

For Immediate Release

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**MORRISTOWN MAYOR TIMOTHY P. DOUGHERTY ANNOUNCE THAT
MORRISTOWN POLICE WILL BEGIN WEARING BODY CAMERAS**

*Cameras Will Be Used By Front Line Officers As A Preventive Public Safety Measure For
Residents And Police*

May 19, 2015 (Morristown, N.J.) – Morristown Mayor Timothy Dougherty and Police Chief Peter Demnitz announced today that front-line uniformed police officers of the Morristown Bureau of Police will have body-worn video cameras while they are on duty. Morristown is the first municipality to implement this program after participating in the Urban Mayors Roundtable in Newark last fall.

“This is the right time to deploy this important initiative,” says Morristown Mayor Dougherty. “In addition to supporting the safety of residents, the department and administration are looking for this effort to help improve relations with the community; reduce the number of instances where force is required; lower the number of citizen complaints and provide a more factual account of interactions between citizens and police officers.”

Mayor Dougherty and Police Chief Demnitz have been exploring the use of body cameras since 2012 but after participating last year in the Urban Mayors Roundtable—organized by Mayor Ras Baraka of Newark; Mayor Steven Fulop of Jersey City, and Mayor Jose Torres of Paterson—in September 2014, Morristown Mayor Dougherty felt that the body-worn cameras could address many of the safety concerns that were discussed by the panel.

“The Bureau of Police has been actively watching the developments of this emerging technology for a few years based on the findings of a study released by Rialto (CA) Police Department. The findings from this early study showed that this technology was worth investigating thoroughly as an option for the Morristown Police Department,” says Morristown Police Chief Demnitz.

The department purchased 40 of the L3 Body Vision body-worn cameras, one for each front line uniformed police officer. The cameras offer seamless integration with the existing video recording system currently used in marked patrol cars.

Deployment of the cameras will take place during this week. “Although Morristown has seen a significant reduction in the crime rate over the last decade of approximately 50 percent, we must constantly implement new preventive measures to maintain the public safety of our town,” Mayor Dougherty added.

Who: **Morristown Mayor Timothy P. Dougherty**
Morristown Chief of Police Peter Demnitz
Morristown Detective Lieutenant Stuart Greer
Jersey City Mayor Steven Fulop, Urban Mayors Roundtable
Morristown Area Interfaith Clergy Council, Reverend Janet Broderick,
President (*not speaking*)
Reverend Robert Rogers, Church of God in Christ
PBA President, Brian LaBarre (*not speaking*)