP

From: DOC Communications Division
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2020 12:22 PM
To: DOC Communications Division <doc@lapd.online>
Subject: Message from the COP

Per the Chief of Police, please review the following.

This Notice is a reminder to Department personnel that, whenever possible in crowd control situations, officers should narrate what they are seeing and what they are doing on Body Worn Video (BWV). This is particularly important when violent actions of a crowd require the use of force, including less lethal force. Specifically, officers should identify, by narrating on their BWV, why they are using less lethal. For example, an officer could say "the man in the red shirt is throwing rocks at officers and others, so I am deploying a 40mm less lethal." Linebackers and others directing less-lethal equipped officers on specific targets should also articulate specific information for the basis for deploying less-lethal munitions.

The Department recognizes personnel assigned to street demonstrations or other assemblies are frequently detailed for extended times as well as different locations. Utilizing the audio recording capabilities of the BWV provides an effective chronological record in support of critical information for the basis for officer's decision-making process as well as to assist in disproving allegations that the officer's actions were unnecessary or excessive.

Sergeant M. Sanchez
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Department Operations Center
(213) 484-6700

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