



Evaluating Body-Worn Cameras and Smart Policing

Milwaukee, WI SPI and CNA

Wednesday, November 16

11:00am to 12:20pm

Hilton, Grand Salon 18, 1st Level

This project was supported by Grant No 2015-WY-BX-0006 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Preliminary Results from Milwaukee Police Department's Random Controlled Trial Evaluation of Body Worn Cameras (BWCs)

Bryce Peterson, PhD
Lilly Yu
Urban Institute
Washington, DC

Daniel Lawrence, PhD
RTI International
Research Triangle Park, NC



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Presentation Overview

- Introduction
- BWC Literature
- Overview of Milwaukee SPI
- Urban's Evaluation: Randomized Control Trial (RCT)
- Preliminary Findings
- Next Steps

Introduction

- Body-worn cameras are a growing, important area of research and practice in policing
 - President's Task Force on Policing in the 21st Century: BWCs a national priority
 - Millions of federal dollars for BWC initiatives
 - Dozens of past and ongoing studies
 - 95 percent of large police departments intend to implement, have already piloted, or have fully operational BWC programs (Major Cities Chiefs and Major County Sheriffs, 2015)

Prior/Current BWC Research

- Most early studies show that BWCs decrease use of force and citizen complaints (Lum et al, 2015; White, 2014)
- But, more recent RCT studies suggest no impact of BWCs on use of force (Ariel et al., 2016a, 2016b)
- Also, BWC officers might make more arrests or give more citations (Katz et al., 2015; Ready & Young, 2015)

Milwaukee and the Police Department

- City of Milwaukee
 - Largest city in Wisconsin
 - 96 square miles; 30th largest city in the U.S.
 - 600,155 city residents
- Milwaukee Police Department (MPD)
 - Largest police department in Wisconsin
 - 22nd largest police department in the U.S. (2013 LEMAS)
 - 2,737 total full time members of the department
 - 2,294 sworn Police Officers
 - 443 civilian members

Social Issues in Milwaukee

- 10.5 percent unemployment rate 2014
(national rate = 6.2 percent)
- 29.4 percent of residents living in poverty
 - 2nd poorest city in U.S. among cities with 500K+
(2014 ACS)
- Zip code 53206 has the highest incarceration rate among black males in the United States
- 4th in total violent crime rate among the 50 largest U.S. cities (2014 UCR)

Milwaukee SPI

- Police/Community trust has been tenuous in certain neighborhoods of the city for decades
- A 2014 MPD officer-involved fatal shooting was main impetus for BWCs program
- Other national incidents (Ferguson, Baltimore, Cleveland) expedited BWC policy exploration and development
- Milwaukee joined SPI in October 2015

Milwaukee SPI goals

- BWC program goals:
 - **Increase accountability**
by recording police-citizen interactions; deterring unprofessional conduct; disproving allegations; reducing resistance to arrest and officer assault; increasing legitimacy, trust, and satisfaction; decreasing complaints; and reducing civil actions against personnel.
 - **Aid investigation of violent crime**
by improving officer recollection for reports and court testimony; using videos as criminal evidence; improving criminal case preparation and the success of prosecution of offenders.

Timeline of BWC Deployment

Phase	Description	# of cameras	Districts targeted	Timeline
One	Pilot demonstration	180	2, 5, NTF	October 2015
Two	RCT of 504 officers	270	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7	March 2016
Three	Those not in the study	280	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	June 2016
Four (Final)	All patrol officers and sergeants will have a BWC	390	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, NTF, others	December 2016

Impact Evaluation Plan/Activities

1. RCT of Phase 2 BWC deployment
2. Quasi-Experimental Design with all officers
3. Focus groups w/ officers and community members
4. Pre/post surveys of community members (Google Consumer Surveys)
5. Field observations and site visits
6. Camera usage “metadata” from manufacturer
7. Cost data

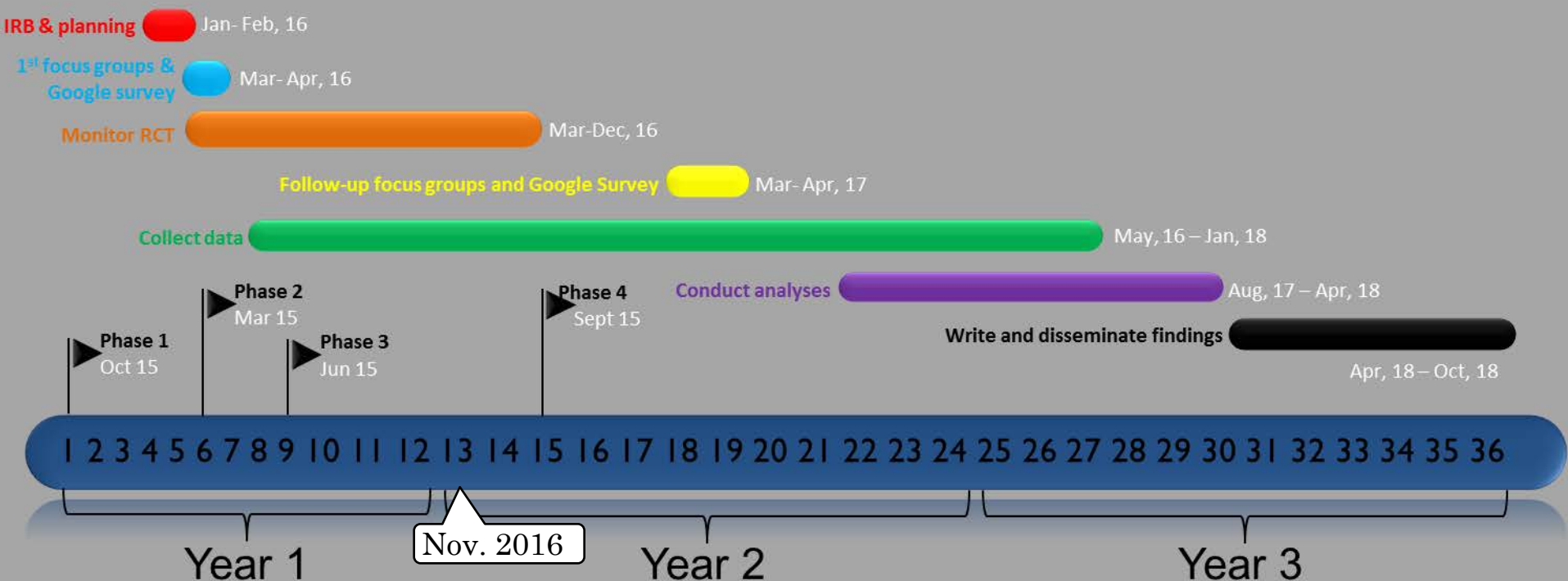
RCT

- Phase 2 of BWCS deployment
- 504 officers (252 treatment and 252 control)
- Stratified random assignment by district, race (white/nonwhite) and shift (Power/Late/Days/Early)

Dist.	# Officers	% of MPD	# BWCs	# Control	RCT Sample	% of Sample
1	95	11.7%	30	30	60	11.9%
2	146	18.0%	40	40	80	15.9%
3	168	20.7%	52	52	104	20.6%
4	144	17.7%	46	46	92	18.2%
6	103	12.7%	34	34	68	13.5%
7	156	19.2%	50	50	100	19.8%
Total	812	100%	252	252	504	100%

Evaluation Timeline

Timeline for research activities



Data and Methods

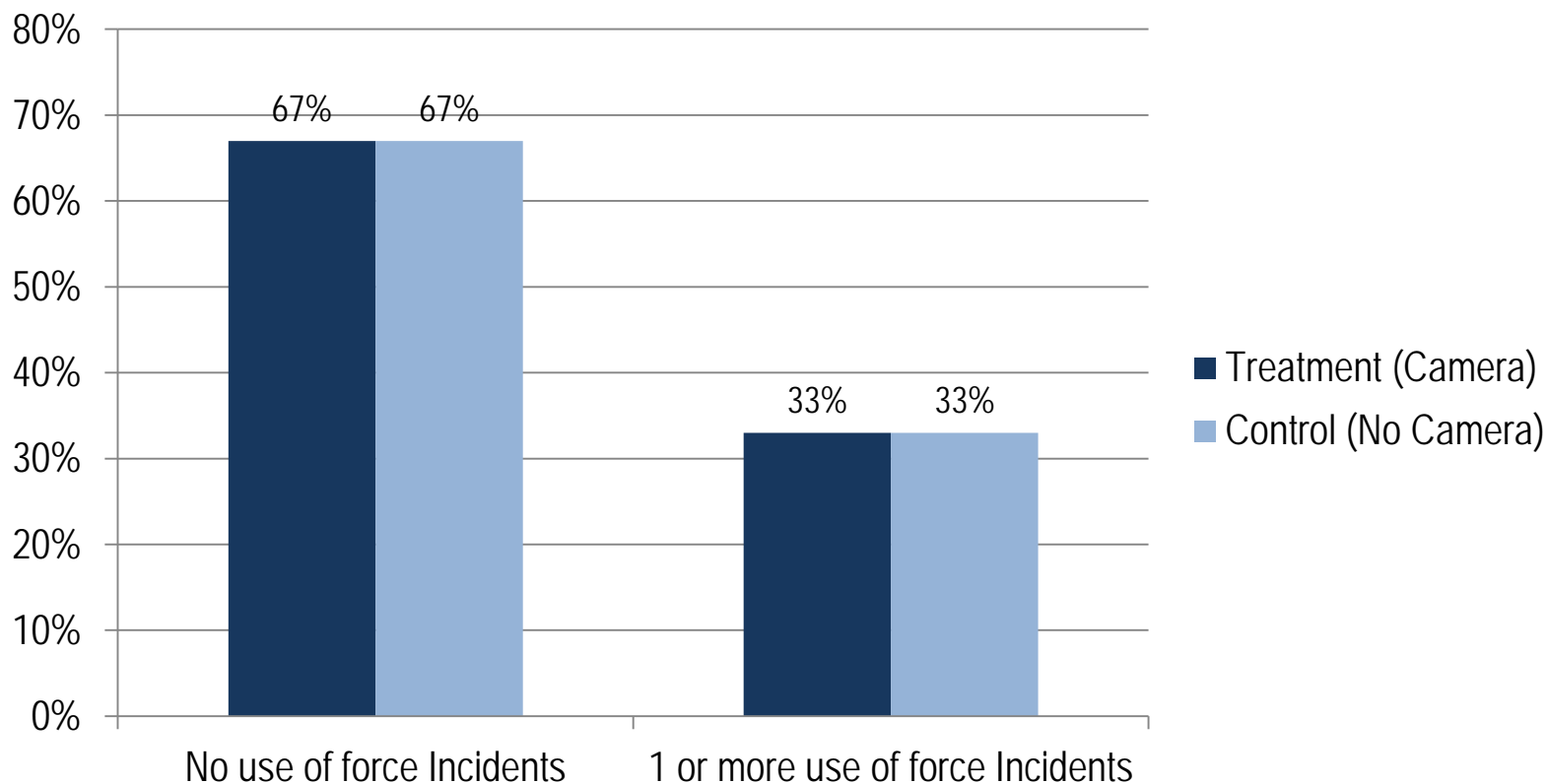
- Administrative Milwaukee PD data
 - March 21 through October 15
- Outcomes and analytic techniques
 - *Chi-square tests*
 - **Citizen complaint (y/n):** only closed reports
 - **Use of force incident (y/n):** all open and closed reports
 - » **Video available (y/n):**
 - *Poisson regression*
 - **Number of use of force incidents**
 - **Number of proactive activities:** ex. Citizen contacts, investigations, park and walk, probation/parole check, traffic check, vagrant house check.

Summary Statistics

	N	Percent		
Use of force incidents				
No	337	67%		
Yes	167	33%		
Video available				
No	64	39%		
Yes	100	61%		
Citizen complaints				
No	496	98%		
Yes	8	2%		
	Mean	Std. Dev	Min-Max	
# Proactive activities	283.07	252.46	0-2013	
# Use of force incidents	0.49	0.86	0-6	

Preliminary Findings: Use of Force

Use of Force Incidents (March 21-October 15)

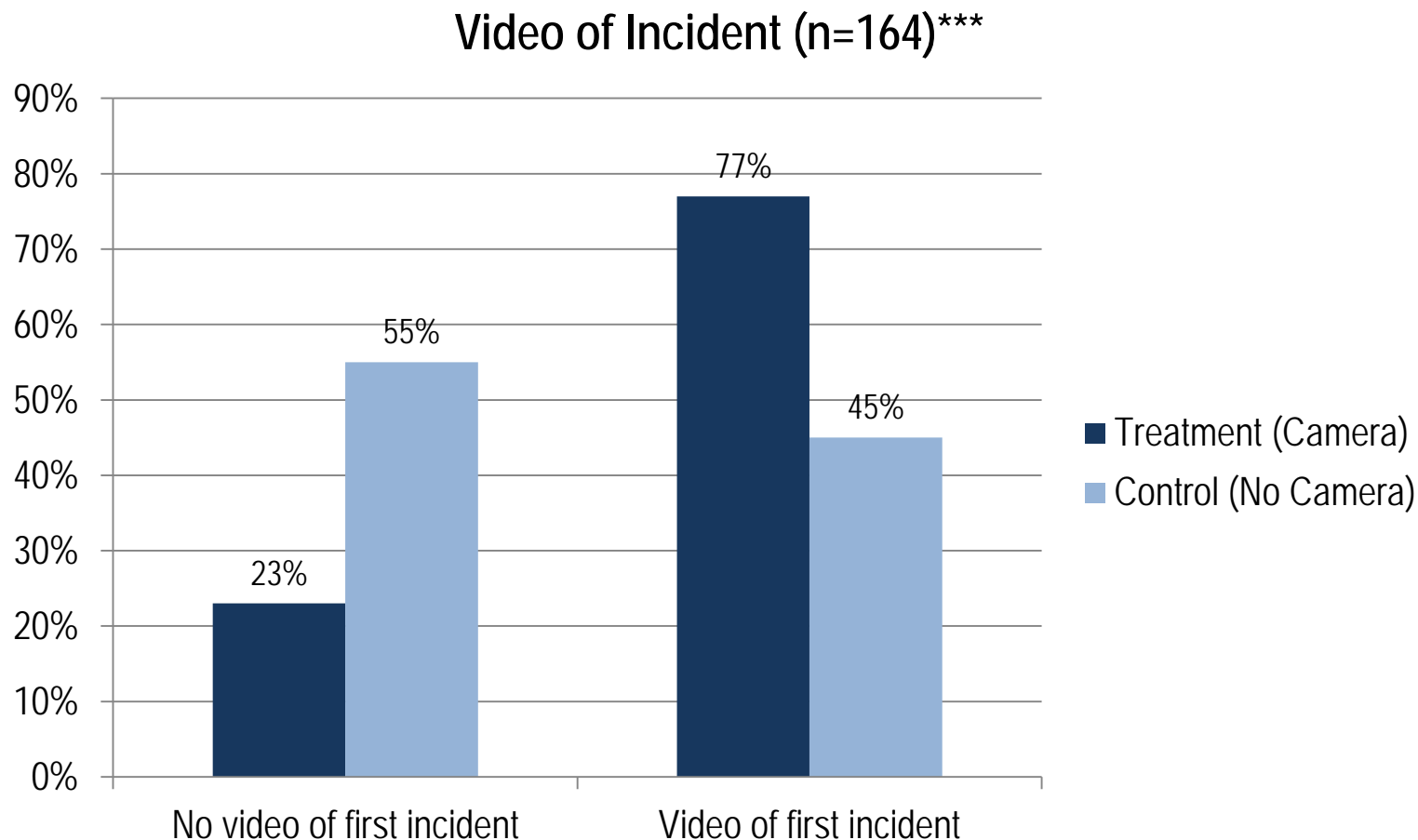


Model not significant

Preliminary Findings: Use of Force

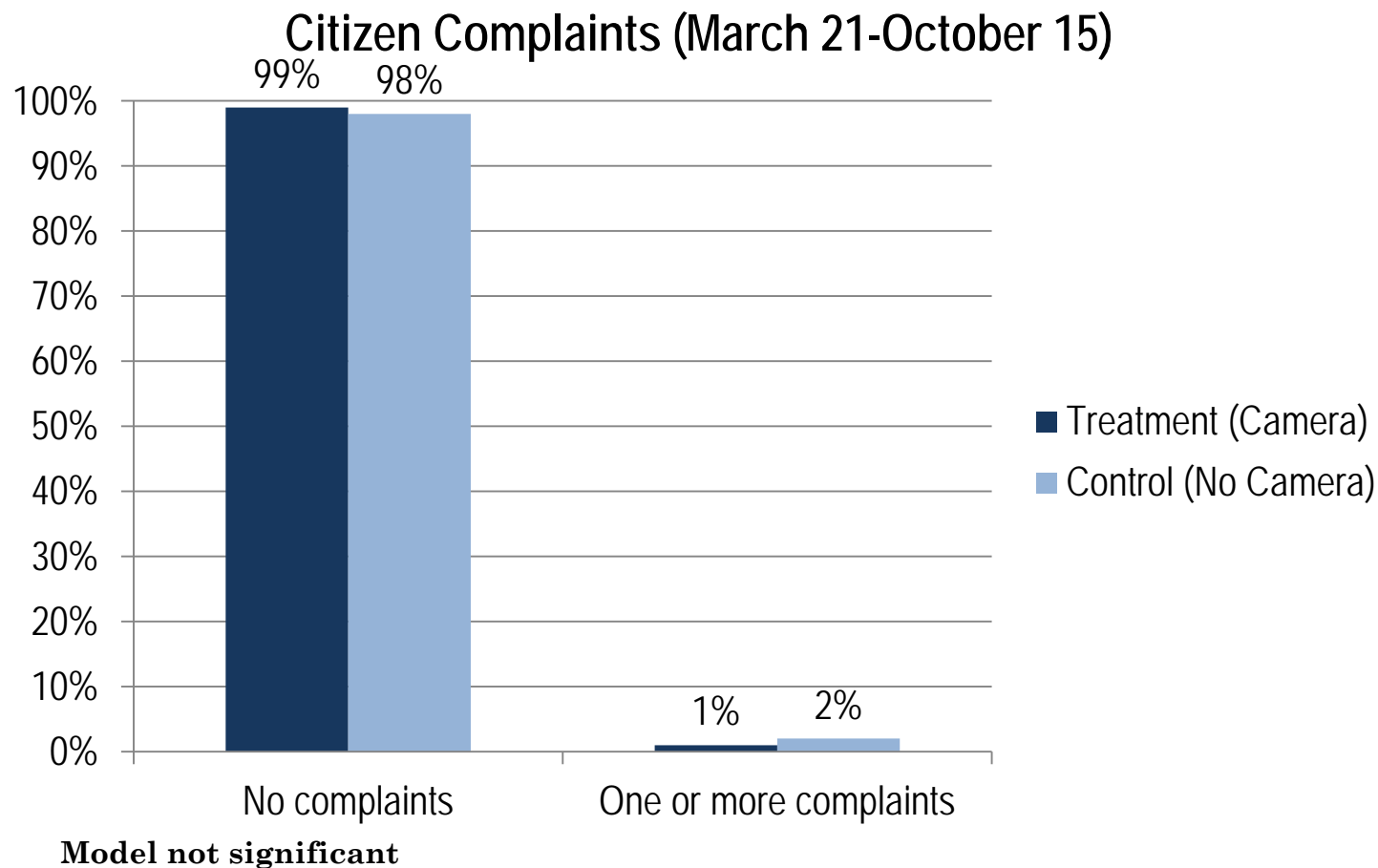
<i>Mean</i>	
Number of UOF incidents	
Control (no camera)	0.50
Treatment (camera)	0.46
<i>Coef. (IRR)</i>	
Poisson coefficient	-0.07 (0.93)
Model not significant	

Preliminary Findings: Use of Force



***** p<.001**

Preliminary Findings: Citizen Complaints



Preliminary Findings: Proactive Active

	<i>Mean</i>
Number of proactive activities	
Control (no camera)	272
Treatment (camera)	294
	<i>Coef. (IRR)</i>
Poisson coefficient	0.08 (1.08)***

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Conclusions

- Use of force
 - BWC deployment has no immediate impact on use of force
 - But, increases likelihood of video capturing incident
 - **Next:** longer follow up (9 months), disposition of incidents (disciplinary action), and type of use of force
- Citizen complaints
 - Too few incidents
 - **Next:** longer follow up (9 months), both open and closed cases, substantiated vs. unsubstantiated.
- Proactive activity
 - BWC deployment may increase proactive policing activities
 - **Next:** longer follow up (9 months), types of proactivity, arrests and citations, etc.

Evaluation Next Steps

- Update RCT evaluation
 - New data, more outcomes, additional analyses
- QED of full rollout (n= \sim 1,059)
 - Time varying treatment effect; panel model
- Second round of officer and community members focus groups, Google Surveys
- Low-, medium-, and high-use officers
 - Camera metadata
- Cost-effectiveness analysis



Evaluation Issues and Challenges Regarding Body Worn Cameras

James "Chip" Coldren, Jr., CNA Managing Director

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Overview

- Background on body-worn cameras (BWCs) and CNA's involvement
- Big issues in implementation
- Pragmatic issues in implementation
- Impacts and watch points regarding BWC evaluations

Background

- CNA's involvement in Las Vegas, NV
- CNA's involvement with the Bureau of Justice Assistance BWC technical assistance program
- CNA's partners in BWC technical assistance and research
 - Arizona State University (ASU)
 - Justice & Security Strategies (JSS)



Big Issues in BWC implementation

- Politically charged environment
- Competing goals
 - Transparency and trust building
 - Improvement of evidence and efficiencies
- Pressure to implement
- Federal goals vs. local goals



Pragmatic Issues in Implementation

- Input and collaboration
- Phased-in approach
- Anticipating downstream impacts
- Pilot testing and vendor comparisons
- Officer 'buy-in'



Pragmatic issues in implementation

- Auditing and policy compliance
- Interconnectedness with other policies (e.g., use of force, media contact, training)
- IT and infrastructure
- Unanticipated consequences



Watch Points Regarding BWC Evaluations

- Competing or complementary goals
- Collaboration regarding policy development
- Collaboration regarding implementation and on-going review
- Policies and practices regarding officer review of video footage



Watch Points Regarding BWC Evaluations

- Policies and practices regarding officer notification regarding BWC recording
- Citizen complaint policies and practices
- For experimental designs – contamination issues, attrition issues, local constraints



Resources

- BJA Body-Worn Camera Toolkit
 - <https://www.bja.gov/bwc/topics-gettingstarted.html>
- TTA website
 - www.bwctta.com
- TTA email address
 - BWCTTA@cna.org
- Podcast Series on iTunes
 - <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/bja-bwc-podcast-series/id1052357304?mt=2>
- Social Media
 - YouTube: Body-Worn Camera TTA
 - Twitter: @BWC_TTA
- Federal Procurement Guide
 - http://ojp.gov/financialguide/PDFs/New%20Procurement%20Guide_508compliant.pdf





Discussant: Michael D. White

Arizona State University
SPI Senior Subject Matter Expert

Questions?

