

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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CONTACT: David Ferguson Communications Coordinator 1488 S. Seguin Ave New Braunfels, TX 78130 830.221.4134 dferguson@nbtexas.org

NBPD Receives Body Camera Grant

New Braunfels, Texas — The City of New Braunfels and the New Braunfels Police Department is pleased to announce that a grant totaling \$31,745 has been awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice in order to fund the implementation of a Body-Worn Camera system for police officers. The 50% matching grant is part of the Department of Justice's Body Camera Pilot Implementation Program (in the small police agency category), and requires that those funds be used before September 30th, 2017.

Along with the matching funds coming from the City of New Braunfels (which were set aside as part of the city's Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget), the Body-Worn Camera pilot program is now fully funded and ready to be launched in early 2016. That includes the purchase of 71 body cameras for officers in the Patrol and Traffic divisions, including K-9 officers. Funding for 27 more body-worn cameras has also already been approved by New Braunfels City Council, bringing the total number of body cameras being used by officers to 98 once the program is fully implemented.

NBPD will be purchasing those body cameras from WatchGuard, a digital in-car video system that the department is already transitioning into for its fleet of patrol vehicles. That means the audio and video from cameras (both in the patrol car and on the officer) will be synced, giving a more accurate portrayal of events encountered by officers.

The New Braunfels Police Department is grateful to the U.S. Department of Justice and New Braunfels City Council for their support of this program.

{Photos attached, courtesy of WatchGuard}

Authority: David Ferguson – NBPD Communications Coordinator