

In-Car Video Systems

In June of 2002, Sheriff J. Richard Bockelmann announced the deployment of several In-Car Video (ICV) recorders which were installed in marked Sheriff's Patrol Units. Each system cost approximately \$4,100.

The system deployed consists of a small video camera, wireless microphone and ceiling mounted control console. A VCR recorder is locked in a crash resistant stainless steel vault mounted in the trunk. The system is capable of automatically zooming in on a stopped vehicle registration plate, as the deputy exits the car, then returning to a wide-angle view after a few seconds.



Goals in using such a system include:

- Document incident activity (e.g., DWI Field Sobriety Tests)
- Increase successful prosecution
- Increase the safety of the officer
- Refute frivolous complaints
- Record suspect behavior and description
- Record and track initial violation/reason for a traffic stop

Law enforcement agencies across the nation employ Mobile Video in a variety of ways to serve the following purposes:

- Strengthen prosecution by introducing video evidence
- Reduce time in court for officers
- Increase productivity and realize financial savings
- Protect police officers against claims of police misconduct resulting in a reduction in liability
- Investigate crimes (e.g., felony stops, pursuits)
- Train officers using recordings
- Record officers' thoughts, observations
- Ensure and prove police procedures were followed during confessions and interrogations.