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TO: ALL BERGEN COUNTY CHIEFS OF POLICE, POLICE DIRECTORS, OFFICERS-IN-CHARGE, AND SHERIFF

FROM: PROSECUTOR MARK MUSELLA

DATE: JULY 28, 2021

SUBJECT: BERGEN COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIRECTIVE NO: 2021-4 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S BODY WORN CAMERA POLICY

On May 25, 2021, the New Jersey Attorney General issued Law Enforcement Directive No. 2021-5 with his Body Worn Camera Policy ("Policy"). On June 25, 2021, I issued a letter approving certain access to "tagged" body worn camera recordings. This Directive provides additional guidance and requirements.

The Bergen County Prosecutor's Office ("BCPO") will not issue a separate body worn camera policy for the county. Instead, each county law enforcement agency must follow the Attorney General's Policy and adhere to the following additional requirements. First, all uniformed law enforcement officers assigned to "extra duty" or "off duty" assignments that involve traffic direction or other similar functions must be equipped with a body worn camera. In these instances, activation must occur in accordance with the Policy or during any other significant public interaction. Second, all body worn cameras must have a function to pre-record for at least ten seconds prior to activation. Third, redaction of any portion of a body worn camera recording conducted pursuant to the Policy shall be completed only with approved software. Approved software shall be any redaction software approved by the body worn camera manufacturer or the BCPO.

In the near future, the BCPO will conduct a body worn camera policy training which will be recorded and available for all law enforcement officers to view. Additional guidance and requirements may follow. As always, I thank you for your cooperation.

MARK MUSELLA
BERGEN COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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