

Appendix B –Examples of Body Worn Video Evidence

1. Circumstances

Offender who is husband of aggrieved after enjoying a family social evening with friends and consuming a large amount of alcohol returned to the family address alone. Aggrieved returned home a short time later and offender was asleep in bed. Aggrieved has got into bed with offender and he then awoke and became abusive towards aggrieved. Offender has then got out of bed and become more aggressive so aggrieved has got out of bed. Offender then pushed aggrieved into bed side cabinet knocking it over. Daughter of offender and aggrieved has tried to intervene but offender has pushed her away. Aggrieved to protect her daughter has then pushed offender but he then punched her in the face. The aggrieved then went downstairs with daughter to try and get away Offender has followed her downstairs into lounge and proceeded to punch aggrieved again in the face causing a cut and bruising to left eye. Aggrieved tried to shield herself with a cushion but offender has sat astride of her on the sofa and held his hands around her throat. Police arrived to find offender in this position.

This is a summary of a Domestic Violence crime that involved BWV – the case involved a man who pleaded guilty at court on the morning of the trial for an assault on his wife and his daughter. The camera was switched on during the arrest and shows his demeanour. It shows the injuries sustained by the victims and it also shows how upset and shocked the victims were. The presence of the bodycam footage no doubt influenced his decision to plead guilty.

The defendant received a suspended 23 week sentence for 2 years, made to pay compensation and a 5 year restraining order.

2. An example is where officers have utilised BWV at the scene of a sudden death. They documented breaking into the property and the scene using body-cam's. This showed the coroner exactly what was going on at the scene, position of the body and state of the security of house etc. The coroner commended the quality of the file submission and didn't call the officers to court to explain as he was happy there was enough evidence from the footage for him to make appropriate decisions.
3. On East Division a male was arrested for breach of the peace following a call from his mother asking the police to remove him from the address as he was smashing things up. The police attended and whilst trying to communicate with him, he ran off. The police ran after to him and he was tasered. The male's sister was present and complained that the use of taser was an excessive level of force and that an officer was threatening towards her brother, which caused him to get scared and run off.