

NYPD monitor wants to tweak body-camera pilot program

By Tina Moore and Bob Fredericks | December 7, 2015



Bill de Blasio holds up a body camera at a press conference on December 3. Photo Credit: Getty Images

The monitor overseeing the NYPD wants to tweak the pilot program for testing the use of body cameras by New York's Finest.

When federal Judge Shira Scheindlin ruled in 2013 that the department's use of stop and frisk was unconstitutional, she also order that the cameras be tested in the five precincts — one from each borough — with the highest number of stops.

But monitor Peter Zimroth has asked the judge now assigned to the case to scrap that plan because some of the precincts that had been identified no longer have the highest number of stops.

Instead, he and the NYPD want to test the

cameras on 1,000 randomly selected officers from across the city, and also keep track of another 1,000 who don't have cameras for the control portion of the study.

Cops who patrol public housing will also be part of the study, which Zimroth said is expected to begin next summer at the earliest.

The NYPD said in a letter to Zimroth last month that it is studying other departments that use body cameras to help create the testing program and policies governing how the cameras will be used.

Zimroth has asked federal Judge Analisa Torres to OK the new proposal, which also has the support of department brass.