Police Department

Body-Worn Camera Program

Request for Expressions of Interest • June 14, 2020  
RFEI #: PR0615-2020
Dear Potential Respondent,

It is my pleasure to invite responses to this Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) regarding development of Nassau County’s Police Department Body-Worn Camera Program.

Nassau County is seeking to provide body-worn cameras to appropriate sworn personnel in the Nassau County Police Department to record enforcement and other interactions between officers and the public. A more complete and accurate record of police interactions with the public will benefit police and community trust initiatives. Recording such interactions provides protection and accountability not only for members of the public, but also for officers themselves.

Nassau County’s objective is to increase safety and accountability for members of our police force as well as the general public. Across the nation body-worn camera programs have been implemented successfully in a variety of jurisdictions both large and small. The County has invited labor organizations to provide input into the program.

The purpose of this RFEI is to gather the most up-to-date information from vendors who engage in this type of business, on body-worn camera programs, equipment, and costs. The County may invite RFEI proposers to virtual or in-person meetings for further discussions. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Melissa Gallucci
Commissioner of Shared Services
I: INTRODUCTION

Nassau County seeks expressions of interest from respondents interested in partnering with the County to design and implement a Police Department Body-Worn Camera Program. We particularly welcome input from vendors with experience in furnishing, initiating, and operating back-end functions for such camera and recording systems.

Advances in the technology used by law enforcement agencies have been accelerating at a rapid pace, with many police departments acquiring new technologies that did not exist just a decade ago. Accordingly, the County will only pursue a camera program that is economical, operator-friendly, reliable, and relatively simple to initiate. No aspect of the program should put an undo burden on the Nassau County Police Department or interfere with the work of officers themselves.

It is the County’s intent to provide a body-worn camera system that is capable of being implemented universally using the best practices established throughout the United States. The U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Community Oriented Policing Services offers guidance to local jurisdictions in their report entitled Implementing a Body-Worn Camera Program: Recommendations and Lessons Learned. The County intends to follow such recommendations, to ensure that the body worn camera program serves the best interests of the Nassau County Police Department and our communities.

The County is open to all ideas and approaches to instituting the Police Department Body-Worn Camera Program.
II: BACKGROUND

- Please provide a brief introduction of your company and a description of the services you provide.
- Describe your interest and experience in performing this type of service.
- Provide a list of relevant clients.

NASSAU COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT STAFFING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Facts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nassau County Population</td>
<td>1.4 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCPD Patrol Officers</td>
<td>1,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCPD Precincts</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCPD Patrol Units</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCPD Patrol Supervisors</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCPD Detectives</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCPD Detective Supervisors</td>
<td>73</td>
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III: DEVELOPING CAMERA SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS

**Point of View.** Cameras must capture and record digital video and audio from an officer’s point of view or perspective, when an officer is outside of a vehicle.

- Please describe the technologies/devices which most accurately capture this point of view.

**Ease of Operation.** Cameras should be user-friendly, and easily activated. Assignment, usage and upload capabilities shall be seamless for officers causing minimal impact to operations.

- What are some of the difficulties officers have had with use of body-worn cameras?
- What solutions can your company offer to mitigate these difficulties?

**Multiple Mounting Options.** Cameras should be configured to be worn on an officer’s outermost piece of uniform. The camera should be able to be worn and transferred easily between multiple viewing/mounting locations on the body.

- Describe best practices of mounting positions on officers’ uniforms.

**Durability.** Cameras should be all-weather resistant, as well as resistant to dropping, temperature, scratching, or other minor wear and tear.

- What are the best construction and materials to minimize camera damage?
- Describe the technology your company can offer in order to best prevent damage to cameras.
III: DEVELOPING CAMERA SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS
(CONTINUED)

Data Recording. All data retained in the data storage and management system must be property of Nassau County.

- How will data be stored and in what locations (server, cloud, etc.)?
- What security measures does your company have in place to ensure data is protected? Does your storage solution conform to Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) data protection and transport standards?
- Describe best practices for easily retrieving recorded data.
- Describe your ability to integrate with Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems and list or identify supported CAD vendors.
- What is your experience conforming to New York State law regarding collection AND storage of recorded data?
- Describe best practices in vetting and training personnel to ensure proper review and handling of data.

Specifications. Please list common specifications and requirements for cameras used in other jurisdictions, including:

- What battery life is optimal?
- What recording duration is optimal?
- Are there new body camera technologies in development that may impact our selection of an approach or system?
- How do you ensure compatibility between recording systems and existing County IT systems?
IV: IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS

Privacy considerations: Camera systems should consider the wide range of privacy concerns that can arise from the use of such systems, such as what moments are appropriate/required to be recorded, consent issues, location issues, and disclosure.

- How have these concerns been addressed in other jurisdictions?
- What is your experience handling requests from members of the public under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)? Describe any solutions for assisting departments in responding to such requests, while protecting the privacy of individuals captured in videos.

Impact on community relationships: The use of recording devices should not hinder relationships between the police departments and local communities, and implementation should address local concerns.

- What are the main concerns communities have had with body-worn cameras?

Addressing officer concerns: Camera systems should be designed to minimize impact on officer responsibilities and the ability to effectively carry out their duties.

- What are the typical officer concerns regarding the implementation of a body-worn camera program in general?

Training: The program should include training on the use of cameras and associated systems.

- What type of training has been implemented in other jurisdictions?

Financial considerations: The cost of implementation of the program should have an insignificant impact on overall police department operations.

- Please indicate some cost-saving strategies that have proven effective in other jurisdictions.

V: PUBLIC AWARENESS

Public outreach is an essential element in the successful implementation of the program. A link on Nassau County’s website has been established for the Police Officer Body-Worn Camera Program and will be updated regularly as well as a dedicated email address, PoliceDepartmentCameras@nassaucountyny.gov, to receive and respond to inquiries. The County intends to conduct a public and officer awareness campaign.

- Describe effective strategies to properly inform the public and officers of the implementation and use of body-worn cameras.
VI: SHARED SERVICES

In addition to the Nassau County Police Department, the County also includes 20 independent local police departments falling under incorporated village or special district jurisdiction. The 2020 Nassau County Shared Services Plan, under New York State’s County-wide Shared Services Initiative (CWSSI) law, provides for the joint purchasing of equipment, shared record storage, centralized contracts, and joint use of equipment between the County and municipalities, by mutual agreement.

It is the County’s intent to offer the body-worn camera program to local police departments as well as to the County’s police force.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nassau County Shared Services with Local Departments</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Some may or may not already have body-worn camera systems.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Local Police Departments</td>
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VII: SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Interested parties shall provide no more than twenty (20) pages in response to include: (1) name of the respondent/company, (2) brief description of prior, related experience and (3) comments and suggestions regarding the proposed Program and its implementation, in narrative form. Please provide five (5) copies of your response.

Nassau County will accept questions through June 24, 2020. Questions can be directed to PoliceDepartmentCameras@nassaucountyny.gov and the County will post responses as an addendum to this RFEI. Expressions of Interest should be submitted in writing to the Department of Shared Services, One West Street, Room 100, Mineola, NY 11501 no later than July 8, 2020 at 3:00pm.

VIII: GENERAL TERMS

The County reserves the right, prior to receipt of submissions, to cancel, alter, or amend this document or process. The County will NOT be selecting a respondent or respondents as a result of this RFEI. The purpose of this RFEI is to determine the interest from the vendor community to provide these services to the County and to more fully inform the County about the types of police body-worn camera systems that are available. Responses will not be evaluated or scored; however they may inform a future procurement process, including a Request for Proposals. This RFEI is not an offer to award a contract. No respondent shall have any rights against the County arising from its participation in this RFEI, including any rights against the County for the County's use of information in a response to this RFEI. All costs associated with responding to the RFEI are the sole responsibility of the Respondent.

The County makes no representations or warranties concerning the completeness or accuracy of the information contained herein.

IX: OWNERSHIP OF INFORMATION

All materials submitted in response to this RFEI will become the property of the County.