

**Council of the District of Columbia  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY  
REVISED NOTICE OF PUBLIC OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004**

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**COUNCILMEMBER CHARLES ALLEN, CHAIRPERSON  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY**

**ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE ON**

**FIVE YEARS OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT'S  
BODY-WORN CAMERA PROGRAM: REFLECTIONS AND NEXT STEPS**

**Monday, October 21, 2019, 10:30 a.m.  
Room 412, John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004**

On Monday, October 21, 2019, Councilmember Charles Allen, Chairperson of the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, will convene a public oversight roundtable to discuss “Five Years of the Metropolitan Police Department’s Body-Worn Camera Program: Reflections and Next Steps”. The roundtable will take place in Room 412 of the John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., at 10:30 a.m. *Note that this roundtable was originally scheduled for September 26.*

In October 2014, the Metropolitan Police Department (“MPD”) launched Phase I of its body-worn camera program with a 400-camera model selection pilot. Phase II was launched in June 2015, in which another 400-camera expansion formed the basis for a research study on their impact on such issues as resident complaints and the use of force. Concurrently, the Council passed D.C. Law 21-83, the Body-Worn Camera Program Amendment Act of 2015, which prioritized public and civilian oversight agency access to video footage, with protections for personal privacy; established retention requirements; allowed public records requests; required program analysis; and mandated regular reporting by MPD. At the time, the Committee on the Judiciary noted that body-worn cameras can serve several purposes: (1) fostering accountability and enhancing performance by law enforcement; (2) improving police-community relations; (3) promoting the fair administration of justice; (4) creating more accurate and transparent records of law enforcement’s interactions with the public; (5) improving evidence collection; and (6) discouraging and defending against erroneous complaints against law enforcement officials.

Subsequent to the law’s passage, in 2016, MPD expanded its deployment to 2,800 cameras for officers and sergeants in public contact positions in all districts and other specialized units – at the time, the largest deployment of body-worn cameras in the country. As of December 2018, more than 3,100 cameras were deployed.

This public oversight roundtable will review the existing law, regulations, and MPD policies governing the body-worn camera program; MPD's biannual reports; the release of and access to video footage over the past five years; subsequent developments in other jurisdictions; and any recommendations for the program from the public, subject-matter experts, and government agencies. More broadly, the Committee will consider whether the goals underlying the procurement and deployment of body-worn cameras noted above have been advanced, and if so, how.

The Committee invites the public to testify or to submit written testimony. Anyone wishing to testify at the roundtable should contact the Committee via email at [judiciary@dccouncil.us](mailto:judiciary@dccouncil.us) and provide their name, telephone number, organizational affiliation, and title (if any), by **close of business Wednesday, October 16**. Representatives of organizations will be allowed a maximum of five minutes for oral testimony, and individuals will be allowed a maximum of three minutes. Witnesses should bring **twenty copies** of their written testimony and, if possible, also submit a copy of their testimony electronically in advance to [judiciary@dccouncil.us](mailto:judiciary@dccouncil.us).

For witnesses who are unable to testify at the roundtable, written statements will be made part of the official record. Copies of written statements should be submitted to the Committee at [judiciary@dccouncil.us](mailto:judiciary@dccouncil.us). **The record will close at the end of the business day on Monday, November 4.**