



City of Tampa

Jane Castor, Mayor

Tampa Police Department
Mary E. O'Connor
Chief of Police

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November 18, 2022

Office (813) 276-3799

TO: The Honorable Joseph Citro, Chair
and Members of the Tampa City Council

THROUGH: John Bennett, Chief of Staff *JB*

FROM: Mary E. O'Connor, Chief of Police *MEOC*
11/18/22

SUBJECT: File No.: E2021-8-CH 18 - Motion: (Hurtak-Maniscalco) TPD to provide a written update on the silencing of BWC and the ways the matrix can be received. An update on whether the muting of the BWC can be tracked by Axon and/or a time frame for this feature becoming available.

Since August, the Tampa Police Department has been working with Axon regarding the tracking of a body-worn camera's mute feature. Currently, Axon's software does not have this functionality. Axon frequently upgrades their software, and they realize that several customers have inquired about this functionality. Since the Department's last appearance in front of City Council, we have reached out to Axon on different occasions to obtain updates on a timeline for the implementation of these features.

Axon's project managers participate in "Voice of the Customer" discussions with agencies that utilize their equipment. Our account executive has assured the Tampa Police Department that we will be included in these discussions as they relate to tracking the mute mode of the body-worn camera. Axon has not provided a timeframe for when such functionality may be available in the future.

The Tampa Police Department conducts regular quality assurance audits of many different things, including the random review of body-worn camera video. The Tampa Police Department will continue to work with Axon to find an automated solution to tracking the use of this feature. If at any time the Department feels that the mute feature is being misused or abused by officers, discipline can be administered, and/or the functionality can be removed.

cc: Andrea Zelman, City Attorney
Martin Shelby, City Council Attorney
Shirley Foxx-Knowles, City Clerk
Suling Lucas, Deputy City Clerk