

Toronto Police Service News release



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Toronto Police Service Moves Forward with Service-wide Implementation of Body-Worn Camera Program, 11, 22, and 52 Division Community Response Unit

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Corporate Communications
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Starting the week of October 26, 2020, frontline police officers in 11 Division, 22 Division, and those assigned to the Community Response Unit at 52 Division, will start to use body-worn camera technology during interactions with the public.

"Body-worn cameras are one tool we can use to create trust and legitimacy between officers and the public as we look for ways to modernize policing services," said Chief James Ramer. "This technology provides an independent, bias-free account of our interactions and reinforces our commitment to show communities they can feel safe and secure to enjoy their daily lives with the police."

The Toronto Police Service received approval from the Toronto Police Services Board on August 18, 2020, to move forward with Axon Canada in the delivery of a Service-wide body-worn camera program.

Before deployment, every officer will be trained on the operational use of the camera and the associated governance, which include minimum penalties for non-compliance.

The Service has worked with the Information & Privacy Commissioner, the Ministry of the Attorney General, the Ontario Human Rights Commission, the Special Investigations Unit, and the Office of the Independent Police Review Director, to develop a program that considers privacy, security, and disclosure responsibilities for the body-worn cameras.

Body-worn cameras will be used when an officer arrives at a call for service, begins an investigation, or when asking a person questions for the purposes of collecting information.

To learn about the body-worn camera program, visit www.tps.on.ca/body-worn-cameras

For more news, visit TPSnews.ca.

Meaghan Gray, Corporate Communications, for Superintendent Michael Barsky