



BRUCE A. KRAUS
Councilman, City of Pittsburgh - District 3
City Council President



United States Department of Justice
Bureau of Justice Assistance
Office of Justice Programs
810 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20531

Re: BJA- Body-Worn Camera Pilot Implementation Program - FY 2015

Director Bureau of Justice Assistance:

As President of Pittsburgh City Council, I am writing to express my support and enthusiasm for the City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police's application to fund the implementation of a body worn camera program throughout the city. Over the past several years the City of Pittsburgh has piloted the used of body worn cameras for our bicycle and motorcycle officers with much success. I am confident in the Bureau's ability to further expand and sustain this program given the support of the United States Department of Justice.

During my tenure as Councilman and Council President, I have worked tirelessly to secure the safety of Pittsburgh's residents; supporting and co-sponsoring several acts of legislation that would require stricter reporting laws for stolen handguns and increased safety for Pittsburgh's nighttime economy. I see the implementation of a body worn camera program as a natural extension of my previous actions to keep all Pittsburghers, both police and residents alike, safe.

I fully support the implementation of body worn camera devices as a means to collect digital media evidence. In seeing the merit of a program such as this, I commit to using my reach as Council President to guarantee that the body worn camera expansion program takes top priority during yearly budget discussions. By doing so, the City Council will effectively secure this program's long term sustainability in the City of Pittsburgh.

I strongly recommend that you fully consider the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police's application to fund a body worn camera expansion program. This program has the utmost support from Police Chief McClay, the Bureau of Police, Mayor Bill Peduto's administration, and Pittsburgh City Council.

Sincerely,

Bruce A. Kraus
President, Pittsburgh City Council