



# NEWS RELEASE

## Chicago Police Department

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### **Johnson Announces Body Camera Expansion throughout CPD** *Announcement follows completion of initial pilot program*

CHICAGO - Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson announced today the expansion of officer-worn body cameras throughout the entire Department over the next two years. The announcement came at the same time as the completion of the initial body camera pilot across seven police districts.

“Since becoming Superintendent I have pledged to rebuild public trust and accountability,” said Superintendent Johnson. “Body-worn cameras provide a rare glimpse into the dangerous situations Chicago police officers face every day in an effort to keep our communities safe. They will also assist in our efforts to provide better training and community relations in all of the diverse neighborhoods we serve. This expansion is a win-win for the public and for officers.”

By the end of 2018, the cameras (Taser Axon brand), will be distributed to police districts throughout the city to be worn by officers on patrol. In addition to the cameras, CPD will make investments in system-wide technology and structural upgrades in each police district building to accommodate the hosting needs of the cameras.

The pilot program began in January 2015 in the Shakespeare District on the Northwest Side. This year, the department expanded the program to the Austin, Wentworth, Deering, Ogden, South Chicago and Gresham districts. While the expanded pilot is still in its infancy, so far the cameras have aided in evidence collection, identifying problem behavior from citizens and officers and decreasing overall complaints filed against officers.

The expansion will be funded by CPD’s operating budget and grant funding.

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