

Comparing DPA Cases Pre/Post BWC

Timeframe	Proper Conduct	Sustained	Insufficient Evidence	No Finding	Unfounded
2014-2016 (pre-BWC)	18.8%	8.4%	65.8%	3.7%	3.3%
2018-2020 (w/BWC)	41.6%	8.9%	13.9%	9.2%	26.4%

Key Points

- In the three years prior to BWC implementation, **65%** of DPA cases were closed as “insufficient evidence.” (There was not enough evidence to determine what occurred).
 - A finding other than yes or no is often unsatisfying to both complainants and officers.
- After adoption of BWC, “Insufficient Evidence” findings **decreased by 80%**.
 - This did not lead to a statistically significant increase in sustained cases.
 - Cases deemed **Proper Conduct doubled** after BWC implementation. (The alleged conduct occurred but was within policy and proper)
 - Cases deemed “**unfounded**” **increased 800%**. (The alleged conduct did not occur)
- The adoption of BWC has achieved the main goals SFPD stated in Department General Order 10.11, to “demonstrate its commitment to transparency, ensure the accountability of its members, increase the public’s trust in officers, and protect it’s members from unjustified complaints of misconduct.”
- BWC protects officers **when** they turn them on.
- Failure to activate BWC deprives DPA and IAD of an “unalterable audio and visual record of interactions that capture empirical evidence in the event of a crime, police-citizen interaction, or use-of-force incident” (Bureau of Justice Assistance, USDOJ, “Body-Worn Cameras Overview”)