



**ERIC BATES**  
INTERIM INSPECTOR GENERAL

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

312 SOUTH HILL STREET, THIRD FLOOR  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90013  
(213) 974-6100  
<http://oig.lacounty.gov>

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH  
JANICE HAHN  
KATHRYN BARGER

March 24, 2026

TO: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair  
Supervisor Kathryn Barger  
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell  
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath  
Supervisor Janice Hahn

FROM: Eric Bates   
Interim Inspector General

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

## Purpose of Memorandum

On September 24, 2019, the Board of Supervisors passed a [motion](#) directing the Office of Inspector General, in consultation with other County Departments, to monitor and report on: (1) the progress of the implementation of technology infrastructure upgrades for body-worn cameras (BWCs) at patrol stations and other locations as needed; and (2) the receipt of a final body-worn camera policy from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's (Sheriff's Department), with such policy to address the elements raised by the Board of Supervisors. This is the Office of Inspector General's fourteenth report back on the progress of the Sheriff's Department's implementation of body-worn cameras.

## Body-worn Cameras in Custody

On October 1, 2025, the Sheriff's Department's Body-Worn Camera Unit began training custody personnel on the usage of BWCs and started deploying BWCs to the Inmate Reception Center, Men's Central Jail, Twin Towers Correctional Facility, and the Century Regional Detention Facility.<sup>1</sup> On November 21, 2025, the Sheriff's Department

---

<sup>1</sup> [OIG's Thirteenth BWC report](#) noted that the Department had initiated preparations for BWC deployment including delivering training. While the Department had initiated preparations for delivering training, the training began on October 1, 2025.

deployed BWCs to personnel in the Access to Care Bureau who primarily work at the Los Angeles County Medical Center.

A network capacity assessment at North County Correctional Facility (NCCF) was completed ahead of schedule by the Body Worn Camera Unit, allowing deployment of cameras beginning on February 26, 2026. NCCF was able to initiate implementation earlier than anticipated because several personnel assigned to the facility already possessed body-worn cameras and had completed the required training during prior assignments. Since the initial deployment on February 26, NCCF staff have continued to attend the scheduled BWC training classes, which are offered twice weekly.

After the completion of BWC rollout at NCCF, the Sheriff's Department reports it will begin working on updating the infrastructure at Pitchess Detention Center (PDC), with PDC North, PDC South, and PDC East being worked on in the order listed.

The Body-Worn Camera Unit is rolling out the cameras based on the current ability of each facility's infrastructure to handle the docking, uploading, and viewing needs when using these cameras. The facilities and units receiving BWC's in the initial rollout phase have the necessary infrastructure to handle the technical needs for operation of BWCs.

To efficiently bring personnel up to speed, the Body Worn Camera Unit is conducting two BWC training classes, consisting of a total of 75-100 personnel, per week. Since October 1, 2025, the Sheriff's Department has deployed approximately 2,000 BWCs in custody facilities.

### **BWC Activation Issues**

In previous reports, the Office of Inspector General identified multiple incidents where Sheriff's Department personnel failed to activate their BWCs as required per policy. While Office of Inspector General has anecdotally noted that delayed BWC activations have decreased over time, there are still instances of failure to activate BWCs timely, as well as rarer instances of failing to activate at all, in violation of Sheriff's Department policy. Some of the failures to activate BWCs are during critical incidents, including deputy-involved shootings. These failures are noted by the Sheriff's Department during Executive Force Review and other meetings.

While Office of Inspector General has not conducted an audit to determine how frequent or widespread BWC delay in activation may be, it should be noted that the Sheriff's

Department must hold personnel accountable for failing to comply with the Sheriff's Department's BWC policies relating to activation. However, we do note that, during the initial implementation of BWCs in the custody environment, that a grace period for compliance is afforded as staff become accustomed to the cameras. After this grace period, custody personnel should also be held accountable. Repeated failures by staff should have appropriate consequences based on the Sheriff's Department's Guidelines for Discipline.

c: Robert G. Luna, Sheriff  
Joseph Nicchitta, Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Edward Yen, Executive Officer  
Dawyn R. Harrison, County Counsel  
Sharmaine Moseley, Executive Director, Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission