

# TOWN OF EDMONSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE  
STEPHEN E. WALKER, SR

MAYOR  
TRACY GANT



## PRESS RELEASE

Edmonston, MD

July 15, 2015

After testing body worn cameras from six different manufacturers, the Edmonston Police Department decided to purchase two cameras to begin implementation. The first purchase and issuance of these cameras began in February 2015. This will ultimately result in equipping all of the six officer agency with body worn cameras.

On July 1, 2015, the Edmonston Police Department ordered four more body worn cameras for the remaining officers, as well as an additional camera for our Code Enforcement Officer. All personnel, including the Chief of Police, Stephen Walker, will utilize body worn cameras.

Funding for this important initiative was apportioned out over two separate fiscal years, reducing the financial impact as much as possible. The cameras act as an unblinking eyewitness to police interactions with the community. They provide an indisputable account of incidents that occur not only in view of traditional patrol car dash-cameras, but wherever a call may take an officer. Cameras are in a standby mode when an officer is on duty and can be activated at a moment's notice.

Evidence recorded by body worn cameras is secured in an online/offsite secure electronic warehouse. Videos stored in this manner are not accessible by individual officers and are handled as all other types of evidence with access strictly controlled.

All incidents and interactions with the Edmonston Police Department will be audio and video recorded. Chief Walker made the recommendation to adopt the use of Body Worn Cameras to the Edmonston Town Council last fall to further efforts to establish trust and partnerships with our community.

For further information please contact Stephen E. Walker, Chief of Police.