

Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff
Tactical Ball Cameras
Annual Surveillance Report: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

1. Description of How the Technology was Used

The primary objective of the Tactical Ball Cameras is to be a resource during high-risk and tactical operations to assist Sheriff's Deputies with the location, identification, and potential mitigation of risks to responding personnel and citizens. The cameras could be thrown into a potentially dangerous environment to gather real-time intelligence in the form of images in a spherical panorama. This information is useful in obtaining identifiable information about individuals or threats near the camera prior to any human engagement and thus mitigating liability.

Although this technology was cutting edge when it was initially acquired, the Office of the Sheriff did not utilize these cameras during this reporting period because it is now obsolete technology. The Office of the Sheriff had been working for several years to replace these cameras and received state homeland security grant funds to acquire a state-of-the-art replacement. The Office of the Sheriff took delivery of new CORE Camera System (tactical pole cameras) in April 2022. The Board of Supervisors approved a separate surveillance use policy for the new CORE Camera System on September 14, 2021.

The Office of the Sheriff is notifying the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors that the obsolete Tactical Ball Cameras will be disposed of. The Office of the Sheriff requests the Tactical Ball Camera surveillance use policy be retired and no longer be required to submit annual reports for this item.

2. Data Sharing with Outside Entities

No data was shared with outside entities during this reporting period.

3. Community Complaints or Concerns

Any community complaints regarding the use of the Tactical Ball Camera are routed to the Internal Affairs Lieutenant for tracking and response. According to Internal Affairs, there were no community complaints or concerns regarding the Tactical Ball Cameras expressed to the Sheriff's Office during this reporting period.

4. Non-Privileged Internal Audits / Policy Violations

All Office of the Sheriff staff are provided all Surveillance Use Policies via an internal web-based portal requiring annual review and attestation of acknowledgement completion. Supervisors are

required to periodically audit the data obtained by and the use of the Tactical Ball Cameras to ensure compliance with the Surveillance Use Policy and other department policies; However, no audits were not performed during this reporting period due to the fact that the Tactical Ball Cameras were not deployed.

5. Effectiveness in Achieving its Identified Purpose

This equipment is obsolete technology and as such, Sheriff's Deputies have experienced technical issues on multiple occasions. As discussed above, the Sheriff's Office has officially taken delivery of a state-of-the-art system to replace the Tactical Ball Cameras. The Tactical Ball Cameras have not been able to achieve the intended purpose during this reporting period as it they when this policy was initially approved.

6. Public Records Act Requests

The Office of the Sheriff has a process in place to track California Public Records Act (CPRA) requests where designated staff are assigned to receive and respond to each request. The Office of the Sheriff did not receive any California Public Records Act requests for the data related to the Tactical Ball Cameras during this reporting period.

7. Annual Costs

The purchase of the Tactical Ball Cameras was a one-time purchase before this reporting period and there were no additional costs during this reporting period.