

By the Numbers: Can Body Cameras Reduce Altercations in a Correctional Facility?



Mobile video solutions are becoming more commonplace in the corrections industry. While the interactions within the corrections industry differ slightly from those in law enforcement, the reasons for implementing a mobile video solution are fairly similar.

Corrections officers may have to defuse an altercation between residents just like a police officer may have to defuse an interaction between civilians.

But does the presence of body cameras **actually deter** inmates and correctional officers from making poor choices?

On Body Cameras In Prison

A **2014 study by the New Zealand Corrections**

Journal studied the use of body-worn cameras and how the presence of those cameras affected interactions between officers and residents during a six-month trial.

[click here for link](#)



Details

300 prisoners exposed to body-worn cameras

2 correctional facilities

26 hours of recorded footage

157 events where the officer had activated their camera for safety or evidential reasons

The Study Found

15%-20%

overall reduction in incidents thanks to the presence of body cameras, compared to the 12 months before the six-month trial

9

Recorded events where a prisoner de-escalated a situation when in the presence of a body-worn camera or stated they would have struck an officer if the camera was not there

0

Serious assaults were recorded during the six-month trial, and there was a reduction in the severity of incidents

References

Dilulio, John J. (2011) Deterrence Theory. Downloaded from URL <http://marisluste.files.wordpress.com/2010/11/deterrence-theory.pdf>
Farrar, T. (2013). Self-awareness to being watched and socially desirable behaviour: A field experiment on the effect of body worn cameras on Police use of force, Cambridge University, England.
Welsh, B. C., & Farrington, D. P. (2009). Public Area CCTV and Crime Prevention: An Updated Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Justice Quarterly, 26(4), 716-745

Feedback

"It creates a safer environment."

"Since the cameras came into our unit, I have not had a single negative comment from prisoners."

"Prisoners think twice about acting in an aggressive manner around staff whether it be to staff or another prisoner, also it has been said by prisoners that it can reassure them too."



Mobile video solutions help protect your corrections staff by deterring residents from making poor choices and also protect residents by reducing reactionary use-of-force incidents.

About Pro-Vision

Founded in 2003, Pro-Vision is a leading video technology solutions provider trusted by thousands of organizations in 58 countries. Pro-Vision solutions include vehicle video recording systems, body-worn cameras, data management and cloud-based storage solutions. Pro-Vision's transit, law enforcement and commercial partners utilize these solutions to enhance safety, increase productivity and protect critical assets.



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