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## CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

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## FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO LAUNCH BODY WORN CAMERA PILOT PROGRAM

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department has been proactive in developing a Body Worn Camera (BWC) program. The program is a result of our Department's continuous efforts to enhance transparency and accountability and to improve police services in the City of Fort Lauderdale. As described in the President's Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing report, our Department recognizes the importance of implementing initiatives that aid in building community trust and reinforce constitutional policing.

In partnership with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP Lodge #31), our Department sought input from our elected officials as well as our neighbors and stakeholders while developing the policy for the body worn camera pilot program.

Axon Incorporated (also referred to as Taser) and Motorola Incorporated were selected as the two vendors that officers will be evaluating in the field, during the pilot program, which will last 12 months.

Over 50 police officers have volunteered to participate in the pilot program; and 35 have been scheduled to be issued the devices for evaluation. Officers are set to receive training conducted by both vendors between November 27<sup>th</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup>, after which time they will begin their patrol duties outfitted with the cameras.

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