

A BODY-WORN CAMERA THAT WITHSTANDS

As body-worn cameras for public safety officials become more common place, they are facing increasingly harsh environments. The question is, can critical cameras stand up to the unexpected conditions experienced by officers?

Kendall County Sheriff's Office in Illinois experienced first-hand what happens when a fully rugged Getac body-worn camera is faced with extreme conditions. Luckily, the decision was made to partner with Brite and Getac, two companies that truly stand behind its product.

Kendall County Sheriff's Office's Journey to Getac

In 2017, Kendall County identified a need for in-car video and released an RFP for the project. A key component to the RFP evaluation was the ability for the platform to scale and eventually be able to seamlessly integrate body-worn cameras with the in-car system.

Brite was one of the many responders in conjunction with their partner, Getac. The proposal stood out to Kendall County Sheriff's Office for three key reasons. First, was the comprehensive digital evidence management system that simplified back-end management. Second, was the cost-effective nature of Getac's cloud storage solution, which at the time was not yet common across the market and significantly reduces the end users need for system management. Lastly, the simplicity of deployment of the Getac in-car solution.

After about 5 years of use, Commander Jason Langston comments on the success of the video program, "When you take all things into consideration - the amount of storage, the ease of installation, the reliability – all have been pretty good. We haven't had much downtime."

The Addition of Body-Worn Cameras

Kendall County realized the value of body cameras prior to the passing of the SAFE-T Act, which mandates all law enforcement agencies within the state of Illinois to deploy and utilize the devices, and already was planning to expand their use in 2021. Due to the success of the in-car system, the Sheriff's Office looked to Brite and Getac once again for its video needs.

"We decided to do a pool deployment as opposed to an individually issued camera. We utilize the multi-port docks within our roll call and check out [the body-worn cameras] at the beginning of each shift. At the end, they are turned back in. For us it has been a straightforward and simple rollout.", stated Langston.

The Getac Body-Worn Camera in Action

Not long after deployment the cameras were put to the test in the field. The selected BC-02 camera is MIL-STD-810G and IP68 certified with 6-foot drop resistance to tolerate extreme conditions.

In January, three officers responded to a structure fire at a duplex complex in Montgomery, IL just past midnight ahead of the fire department. The rescue of 2 people ensued. During the rescue effort a body cam was knocked off when an individual jumped into the arms of the Deputy from two floors up.

Moments after the residents were out of the building and ushered to safety, the structure erupted in flames. The fallen body-worn camera was exposed to extreme heat and some of the plastic housing melted. It was later retrieved after the fire was extinguished.

Langston displays the camera and states, "We plugged [the camera] into the docking station when we got back to the office, and it downloaded right away. There were no issues whatsoever with the footage that was captured... We got all the video recorded and it kept recording audio fairly clearly. Obviously, the lens had melted. I would describe it as you can see light and dark."



A Replacement Device for Kendall County

Even though melting in a blazing fire is not traditionally covered under the advanced replacement warranty, Brite and Getac replaced the unit.

"When Commander Langston contacted Brite, sharing the story and the file from the melted camera, we got to work on a replacement for this extraordinary circumstance," stated Lindsey Cooksey, Brite's Director of Public Safety. "Brite worked with Getac on behalf of Kendall County to have the camera replaced at no cost to the department. We are happy to support Kendall County Sheriff's Office in this way after their brave deputies helped save lives." Langston added, "Last week Getac sent us the replacement camera. It has been that way for just about any warranty claim ... The warranty process is virtually painless. We notify them and say 'Hey, this is broken.' They verify its under warranty, we get a new one sent to us, and we ship the old part back. It's about as simple as it comes."

The Getac body-worn camera replacement is now back in the field, capturing footage of interactions with the community, providing unbiased perspective to any situation that may arise.

About Brite

At Brite, people and technology are at the core of everything we do. We're committed to proactively protecting communities and organizations through innovative technology solutions delivered by our talented team.

Beginning in 1983, Brite was originally founded as a custom computer manufacturer in Rochester, NY and quickly established itself by combining the right components to solve a customer's unique needs. In 1999, we began our journey to become the largest Public Safety integrator in the country. Now, Brite expertly delivers technology to protect officers in the field, generate leads for investigators and keep command staff informed to make critical decisions with real-time details, ultimately helping to keep communities safe.

Our proven methodology of partnering with thoroughly vetted industry-leading technology vendors, delivered by the Brite team, which is evident by our numerous awards, including a seven-time Inc. 5000 honoree. Most importantly, we envision partnerships with clients where our team enables others with the technology and processes to better achieve their mission and objectives. And we're here to help with **Brite People. Brite Solutions.**

About Getac Video Solutions

Getac Video Solutions, headquartered in Minneapolis, is a key component of Getac Technology Corporation's rugged computing business. Getac Video develops state-of-the-art mobile video solutions, including body worn cameras, in-car video solutions, and interview room systems. Getac Video Solutions leverages the MiTAC-Synnex group's manufacturing and development expertise to produce Getac's mobile video solutions in-house. As a result, Getac Video Solutions is readily able to adjust product features to the rapidly evolving mobile video market. The backing of a \$29B technology organization allows Getac Video Solutions to compound resources across engineering teams to deliver best-in-class products backed by our best-in-class service and warranties. Getac Video Solutions firmly believes that a great user experience defines the success of our brand, and we do everything in our power to provide the best-in-class service and support.