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Subject	Number
Montgomery County Code Section 35-13(e), Police-Private Security	04-23
Camera Incentive Program	
Originating Department	Effective Date
Department of Police	

Montgomery County Regulation on

POLICE-PRIVATE SECURITY CAMERA INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Issued by: County Council Regulation No. 4-23

Authority: Montgomery County Code (2014) Section 35-13C Council Review Method (2) Under Code Section 35-13C(e)

Register Vol 40, No. 2

Effective Date:

Comment Deadline: February 24, 2023

Summary: This regulation establishes the implementation of the police-private security camera incentive

program for qualifying residents.

Staff Contact: Lt. Dan Helton

Management Services Bureau

240-773-5043

Address: Montgomery County Department of Police

100 Edison Park Drive

Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878

Background: The purpose of Bill 14-22 is to deter and solve crime by incentivizing the installation of security

cameras in geographic areas experiencing relatively high incidents of crime.

Section A. Definitions

- 1. <u>Security Camera- An outdoor surveillance camera system with functioning digital video recording capability, that is installed on the property owned or leased by an individual, business, or nonprofit organization.</u>
- 2. <u>Qualifying Resident- An owner or tenant of a property that is used as a residence, business, or a nonprofit</u> organization. Property is located within a priority area.



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- 3. <u>Priority Area- One or more police districts identified by the Police Chief as needing additional security cameras</u> based upon public safety indicators, including crime levels.
- 4. Department- defined as the Montgomery County Department of Police

Section B. General Provisions

- 1. This regulation implements the private security camera incentive rebate program, which establishes an incentive for property owners, business owners, and nonprofit organizations to install an outdoor security camera that is intended to help deter crime and assist law enforcement with investigations.
- 2. <u>An owner or tenant of a property that is used as a residence, business, or nonprofit organization (the Applicant) is eligible for a rebate:</u>
 - a. <u>Subject to appropriation up to two hundred dollars (\$250), provided that the amount of the rebate shall not be more than the cost of the purchase of the camera; and</u>
 - b. The maximum rebates in this section shall be limited to only one (1) security camera per property address. (For example, in a mixed-use building, if the residential portion has an address of 1234 First Street, and the commercial portion has an address of 1234-A First Street.)
- 3. The Applicant's property must be within a Priority Area designated by the Police Chief.
- 4. <u>To be eligible for the rebate, the Applicant must participate in this camera program once established by the Department.</u>
- 5. As part of this program, the Montgomery County will not have access to live video from the camera.
- 6. By participating in this program, the Applicant will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, to include electrical code requirements. If Applicant is a tenant of a building, the Applicant will comply with all applicable building requirements.
- 7. The Applicant agrees in writing (electronically) that the security camera must not be used for the purpose of recording private property not owned by the Applicant.
- 8. <u>If the Applicant is a business or non-profit organization, the Applicant agrees in writing (electronically) to post notice prominently to alert visitors of the existence of the security camera.</u>
- 9. <u>Permissible collection, dissemination, use, and disposal of images recorded by a security camera purchased under the program.</u>
 - a. <u>The collection, dissemination and use of video by the Department will be for official law enforcement purposes</u>. Efforts will be made to ensure anonymity of the Applicant.

Section C. Application

1. An Applicant shall submit a security camera application on the form prescribed by the Department.



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- 2. A completed application shall include:
 - a. The completed form prescribed by the Department;
 - b. Proof of purchase of an applicable security camera;
 - c. Make, Model, and Serial Number of the security camera;
 - d. Verification of the installation of the security camera system.
- 3. <u>Upon the determination that an Applicant has complied with all the requirements, and subject to the availability</u> of funds, the applicable rebate amount shall be provided to the Applicant.

Section D. Priority Areas

1. The Department's camera application website will allow the Applicant to determine if the property is within an eligible priority area. Priority areas will be evaluated annually.

Section E. Security Camera Specification

- 1. <u>Security camera systems shall meet minimum technical and video quality specifications published on the Department's application website, and must retain video footage for at least seven (7) days.</u>
- 2. <u>Security camera systems shall be installed on the exterior of a building and shall be weatherproof.</u>

Section F. Verification of Security Camera Installation

- 1. A security camera system shall be verified as installed before it is eligible for the rebate.
- 2. An Applicant shall verify installation by the following means:
 - a. If the security camera system is installed by a business with a valid Business License that is engaged in the installation of security systems, the business shall certify the installation of the camera system at the property, including photographic evidence; or
 - b. <u>If the security camera system is installed by the property owner, business owner, or another person</u> without a valid Business License, the Applicant shall notify the Department for an on-site visit to verify the installation of the security camera system.

Section G. Rebate Issuance



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1. Upon the determination that an Applicant has complied with all the requirements, and subject to the availability of funds, the applicable rebate amount shall be processed by the Montgomery County Government Finance

Department and the funds sent to the Applicant at the address provided on the application form.

Approved:		
Marc Elrich, County Executive	Date	

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
Office of the County Attorney

02/09/2023

Haley M. Roberts

Associate County Attorney