

Introduction

Recent use-of-force and instances of misconduct between officers and citizens in New York City, South Carolina, Baltimore and Ferguson have triggered the demand for accountability and transparency from law enforcement.

RPD's Body-Worn Camera (BWC) program goals include:

- Deploying BWCs to officers who regularly interact with the public in enforcement capacities
- Improving high quality public service
- Promoting fairness
- Incorporating the BWC program into RPD's policy and training development

RIT's Evaluation Plan

Goal: Track how BWC affects several aspects of law enforcement, research methodologies selected for our evaluation plan include but not limited to:

- Comparative analysis of data
- Survey instrumentation
- Ride-along and interview analysis

*All combined to measure the validity of BWC

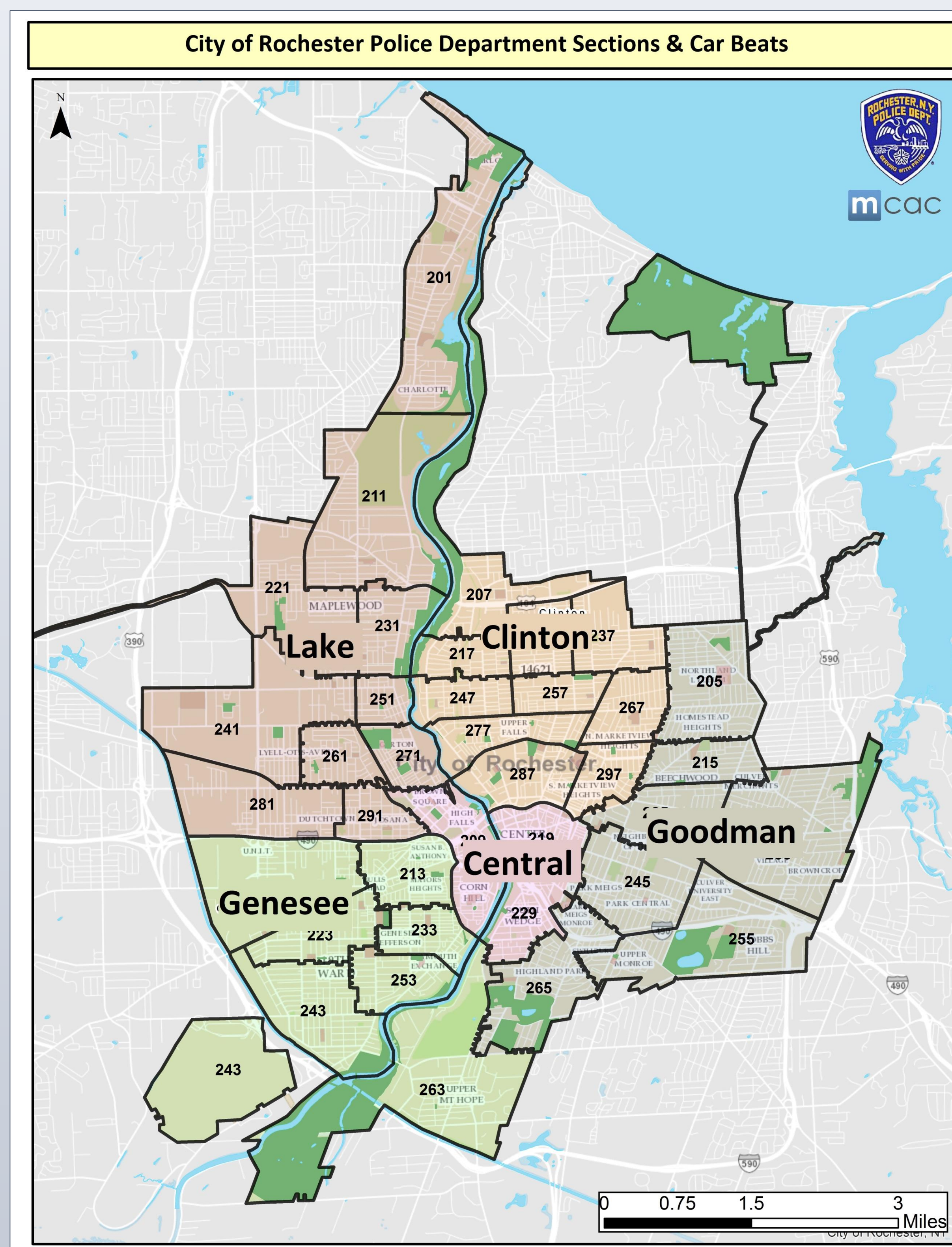


General Research Questions

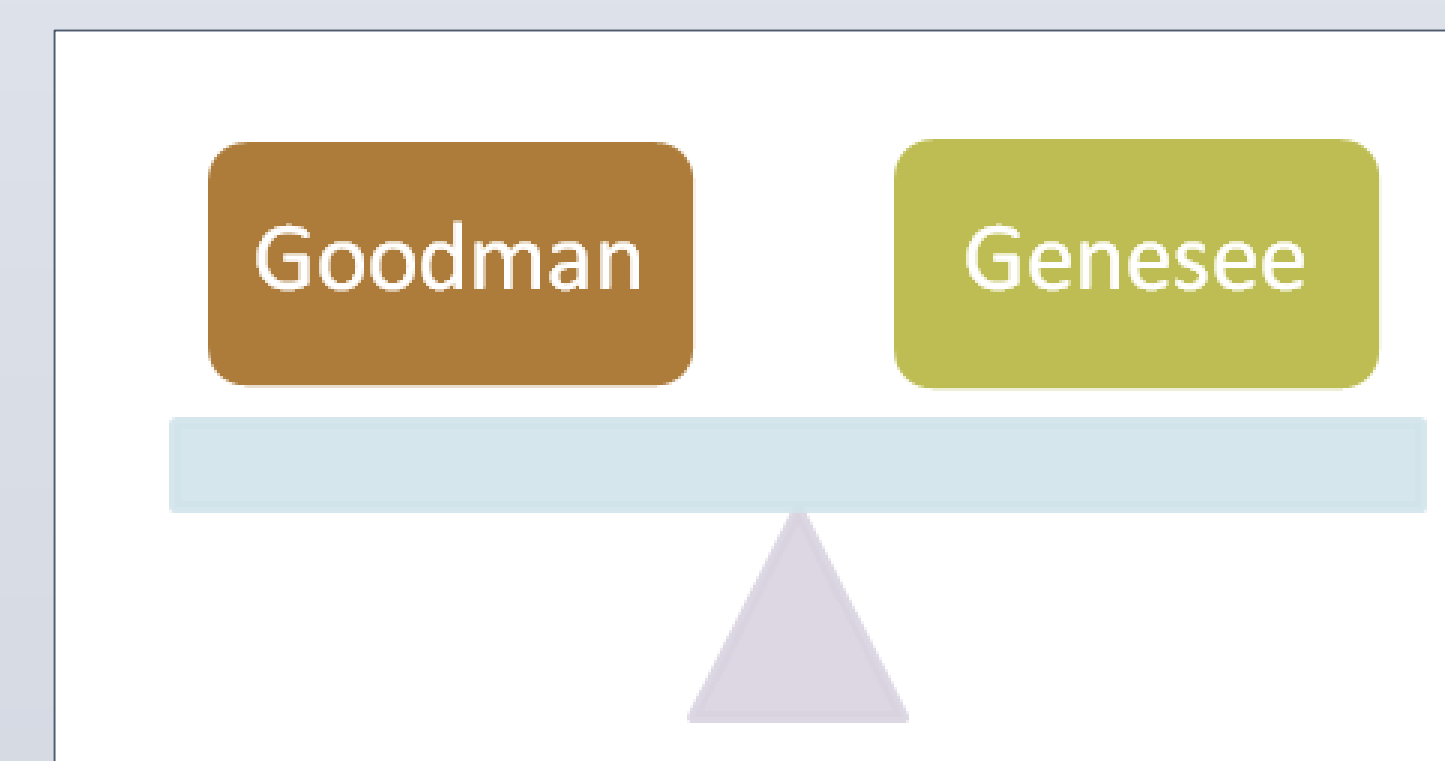
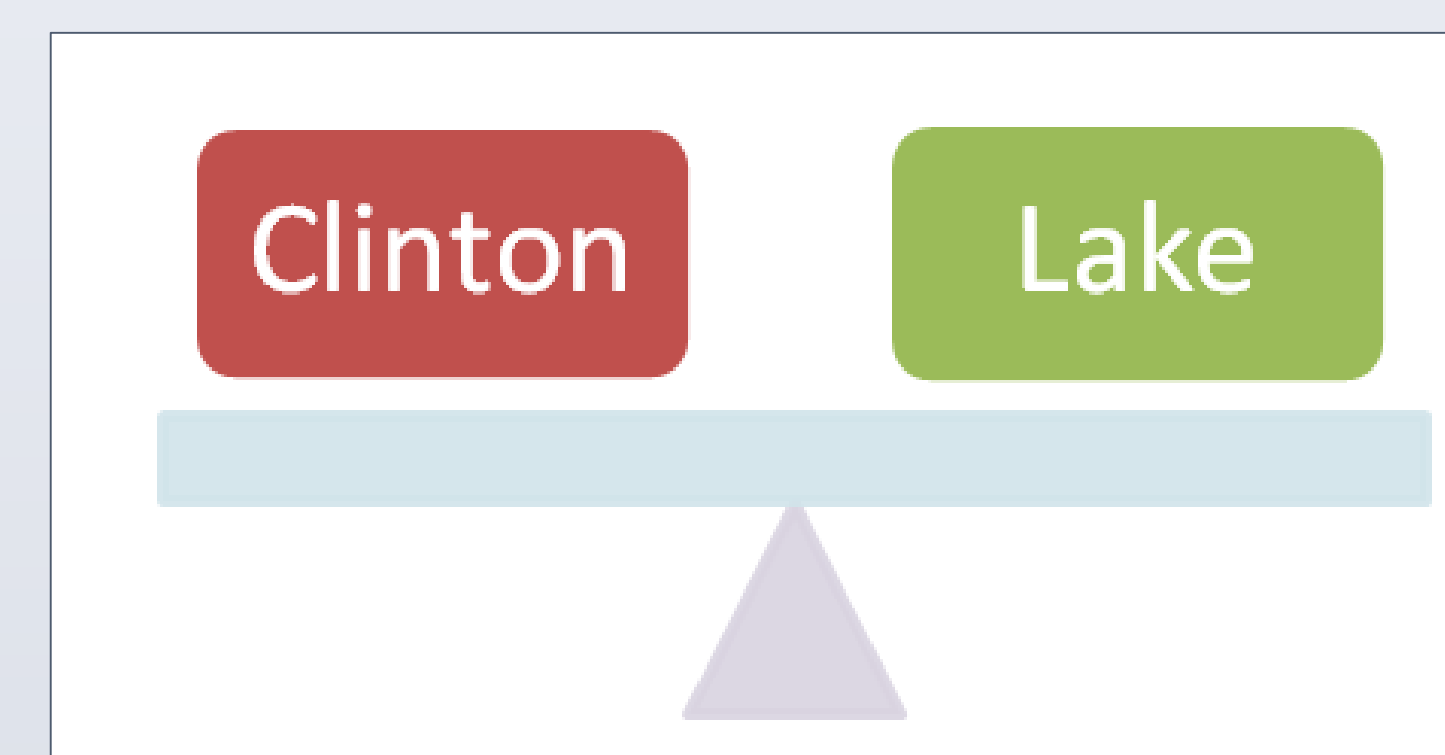
- How do the Body Worn Cameras affect police-citizen encounters?
- How do Body Worn Cameras impact police time spent on different tasks?
- What are the officers' general attitude towards Body Worn Cameras now, and how does it change after its implementation?
- How do Body Worn Cameras affect police discretion on making arrests?
- What aspects of the Rochester Police Department's organizational process could be affected by Body Worn Cameras?

Roll-out Plan and Comparison Groups

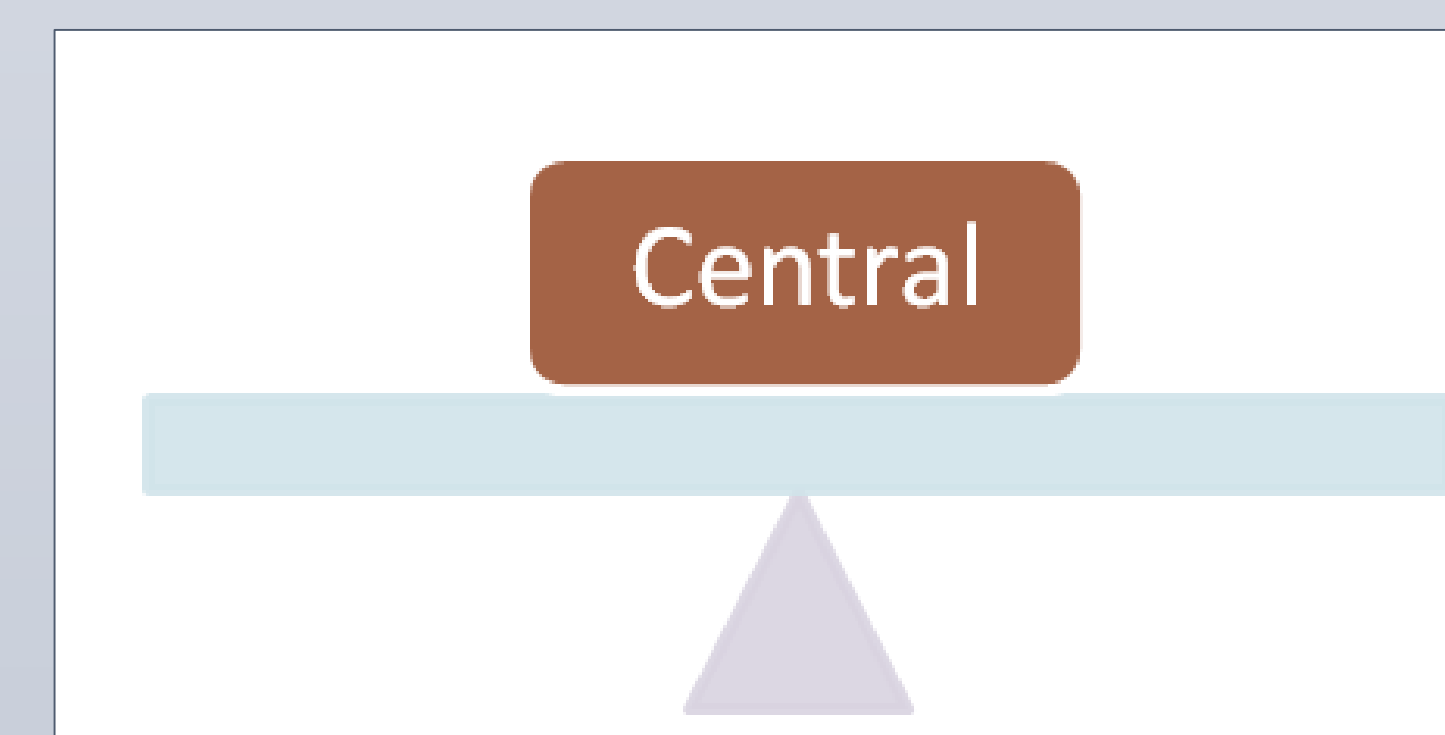
Roll Out Plan for Each Patrol Section



Comparison Groups



Independent Site



Literature Review Findings

Orlando Police Department

- Randomly selected 46 officers to wear the devices compared to 43 officers not wearing it
- 58% decline in use-of-force incidents among officers with the cameras
- 65% decline in civilian complaints against those officers
- Study showed significant reductions in the number of civilian injuries by officers wearing body cameras, and of injuries to the officers themselves

Rialto, California

- Year long study concluded in 2013
- 54 front line officers were randomly assigned to either wear body cameras or to not wear the cameras while on shift
- Use-of-force incidents by officers wearing cameras reduced by 59%
- Civilian complaints dropped by 87.5%

San Diego

- Rolled out the cameras June 2014
- Use of "personal body" force by officers reduced by 46.5%
- Complaints have fallen 40.5%
- Use of pepper spray reduced by 30.5%

Pre-study: Ride-along with Police



CPSI conducted 12 ride-along sessions with Clinton section patrol officers and supervisors. We observed the mannerisms of patrol officers and asked them questions regarding their knowledge, expectations, and concerns about BWC.

Major findings

- Officers are lacking information on the deployment plan for the BWC.
- Officers agree that technology is playing a much more important role as a policing tool, but it cannot substitute for police officers' proactive activities.
- Officers are open to using BWCs and generally believe it has some utility as a policing tool; however they think BWC won't cause a significant difference in their job.
- Officers' view of BWCs benefit: it can be used as strong proof to justify their decisions/actions.
- Officer current concerns of BWC:
 - a. The amount of time to upload/download/tag videos.
 - b. The policies may complicate policing.
 - c. The appearance of BWCs may reduce citizens approaching officers
 - d. Officers' potential loss of privacy.
 - e. Officers' potential loss of discretion.

References

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