



IN THE PAST DECADE, THERE HAS BEEN AN ALARMING INCREASE IN RECORDED ATTACKS AGAINST FIREFIGHTERS IN FRANCE.

Hostility and abuse towards these essential workers means that this 280% increase in reported violence in the last ten years equates to over 3,000 noted incidents of abuse each year¹. From threats and verbal aggression to acts of physical violence, measures must now be taken to protect firefighters and bring justice against their attackers.

In support of these requirements, 2021 saw an amendment to the law in France (Article 57)², which now permits firefighters to utilise audio and video recording devices in order to protect themselves and the community, as well as capture vital evidence to enable prosecution. By enabling real-time evidence-gathering in the field, firefighters can deter aggression and record vital, unbiased information, leading to swift and fair justice.

The introduction of body-worn cameras for firefighters is one pivotal way in which the new legislation is being implemented. Motorola Solutions' body-worn cameras provide a robust, connected and efficient way to gather evidence, protect firefighters in the field and provide real-time information when needed through live video streaming. The VB400 body-worn camera offers 1080p recording, ensuring unbiased HD footage is captured at any point throughout a firefighter's working day, and can record for up to 12 hours.

Already an established piece of equipment within other emergency services throughout Europe, body-worn cameras are proven to deter aggression, de-escalate situations and generate valuable evidence for criminal convictions. Not only that, they are valuable for training and best practice; for information gathering by fire safety and fire investigation officers to corroborate actions taken and decisions made, as well as for quickly dismissing any false or malicious claims.

Motorola Solutions' body-worn cameras can be easily assigned using a firefighter's ID badge, offering log-in free RFID camera allocation, whilst ensuring all footage is associated with the correct user at all times. This maintains efficient workflows and means very little training is required to deploy cameras throughout each fire service. A simple press of a button activates recording, and all recorded evidence is stored securely in the system, accessible by authorised users only.

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The VB400 can be paired with a selection of Motorola Solutions two-way radios, meaning that the camera can automatically begin recording when your radio enters an emergency state, removing the requirement to press record in an emergency situation. Likewise, the VB400 can be activated when in the presence of another firefighters recording body-worn camera, known as Peer Assisted Recording, enabling multi-perspective evidence gathering of an incident.

The VB400 body-worn camera is supported by VideoManager, the back-end software system that enables recorded footage to be turned into incidents and paired with other relevant notes and data which can then be stored, reviewed and shared securely. Full audit trails ensure every action taken within VideoManager is traceable, protecting the integrity of any evidence gathered, and automatic deletion policies ensure that data is correctly stored and deleted in compliance with industry regulations.

As body-worn cameras become increasingly visible within France's Fire Services, ensuring that the video technology used is secure, reliable and easily integrated into the firefighters working day will become key to effective and efficient use. Whether used to deter violence, enable prosecution, assess procedures in the field or offer learning and development assistance, body-worn cameras allow firefighters to carry out their duties with a reliable, robust and independent witness on hand.



To learn more about Motorola Solutions body-worn camera for Firefighters, please visit www.motorolasolutions.com

Or, if you have any questions about the **VB400 body-worn camera** you can book some time to talk to our expert.

¹ l'Observatoire National de la Délinquance

² <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000044367862>