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East St. Louis and Alton Police Departments Receive \$225,000 Grant for Body-Worn Cameras

EAST ST. LOUIS, IL: The East St. Louis and Alton Police Departments were recently awarded a \$225,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to implement a Body-Worn Camera (BWC) Policy and Implementation Program within their jurisdictions of St. Clair and Madison Counties.

The Body-Worn Camera program will assist in the de-escalation of conflicts, reduce instances of force, injuries to police officers and citizens, and complaints of police misconduct, thereby increasing trust, transparency, and accountability in the interactions between law enforcement and community members. The digital evidence multimedia from the BWC's will also benefit its use in criminal investigations and court proceedings as the video footage provides evidence for criminal cases, reducing law enforcement inputs for investigations and court appearances.

"We are excited to receive this grant because this will allow our police department to be in compliance with the 2025 deadline for all police in Illinois to utilize Body-Worn Cameras while on active duty per the Illinois Law Enforcement Officer Worn Body Camera Act," said Mayor Robert Eastern III.

The City of East St. Louis shall be a model of excellence in local government: a safe place, a thriving community, that is intergenerational, that provides hope and success for all! In partnership with our community, the mission of the City of East St. Louis is to protect and enhance the quality of life by providing a high level of service in an efficient and responsive manner for all.