April 30, 2019

Office of the General Assembly

State of Illinois

207 State House

Springfield, IL 62706

Report under the provisions of the

Illinois Law Enforcement Camera Grant Act 50 ILCS 707/1

Grant awarded $40,000.00 SAIN: 1669-6105

Chicago Ridge Police Department FEIN:366009194 DUNS:867642548 GATA:685432

The camera system that Chicago Ridge Police Department selected was WatchGuard. An in-car system was placed in a total of 11 units consisting of 9 marked patrol units, 1 prisoner transport vehicle and 1 un-marked traffic unit. The camera systems that was purchased under the grant was installed in late March, early April of 2018. The Chicago Ridge Police Department did not have an existing in-car camera system prior to receiving this grant. The camera system project was completed on May 07, 2018 after the car installations of the 11 dash camera systems.

Prior to May 07, 2018, all officers attended a 4-hour in-service training session before being authorized to use the system. The department adopted a new General Order in the application and required use of the new camera system. Officers received training that consisted of operations use of the WatchGuard camera system, problem solving, microphone placement, tagging and preserving video obtained, creating copies of videos for court and the implementation of the system, to include vehicle positioning and camera angles.

Officers received training in the departments’ General Order that mandates camera use on all interactions that involve traffic stops, pedestrian stops, criminal arrests, motorist assists, warrant service, traffic crashes, prisoner transport and emergency response to events. All video is retained for a two-year period.

Stated in the General Orders, Supervisors are required to review sporadic videos of each officer assigned to their respective shifts. Supervisor’s must log the videos that were reviewed and submit a monthly report to the Commander of Patrol (see attached). Each video reviewed requires the supervisor to critique the video with notes of violations or compliance in department general orders and asses officer safety and training needs for the officers involved. Videos also allow training officers to use the system for in-service department training.

After the implementation of this camera system, we hardly experienced any FOIA requests for videos that are retained. Other agencies stressed they receive numerous FOIA request and that has not happened with our agency. We are finding great success with the camera system and its use in prosecution for court and officer safety training and awareness.

Currently the department does not utilize body worn cameras and it was not part of this grant.

Attached is the summary of traffic stops that were conducted and use of the in-car camera system was utilized, inventory of cameras in use and sample of the Supervisor’s report.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Robert Pyznarski

Chief of Police