

Police Video Recording App

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Motivations

- In recent years, videos of citizen-police encounters have been used as sources by traditional media outlets
- Videos have changed citizens' perception of police officers, causing them to create new political movements, and have allowed citizens to witness public events that they otherwise might not have seen
- Last semester, the people of Tuscaloosa reacted to cell phone videos of Tuscaloosa Police officers using taser guns on University of Alabama students
- In April of 2015, the city of Baltimore protested after cell phone videos of Freddie Gray surfaced after his death in police custody

Our App

- Our app will allow users to make audio or video recordings of citizen-police encounters and save them locally with the option to upload them to a remote location (possibly to their YouTube or Dropbox accounts).
- We will try to attach metadata to the videos in order to validate their authenticity

Features

- The app will offer users the option of making either an audio or video recording
- The app will also contain a “Know Your Rights” section, which will outline the legality of making recordings of 2nd or 3rd parties in the public domain
- The app will give users the option to make notes about their experience
- The video will be saved locally and, when the phone has a network connection, will be uploaded to a remote location

Challenges

- Several applications that serve this purpose exist
- Speed of upload
- Dealing with network dependency
- Working with APIs

