

TO: Police Chiefs

CC: Mayor  
Governing Body  
Town Manager  
Town Attorney  
Risk Management Consultants  
Safety Director  
Fund Commissioner

RE: New Jersey Attorney General Law Enforcement Directives

DATE: April 2, 2018

New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal has recently issued three directives that will significantly impact law enforcement agencies throughout the State. Links to these directives have been provided. If you have a law enforcement agency, town officials and professionals are encouraged to assist their agencies with the implementation of these directives.

Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive No. 2018-1 - Law Enforcement Directive Concerning Public Release of Video Recordings Depicting Police Deadly Force Incidents

*“This Directive instructs that, in any case involving police use of deadly force as defined in Attorney General Directive 2006-5, law enforcement agencies presumptively will make available, upon formal request by the media or other public requestor, video footage captured by body-worn cameras (“BWCs”) and patrol vehicle dashboard-mounted cameras (“dash-cams”) once the initial investigation of the use of force incident is substantially complete....”*

<http://www.nj.gov/oag/dcj/agguide/directives/ag-directive-2018-1.pdf>

Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive No. 2018-2 – Statewide Mandatory Random Drug Testing

*“Testing of law enforcement officers in New Jersey for illegal drug use is governed by the Attorney General’s Law Enforcement Drug testing Policy (hereinafter “AG Testing Policy”).*

*“Therefore, pursuant to the authority granted to me under the Criminal Justice Act of 1970, N.J.S.A. 52:17B-97 to -117, which provides for the general supervision of criminal justice by the Attorney General as chief law enforcement officer of the State to secure the benefits of a uniform and efficient enforcement of the criminal law and the administration of criminal justice throughout the State, I, Gurbir S. Grewal, hereby DIRECT all law enforcement and prosecuting agencies operating under the authority of the laws of the State of New Jersey to implement and comply with the following policies, procedures, standards, and practices.”*

<http://www.nj.gov/oag/dcj/agguide/directives/ag-directive-2018-2.pdf>

Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive No. 2018-3 – Statewide Mandatory Early Warning Systems

*“An Early Warning System ("EW System") is an important management tool designed to detect patterns and trends in police conduct before that conduct escalates. An effective EW System can assist a law enforcement agency in identifying and remediating problematic officer conduct that poses a potential risk to the public, to the agency, and to the officer. EW Systems, therefore, serve to not only increase public safety and public confidence in law enforcement, but also to assist officers through early intervention...”*

*“Accordingly, pursuant to the authority granted to me under the Criminal Justice Act of 1970, N.J.S.A. 52:17B-97 to -117, which provides for the general supervision of criminal justice by the Attorney General as chief law enforcement officer of the State to secure the benefits of a uniform and efficient enforcement of the criminal law and the administration of criminal justice throughout the State, I, Gurbir S. Grewal, hereby DIRECT all law enforcement and prosecuting agencies operating under the authority of the laws of the State of New Jersey to implement and comply with the following policies, procedures, standards, and practices.”*

<http://www.nj.gov/oag/dcj/agguide/directives/ag-directive-2018-3.pdf>

Questions concerning the implementation of these directives should be forwarded to your County Prosecutor.