

Question: Who Can See the Camera's Data

RPD Summary of Comments

The general attitude was that only people who were subjects on the data should be allowed to see the data and those not a party in the data should not have access. (6 comments)

There is a significant opinion that the public, in general, should have access to the data through such controls as FOIA or judiciary review. (3 comments)

There was scattered commentary about the public having unrestricted access to the data and police not being allowed to see the data.

Community Comments Recorded at Meeting

- It was unanimous opinion that the victim should be able to see the video from their own crime, including people who have been stopped/arrested. Others who should also have access:
 - Witnesses
 - Only those involved, including those who represent the victims; those not involved are not allowed.
- Concerns were raised about the victim having access to the film/data. Low income persons especially, are vulnerable to “fees” and additionally, more likely to be victims of crime: this data should be readily available for free. Surrounding issues:
 - Can copies be made?
 - The victim should be able to have their own copy of the data and show it to whomever they want.
 - Free means free and this applies to lawyers trying to charge those they represent to see it.
- The public should have access to the footage.
- Look at the privacy rights of people on camera.
- Would the data be accessible with a paper report?
 - Would/should this be more difficult to obtain?
 - Will the data be edited or redacted in any way?
 - What is the cost of editing?
- One attendee specifically said, “The data should be accessible to everyone/anyone on the video”, which was not greeted with enthusiasm.
 - There is quite a bit of concern about safety: would the victim, if on the video, be visible to the accused along with his/her personal information? That puts others at risk of retaliation.
- Can the police review the data prior to completing their written report?
 - Would that affect what is written in that report?
 - Will it be available to citizens in the video if there is a deposition or other court proceedings?
- *Attendees agreed that one of the most important things to discuss and define for the public is the concept of public access.
 - They very much want to avoid “nosy neighbor” situations and retaliation if they are victims of a crime.

- Can I see the video of myself? If I'm arrested? If arrested – yes – Right to Discovery.
- Can officers review data ? This is being discussed. RPD only wants to purchase cameras that cannot be tampered with in any way.
- Police officers should never have access to review the video themselves.
- We should use best practices nationwide on such an important issue.
- Data should only be released under two circumstances:
 - 1 – If the Judiciary decides that it is warranted
 - 2 – under FOIL if the Judiciary decides it's in the public interest.
- All involved in the recordings should be entitled to the data.
- People not involved with recording incidents should not have access.
- Recording should be made available to the public in compliance to FOIL.
- We need to consider the educational aspect of the data. An example would be a child viewing the data verses an adult.
- Police officers should not have access to the data at all.