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To: Emily Andrews <Emily.Andrews@la.gov>

Subject: LSBC-Body Cameras

Date: Sat, 21 Feb 2026 02:49:27 +0000

Importance: Normal

Good evening Emily,

The implementation of body cameras for our inspectors was driven by the need to strengthen accountability, transparency, and the integrity of our regulatory process. When this topic was first brought up in a board meeting over 6 months ago, it was agreed upon unanimously by the board to look further into the option of having this technology for our agency.

First, monetary accountability was a key factor. There have been allegations involving potential bribes during inspections. Even when claims are resolved or unsubstantiated, the mere existence of such accusations can erode trust in the agency. Body cameras provide an objective, verifiable record of inspector interactions, protecting both inspectors and license holders by clearly documenting that no improper financial exchanges or misconduct occur.

Second, body cameras enhance transparency between inspectors and license holders. Inspections can be stressful situations, and misunderstandings may arise. Recorded interactions create clarity, reduce disputes, and ensure that both parties are treated professionally and fairly. Cameras are not prejudice and any inclination that the inspection process could be biased, such as with unlicensed workers in businesses, is eliminated with the supporting documentation. Because that was a repeated public statement over several board meetings, with the understanding we have a potential law suit for discrimination. With further inclination that certain minority demographics were allegedly being treated unfairly in the inspection process. The level of openness the cameras provide helps build confidence in the inspection process.

Third, body camera footage supports accurate documentation for administrative hearings. Because the Board conducts hearings that function similarly to trials, having reliable, firsthand video evidence ensures that decisions are based on factual, documented events rather than conflicting accounts. Not everyone has access to the secured footage, and redaction of uninvolved parties is a part of the process if any records request is made. This promotes fairness, strengthens due process, and ensures that reporting reflects the true facts of each case.

Additionally, inspector safety is a serious concern. There have been incidents where inspectors were locked inside establishments or placed in uncomfortable situations. Body cameras serve as both a deterrent to inappropriate conduct and a protective measure should any dispute or safety issue arise.

The information regarding the use of body cameras was put on our website for our license holders 60 days prior to their launch in the field. As mentioned before, over several Board meetings for months prior it was discussed to the eventual unanimous vote to approve to use of the body cameras on inspectors. The agency has not directly received one complaint after confirming with my staff this evening. The feedback from our licensees have only been questions, and when answered they have true clarity and understanding for the decision. Often our license holders are taken back at the progression the Board has taken, and are satisfied

with the positive changes being made to support everyone. Our agency has not seen such progression in some time, and so it is understandable that questions or concerns could arise. We are certainly happy to address any if approached to best explain the "why." Our license holders and the public can reach us by email, phone or through our newly revised social media. We are hoping to continue to grow our communication efforts with a new website that includes more options in the future as well.

The inspectors themselves are also very pleased to have the body cameras to support everyone in a "best foot forward" effort. All of our inspectors are licensed cosmetologist themselves, and they are excited to support their industry by being a part of the agency. If challenges arise, we can review the footage to understand how to best support the inspector's professional growth and our own opportunities for best practices within the inspection process.

With the upmost respect it is our hopes that these complaints can continue to be shared with us as they are now. Our agency desires to review any complaints received to your office to support the ongoing efforts of providing everyone with the best outcome for our industry and the public overall. We want to show our paths of communication are open, so we can work together with everyone to quickly resolve situations before they escalate in the future.

Overall, the purpose of body cameras is to preserve the integrity of the agency, protect all parties involved, and reinforce public confidence through accountability and transparency. This afternoon I communicated to our inspection staff members and supervisors to immediately cease operations of all body cameras until further notice. I have scheduled a meeting with the inspectors for Monday morning to ensure they are all aware of this.

It is our hope that after this explanation for the need for the body cameras we will have your support moving forward.

Have a wonderful weekend,
Erin

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