



San Diego County Sheriff's Department



Kelly A. Martinez
Undersheriff

January 5, 2022

Susan N. Youngflesh, Board Chairperson
Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board
555 West Beech Street, Suite 505
San Diego, CA 92101-3819

CLERB INQUIRY: INVENTORY OF DETENTION FACILITY CAMERAS

Dear Chairperson Youngflesh,

The Sheriff's Department welcomes and supports the Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board's (CLERB) independent review of complaints alleging improper actions by sworn members of this organization. We continuously strive to respond with professionalism and concern to the citizens we serve and the CLERB process provides invaluable input to that end.

On December 7, 2021, during the monthly CLERB meeting, members MaryAnne Pintar and Gary Wilson requested the San Diego Sheriff's Department respond with a detentions inventory of all non-operable cameras, the timeframe the cameras would be repaired and information as to the camera's maintenance cycle.

The San Diego County Sheriff's Department's sworn staff do not have control over the detention facility cameras other than to view and ensure the live feeds are operating, and to review recorded footage of past incidents.

Pursuant to Detention Services Bureau (DSB) policy and procedure I.19, it references the importance of ensuring the security video system equipment is working properly. DSB P&P I.19 says in part:

PROCEDURE

I. Sworn staff assigned to areas equipped with security video system equipment will check the equipment at the start of each shift to ensure proper focus and operation.

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A. Should adjustment or repair be needed to the security video system; the sworn staff member will notify facility administrative staff through email and/or the facility maintenance process.

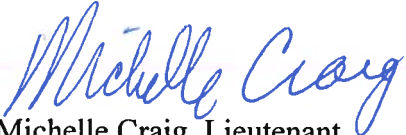
B. The facility administrative staff will promptly notify the appropriate maintenance/facilities staff to schedule the adjustment or repair.

The Sheriff's Department is working towards better video system coverage and capabilities in our detention facilities. We have a strong interest in transparency, and we understand its importance. Cameras and related system components in the detention facilities are purchased using San Diego Sheriff's Department funds but are obtained, installed, and maintained by the San Diego County Department of General Services and the contracted vendors. Those entities are the best source for the CLERB to contact in order to obtain the answers to the questions requested by the board members.

In closing, we value the time and effort of the Citizen's Law Enforcement Review Board and the focus on sworn staff complaints. We would like to thank you for your dedicated service to the Citizens of San Diego County. We continuously strive for improvement in all aspects of our department to allow our sworn staff to serve to the best of our abilities. It is our goal to provide the highest quality public safety services to everyone in San Diego County.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM D. GORE, SHERIFF


Michelle Craig, Lieutenant
Office of the Sheriff
Division of Inspectional Services

WDG:MC:kb