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**MIAMI TOWNSHIP POLICE**  
Body Warn Cameras: FAQs

### **What is a Body Warn Camera (BWC)?**

It is camera worn on the shirt of an officer that captures audio and video. Our officers will wear their cameras on their upper torso.

### **Why are officers wearing BWC's?**

- Enhance public trust, transparency and accountability
- Reduce citizen complaints
- Decreases use of force
- Supplement supervisory oversight
- Improve the quality of evidence gathered
- Added layer of safety for the officer.

### **Can I ask the officer to turn off the video camera?**

You may request for the officer to stop recording; however, officers are not required to comply if they are investigating criminal activity or a violation of law.

### **Are the BWC's recording constantly?**

No, the camera must be activated for the camera to start recording. The cameras will only record law enforcement related contacts.

### **When will an officer activate a BWC?**

Police officers will activate a BWC anytime they are responding to calls for service or engaged in any law enforcement-related encounter.

### **Are there places the officers cannot use BWC's?**

Yes, lockers rooms, dressing rooms or restrooms unless a criminal offense has occurred in these areas. Officers will attempt to take precautions to protect the dignity and privacy of all persons.

### **Can an officer have the BWC on while inside my home?**

Yes, they are required as long as they are investigating criminal activity or a violation of law.

### **Can the officer tamper with the video?**

No, the BWC system is specifically designed to prevent the user from altering or deleting any recordings.

### **How long are the videos retained?**

All videos are retained for a minimum of 90 days and/or according to Miami Townships Record Retention Schedule after which all non-evidentiary videos are automatically purged.

### **Can the public view BWC video?**

Videos that meet the definitions of public records under Ohio Law may be viewed. A public records request may be made to the Miami Township Police Department during normal business hours.

### **Does MTPD have a policy for BWC's?**

Yes, that policy is available for review at [MiamiTwpOH.gov](http://MiamiTwpOH.gov).



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