Recommendation
Submission/Response Form

Referenced CASA area (A,B,C,D,E): _______
This response is in reference to recommendation #22-01 Pilot to review OBRD for Use of
Force / Northeast Area Command
Responsible SME: DC C. Lowe
Date received: 01/20/2022
Date returned: 01/20/2022

RECOMMENDATION (Recommendation/Reasoning):
We would like to propose a trial process. 10 cases would be reviewed using the entire
footage and the same 10 cases reviewed by a separate team for just the duration of the
use of force review. Conclusions from these 2 groups could then compared to see if there
were any significant differences in the conclusions between the two groups. If none or
minimal, then there would be justification to going to the shorter review.

Reason for Recommendation:
The major stumbling block for the termination of the CASA agreement and DOJ
oversight is the backlog in the use of force investigations, numbering somewhere around
667 as the impetus for the CASA was APD’s inappropriate use of force, especially
involving individuals with mental illness. These use of force investigations can take at
least 6 hours of field supervisor’s time to review the entire footage of that officer’s shift.
The incident itself may only involve 90 minutes of footage. APD currently is significantly
understaffed and being able to reduce officers’ time reviewing film would both speed up
the reviews and improve the availability of officers to patrol the city. Since the goal of
the CASA is to investigate and mitigate APD’s inappropriate use of force, focusing on the
incident for film review would accomplish that goal. There is resistance to a shorter film
review as it is felt that the totality of the shift is needed to be reviewed to get a full
picture of the officer’s frame of mind.

APD RESPONSE/REASONING:
The City has been working with the Department of Justice and the
Independent Monitoring Team, whereas the City is proposing a pilot
project which includes a streamlined approach for supervisory OBRD
viewing requirements, reducing the amount of video footage required to determine if a use of force incident is in or out of policy.

While the proposal is not verbatim of the language above as recommended by the NECPC, this pilot appears to meet the intent of the request. If there are any other questions, please let me know.

Chief made aware of recommendation: Yes ☒ No ☐

Recommendation Status: Approved ☒ Denied ☐ Needs more time ☐