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OFFICE OF THE  
DEMOCRATIC MINORITY



PETER J. CLINES, ESQ.  
MINORITY COUNSEL

**NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE**  
THEODORE ROOSEVELT EXECUTIVE & LEGISLATIVE BUILDING  
1550 FRANKLIN AVENUE - ROOM 131  
MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501  
TELEPHONE: (516) 571-6232 - FAX: (516) 571-6125  
email: PCLINES@NASSAUCOUNTYNY.GOV

## Inter-Departmental Memo

To: Mr. William Muller III, Clerk of the Legislature

From: Peter J. Clines, Esq., Minority Counsel *PJC*

CC: Hon. Norma Gonsalves, Presiding Officer  
Hon. Kevan Abrahams, Minority Leader

Date: June 4, 2014

Re: A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH DASHBOARD CAMERA AND BODY-MOUNTED  
CAMERA DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS WITHIN THE NASSAU COUNTY POLICE  
DEPARTMENT

Attached please find the above referenced resolution which has been form approved as per the Rules of the Legislature. Kindly distribute a copy to Presiding Officer Norma Gonsalves along with our request that this item be placed on the next available legislative agenda.

Kindly provide a time stamped hard copy acknowledgement of your receipt.

Thank you.

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CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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Introduced by: Minority Leader Kevan Abrahams and Legislators Siela Bynoe and Carrie Solages

RESOLUTION NO. - 2014

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH DASHBOARD CAMERA AND BODY-MOUNTED CAMERA DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS WITHIN THE NASSAU COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

**PETER J. CUNES**  
**MINORITY COUNSEL**  
**APPROVED AS TO FORM**

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that the officers of the Nassau County Police Department carry out an essential function in preserving public safety and upholding the rule of law and further recognizes that the vast majority of officers perform their duties with dedication and integrity, often under difficult and dangerous conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature finds and determines that that the maintenance of public trust and confidence in the police force is indispensable to effective law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, it is the judgment of the Legislature that all interactions and encounters between the police and the public should be marked by courtesy and mutual respect for the rights and dignity of all concerned; and

WHEREAS, it is the determination of this Legislature that it is in the interest of police officers, police supervisory personnel and the public at large that there be an objective factual record documenting interactions between members of the police department and the civilian population; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that video recording technology commonly known as "in-vehicle cameras," "dashboard cameras" or "dash cams" in police vehicles and body-mounted cameras on police personnel, commonly known as "on-officer recording systems" or "body cams," have proven to be an effective and reliable tool for creating such an objective factual record, thereby enhancing public trust in the police by promoting professionalism, transparency and accountability in the conduct of law enforcement activities; and further finds that such video recording technology is increasingly becoming standard operating equipment for

police departments as nearby as Suffolk County as well as the throughout the United States and indeed globally; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of the Nassau County Police Department (the "Commissioner") is hereby directed to immediately begin taking all necessary steps to implement a demonstration program pursuant to which dashboard cameras shall initially be installed in each radio motor patrol vehicle and motorcycle assigned to the First, Third and Fourth precincts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner shall implement a further demonstration program pursuant to which a significant number of police officers on patrol will be equipped with body-mounted video recording devices, to test the feasibility of mandating that such body-mounted cameras be part of the standard equipment used by Nassau County Police Officers who interact with the public; and be it further

RESOLVED, such dashboard cameras and body-mounted cameras shall be regularly examined and maintained, be equipped with anti-tampering technology and be of a type and manufacture such that they cannot be selectively activated and deactivated by police personnel. All recordings produced by the aforementioned video recording devices shall be archived and maintained for use as needed in judicial and administrative proceedings and for internal management purposes; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner is further directed to submit a confidential monthly report to the County Executive, Presiding Officer and Minority Leader documenting the status of the demonstration programs; and that such demonstration programs shall continue unless and until concluded by action of this Legislature. Further, seven months after such demonstration programs have been in effect and operational, the Commissioner shall issue a report to the Legislature on the feasibility of adopting a permanent department-wide program of equipping Nassau County Police vehicles with dashboard cameras and Nassau County police personnel with body-mounted cameras.

RESOLVED, that this law shall take effect immediately.