

CAPISTRANO BAY DISTRICT
AGENDA REPORT
March 27, 2012

Security Reports

ITEM F.2

Dashboard Security Camera System for Patrol Vehicle

In a previous board discussion regarding photo-documentation of trespassers or other suspicious activity, the point was made that there is some real risk involved in walking up to a stranger and placing a camera in his/her face.

The suggestion was made to look into placing a video or still camera in the Securitas patrol vehicle.

Below are quotes for what is referred to as an *In Dash Vehicle Security Camera*:

Hi Standard Automotive LLC -	\$3280.00
Maximum Security (rough estimate over the phone) -	\$4700.00
Lesser-quality do it yourself system	\$300 - \$600

Most systems are set up to record continuously while the vehicle is running. The high-priced systems are used in police vehicles for documentation for use in court, etc. Our requirements serve a slightly different purpose and security would only activate the camera when there is a purpose and a need, for example:

- trespass suspects or other suspicious-looking activity
- moving objects such as loose dogs where there is no time to grab the still camera
- oncoming reckless driving

There are many occasions when a photo/video record of an incident, a violation or a suspect is worth so much more than a hand-written field report. A video record will aid in accurate descriptions of suspicious persons or activities.

Actual event from about 45 days ago:

Our patrol responded to a caller reporting a suspicious person fiddling with car doors. Upon approaching this suspect he took off over onto the beach. The officer pursued him on foot and the suspect then trotted back over onto the road, behaving very unusually. He finally jumped over the block wall and left our area. As it turned out, this was the suspect in the murder of the individual over in the trailer park in Doheny Village that the police were looking for. With video capabilities in the patrol vehicle our security could have captured images of this suspect without putting the officer at risk. The police were later contacted and the video would have been very useful for ID purposes and could have resulted in an earlier apprehension of the suspect.