



LOS ANGELES POLICE COMMISSION

NEWS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 22, 2017

CONTACT: Juan Garcia
(213) 236-1405

LOS ANGELES POLICE COMMISSION AND POLICING PROJECT SEEK PUBLIC INPUT ON POLICY FOR RELEASING POLICE BODY CAMERA FOOTAGE

WHAT: News Conference

WHEN: Thursday, March 23, 2017
11:00 a.m.

WHERE: Los Angeles Police Administration Building,
CompStat Room
100 West First Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

WHO: Matthew M. Johnson, President Los Angeles Board of
Police Commissioners
Chief Charlie Beck, LAPD
Barry Friedman, Director Policing Project

WHY: The Los Angeles Police Commission and the Policing Project will host a press conference unveiling plans to seek community input to help the commission establish policies for the release of body camera footage taken following critical incidents, including officer-involved shootings. The Police Commission seeks to work closely with the public, the Los Angeles Police Department and other stakeholders to establish policies responsive to the concerns of the community and the needs of law enforcement.

Input will be gathered in community forums around Los Angeles and through a questionnaire available online or on paper. The questionnaire will be available, in English and Spanish, starting on March 23 at www.LAPDVideoPolicy.org.

MORE INFORMATION: The LAPD currently deploys body cameras worn by patrol officers, and expects to issue cameras to all patrol officers on the force by the end of 2017. Currently, the LAPD does not release videos of critical incidents except when used in trial or by order of a court. The L.A. Police Commission and LAPD seek broad-based community engagement to form a policy for public release of footage after critical incidents.

Community members will have an opportunity to provide input in one of three ways: by attending one of four community forums, one in each Los Angeles Police Department geographic bureau; by filling out the brief questionnaire; or by submitting more detailed written comments. The Policing Project will work with city agencies and community groups to distribute paper copies of the questionnaire to those who request it. The Policing Project also will conduct focus groups with LAPD officers and command staff to get their views. The public comment period will last 45 days. The Policing Project is expected to release a report summarizing the public feedback in June, and the L.A. Police Commission is expected to issue its preliminary policy proposal in July.

Police Commission President Matthew M. Johnson stated, “As we move forward with the final acquisition of body-worn cameras for all patrol officers to utilize by the end of this year, my fellow Police Commissioners and I want to provide the public the opportunity to participate by providing their perspectives and expectations.”

Policy Project Director Barry Friedman, the Jacob D. Fuchsberg Professor of Law at New York University, stated, “We commend the L.A. Police Commission for its extraordinary initiative to solicit feedback from Los Angeles residents whose communities are being affected by this new technology. We are honored to participate in this crucial conversation between the department and the public.”

[The Policing Project](#) at New York University School of Law is dedicated to promoting greater engagement between police and the public on matters of policing policy. It is working closely with cities including New York, Cleveland, and Camden, N.J. In Los Angeles, the Policing Project is partnering with the UCLA School of Law and the UC Irvine School of Law.

UCLA School of Law’s participation is led by [Devon Carbado](#), Associate Vice Chancellor in the UCLA Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Harry Pregerson Professor of Law. Carbado’s research and teaching focus on criminal procedure, constitutional law and critical race studies.

The UC Irvine School of Law’s participation is led by [L. Song Richardson](#), Professor of Law and Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at UCI Law. Richardson, a member of the faculty advisory board of the UC Irvine Center on Law Equality and Race, focuses her research and teaching on criminal procedure, criminal law, and law and social science.

For More Information:

Juan Garcia, Los Angeles Police Commission, 213.236.1405, juan.garcia@lapd.online

Barry Friedman, Policing Project at NYU Law, 917.499.2487, info@policingproject.org

###