Administrative Justice

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Abstract

In the contemporary era, technological advancement has advanced to assist criminal investigation thoroughly. A person may think of committing heinous criminal action as rape, murder, hit and run, burglary and a variety of other crimes, but what if one was asked what they think of when they hear criminal investigation involving technology. It is worthwhile considering how technology can be used as a tool for criminals and an assistant to the police during the investigation. Meanwhile, it is also essential to deliberate the pros of police having access to technology in an investigation. Technology such as body cameras may be able to improve and support the criminal justice system in true letter and spirits.

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 Introduction

The Los Angeles Police Department has submitted its proposed procedures for the use and deployment of body worn video (BWV) by uniformed police officers to the Board of Police Commissioners for its consideration. The proposed order required officers to record all investigative and law enforcement contacts with citizens in public, and contains provisions to maintain the integrity of criminal and administrative investigations. In addition, the proposed order protects the privacy rights and civil liberties of the community and Department personnel while enabling officers to collect reliable evidence for use in criminal prosecutions, use of force and citizen complaint investigations, and other reviews and examinations. Police brutality dates back a long and continues to be a problem today. While there are endless reports of police brutality, many people question how much of it is actually a case of brutality and are alleged cases of brutality. In the contemporary era, technology has dominated the paradigm of police work and is commonly used with the city police.

 Discussion

On May 7, 2019, San Diego Police had apprehended a suspect by the name of Tranell Cannon, who was 20 years old, on many charges some of which are having a firearm and robbery. In the video on CBS 8, officers pull up behind what seems to be a white car and rush towards the car in an effort to apprehend the suspect who was sitting on the passenger side of the vehicle; when all of a sudden the suspect ran out of the car and allegedly tackled the officer who was going to apprehend him. Afterwards, the suspect was supposedly wrestling with the officer upon the instance when a few more officers surfaced and rushed to assist the officer who was being assaulted to apprehend the suspect. All the gathered police officers advanced to beat up that man collectively (Team, 2019).

However, there are two sides to every story in the video as the Chief David Nisleit justifies his subordinates’ actions, but perhaps it is necessary to ponder on the suspect’s story. The suspect was obviously going to get in trouble and get arrested sooner or later, and the officers had the right idea apprehending the suspect. Regardless of the situation, it appears easy for a person to apprehend that the brutal manner wherein the police officers were beating the man was irrational, unacceptable and radical. Because of the usage of body cameras, the way police act is more professional (87.5 percent) and the officer can get a clear picture of the state of affairs. Meanwhile, it is essential to underpin the body camera cannot offer an explicit picture of the vision of the officer in certain circumstances. In essence, the body camera is used as a potential tool to assist in picking up a certain detail that the officer may have forgotten when writing a report. "Police reports, especially in complex situations, can be hard for juries to interpret or visualize. Video evidence removes a lot of that uncertainty” (Erstad, 2016).

One might infer that the police body cameras are for police but a thorough analysis of the situation infers these cameras can also assist citizens. For instance, police officers are bound to act in a just and professional manner because the body cameras are recording the feed. In the absence of body cameras, a police offer may write fallacious instances in the report and remain unchecked. The police officer cannot forge arguments after an unlawful or an unethical act once body camera are deployed as they record the vision of the officers. The police officer can be charged as per the provision of law in case he advances to change the facts than those recorded in the camera. An explicit illustration of the matter exists. In Balch Springs, Texas a police officer recently shot and killed 15-year-old Jordan Edwards as the teenager’s car was driving away. While writing the report and informing the higher authorities, the police officer had sketched a contradicting statement than that observed in the body camera. The body cameras proved productive to surface the truth and the officer was fired and charged on the account of murder (Wiley, 2017).

Conclusion

Body worn cameras help officers if an officer forgets an important detail. They potentially supplement the nature of the police attitude and assist them to keep it professional and courteous. Although the body camera cannot record everything that the officer sees; the body camera has deemed itself a great tool to help officers’ combat crime as well as demote or discipline any officer who steps out of line and hurts a suspect out of uncontrolled emotions. Thus, the body-worn camera supports civilians by recording the officers’ actions. The deliberated instances and argument offer empirical evidence that in a time of police brutality wherein an officer is put under investigation because of such actions, the video from the camera can serve as the video help dispense the civilian proper justice and vice versa.

References

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