

MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # **434-2016**

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: October 18, 2016

SUBJECT: Body-Worn Cameras Pilot Program

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to inform the Mayor and City Commission of the implementation of body-worn cameras in the Code Compliance Department. The Department is one of the first regulatory departments in the state, if not the country, participating in a body-worn camera pilot program where Code Compliance officers are outfitted with audio/visual recording devices on their uniforms that will capture their official enforcement actions. These measures will contribute to accountability, transparency, and assist with training and customer service as well as evidence gathering. This type of technology is also used by other Miami Beach departments, such as Police and Parking Enforcement. The recorded video is downloaded and stored on a secure, web-based third party site, and serves as a method to document inspections and violations.

Since the start of the pilot program on August 15, 2016, six team members have been trained to use the body-worn camera technology. These employees have already logged nearly 600 video files, amounting to almost 45 hours of official interaction. Each file is saved and categorized based on the type of inspection or violation documented. To date, over 340 inspections have been documented, resulting in 231 cases with video evidence. The types of cases include noise complaints, property maintenance, illegal short term rentals, and other types of violations.

The Code Compliance Department continues to expand the use of body-worn cameras among staff through training and equipment purchases.


JLM/SMT/HC/SKS

C: Susanne M. Torriente, Assistant City Manager
Hernan Cardeno, Esq., Code Compliance Department Director
Sarah K. Saunders, Code Compliance Manager

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