



CITY OF MORRIS

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
200 E. CHAPIN STREET
MORRIS, IL 60450

CHIEF OF POLICE
JOHN SEVERSON
PHONE: (815) 942-2131
FAX: (815) 942-2853
www.morrispolice.org

Morris PD Annual Report to ILETSB mandated by the Officer Worn Body Camera Act May 1, 2019

The Morris Police Department is comprised of twenty-five full time officers, ten part time officers, and four full time non-sworn support personnel. The decision was made in early 2018 to pursue grant money in the attempt to implement a body worn camera program. We received a grant in the amount of \$12,480.00, in April of 2018. Starting May 1, 2018 we conducted a trial using four cameras obtained from Axon Enterprise, Inc. These cameras were assigned to four of our most active patrolmen. The cameras proved easy to use and very reliable. The decision was made to choose Axon as our provider. On July 24, 2018, all officers and records personnel received training from Axon in the use of the cameras as well as the evidence management software. We had a full rollout that day with nineteen patrol officers using cameras. Over time the cameras proved so useful and trouble free that our three detectives starting using them for out of house interviews. We now have a total of twenty-two cameras in use with plans to add four more for anticipated new hires. Our command staff and part time officers do not use body cameras. See attached organizational chart.

Each officer is responsible for the daily uploading and categorizing of his/her videos. The officers and supervisors are sent a weekly report listing videos which have not been categorized. These videos are addressed on the officer's next shift. The evidence management software regularly sends automated emails to officers making them aware of all videos they have coming up for deletion.

As of this report we have not had any technical issues with the cameras or docking equipment. Some charging cables have been replaced at a negligible cost. There was one video corrupted out of the thousands we have recorded and vendor was able to recover it for us. Overall the system has proven to be very easy to use and reliable. The vendor and product are so reliable and easy to work with that we are in the process of converting several of our in house interview rooms to Axon recording equipment.

We have been asked on numerous occasions to assist other local law enforcement agencies based solely on their desire to have body camera footage of incidents such as field sobriety testing and search warrants.

A detailed log of all videos sent to the local State's Attorneys' Office for prosecution is attached.

Report prepared by:
Kimberly Bezely
Records and Technology Coordinator

MORRIS POLICE DEPARTMENT
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART – DIVISIONS

