



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

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January 9, 2020

TO: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn

FROM: Max Huntsman *MH*
Inspector General

SUBJECT: REPORT BACK ON IMPLEMENTING BODY-WORN CAMERAS IN
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

On September 24, 2019, the Board of Supervisors directed the Office of Inspector General, in consultation with the Sheriff, Public Defender, Acting Alternate Public Defender, District Attorney, Chief Executive Officer, County Counsel and the Executive Director of the Civilian Oversight Commission to report back to the Board of Supervisors in writing in 90 days on (1) the progress of the implementation of technology infrastructure upgrades at patrol stations and other locations as needed for body-worn cameras and (2) the receipt of a final Body-Worn Camera Policy from the Sheriff's Department, with such policy to address the elements raised by the Board of Supervisors in the preamble to its motion of September 24, 2019, regarding body-worn cameras.

The Office of Inspector General has been monitoring the Department's progress in implementing body-worn cameras and presents the following:

- 1) The Department met with the CEO's office on several occasions to receive final direction on the transfer of funds to Department for infrastructure work and personnel;
- 2) The Department worked on finalizing its Body-Worn Camera Policy independent of any collaboration with the Office of Inspector General, with a promise to

provide the Office of Inspector General with a copy of the policy once it was finalized and approved by the unions;

- 3) On December 4, 2019, at the Public Safety Cluster Agenda Review meeting, the Sheriff's Department asked the Board of Supervisors to approve the transfer of approximately \$5.6 million from Provisional Financing Uses (PFU) to the Sheriff's Department's operating budget to allow the Sheriff's Department to continue phased implementation of technology infrastructure upgrades for the body-worn camera program. That day, the Office of Inspector General was informed that the Sheriff's Department's policy had been finalized but was pending approval by the Unions;
- 4) On December 11, 2019, the Office of Inspector General was informed by a representative of LASD that the Department's Body-Worn Camera policy had been approved by the unions and that copy would be provided to the Office of Inspector General;
- 5) On December 17, 2019, the Board of Supervisors approved the appropriation adjustment transferring the approximately \$5.6 million from PFU to the Sheriff's operating budget to allow the Department to continue the phased implementation of technology infrastructure upgrades for the body-worn camera project;
- 6) On the morning of December 19, 2019, the Office of Inspector General proceeded with its previously scheduled meeting with representatives from the Public Defender's office and the Alternate Public Defenders office to discuss issues that may impact the Department's implementation of body-worn cameras;
- 7) The final draft of the Department's Body-Worn Camera Policy was provided to the Office of Inspector General on December 19, 2019, when it was also provided to the Civilian Oversight Commission and the Board of Supervisors Justice Deputies.

In addition to the consultation with the Public Defender and the Alternate Public Defender, the Office of Inspector General reached out to representatives of the District Attorney, County Counsel, and the Civilian Oversight Commission. Given that the policy was received on December 19, 2019, the Office of the Inspector General was not able to meaningful consult with these entities regarding the policy prior to the report back date.

Board of Supervisors
Page 3
January 9, 2020

Now that the Office of Inspector General is in receipt of the policy, the next report back will address the LASD policy on body-worn cameras and the input from all of the agencies which were required to consult on the policy.

MH:dw:sk

c: Alex Villanueva, Sheriff
Sachi A. Hamai, Chief Executive Officer
Celia Zavala, Executive Officer
Mary C. Wickham, County Counsel
Brian K. Williams, Executive Director, Sheriff's Civilian Oversight Commission