

Police department seeks funding to purchase two video cameras

The Vernonia Police Department is seeking funding to purchase video cameras for patrol vehicles, Chief James Walters announced. The cameras would be utilized in several ways, including helping with arrests for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUI), crime scene investigations, officer safety and training.

The cameras would be mounted in patrol vehicles to record the activities officers encounter during their shifts, Walters explained, creating a permanent record of events. They could also be used to confirm officers' reports in the investigation and/or defense of officers if alleged civil rights violations are filed.

"We would like to thank Ken Bateman and North Pacific Insurance Company for their generous donation of \$600 towards the purchase of a video camera," he said. The cost for one of the high resolution cameras is \$2000.

"Our goal is to have two of our vehicles equipped with video cameras before the end of 1994," Walters said, "and with this goal in mind, the Department is seeking donations from citizens, businesses and interested organizations. All donations received will greatly enhance the performance and effectiveness of the Vernonia Police Department."

Donations will be tax deductible and may be sent to: Vernonia Police Dept., 919 Bridge St., Vernonia, OR 97064. For more information call 429-7335 or 429-5291.

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