

Axon reimagines report writing with Draft One, a first-of-its-kind AI-powered force multiplier for public safety

Built with thoughtful safeguards, Draft One saves officers one or more hours per day utilizing body-worn camera audio to produce draft police reports in seconds with greater quality and clarity

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz., April 23, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- [Axon](#) (Nasdaq: AXON), the global public safety technology leader, today introduced [Draft One](#), a revolutionary new software product that drafts high-quality police report narratives in seconds based on auto-transcribed body-worn camera audio. Draft One leverages Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) and includes a range of critical safeguards, requiring every report to be reviewed and approved by a human officer, ensuring accuracy and accountability of the information before reports are submitted.

For all law enforcement agencies, Draft One is a valuable tool that will be an immediate force multiplier for their workforce. Reporting is a critical component of good police work; however, it has become a significant part of the job that officers commonly refer to as "burdensome." Axon found that every week officers in the U.S. can spend up to 40% of their time — or 15 hours per week — on what is essentially data entry. Additionally, prosecutors and defense attorneys have shared that they welcome the quality improvement of Draft One reports as they can help support and accelerate the judicial process.

"Every single officer in the U.S. writes police reports, often every day and normally multiple times a day," said Axon CEO and Founder Rick Smith. "As we've done with Draft One, harnessing the power of AI will prove to be one of the most impactful technological advancements of our time to help scale police work and revolutionize the way public safety operates."

Augment and amplify officers to better serve their communities

Police departments across the U.S. are understaffed. While agencies are emphasizing hiring and retention, demand to fill open roles is low. The shortage results in longer response times to calls for service and officers working overtime, which can lead to burnout and be costly for taxpayers. Ultimately, Draft One has the potential to augment and amplify officers, giving them back time to better serve their communities.

Draft One is the latest giant leap toward Axon's [moonshot goal](#) to reduce gun-related deaths between police and the public.

Axon developed Draft One to positively impact the trajectory of what officers can achieve, allowing them to reclaim time for more meaningful and impactful work, such as investigations, patrol, training, wellness and rest.

Agency trials have resulted in roughly one hour of time saved per day on paperwork. For every eight officers who use Draft One during their day, that translates to an extra eight-hour shift or more. When officers can spend more time connecting with the community and taking care of themselves both physically and mentally, they can make better decisions that lead to more successful de-escalated outcomes. Draft One also increases job satisfaction by helping police officers get a quality head-start on a high-volume, time-consuming task.

Reduce paperwork and generate higher quality reports

Report narratives are written following calls for service and incidents in the community and are used to summarize these incidents within the overall police report. Draft One accelerates the tedious task of reporting like no other solution before, leveraging AI to create a draft narrative quickly. Audio from Axon Body 3 and 4 (BWC) camera footage is uploaded over LTE and transcribed automatically, so report drafts are available within five minutes of an incident ending.

"With over 27 years of experience in law enforcement, I have seen technology come and go, but Draft One is one of the most exciting innovations for law enforcement I have ever seen," said Fort Collins Colorado Police Services Sergeant Robert Younger. "Our agency has been testing Draft One, and we have seen an 82% decrease in time spent writing reports. Testing Officers have also shared that the quality of their reports has improved substantially, with Draft One including statements and actions that could have easily been overlooked or missed if done manually. Draft One has exceeded our expectations and will be a huge asset to our agency."

Axon conducted a double-blind study to compare the quality between report narratives written with Draft One and those without. Results showed that Draft One performed equal to or better than officer-only report narratives across five dimensions, including completeness, neutrality, objectivity, terminology and coherence. With higher quality and more consistent reports, the judicial system will have more clear, factual information to use to help accelerate justice when called for. [Learn more about the study](#), which was conducted with 24 independent experts, including district attorneys, field operations command staff and inclusion scholars.

Innovating responsibly at Axon

Axon's product development is driven by responsible innovation, grounded in a set of [guiding principles](#) in key areas to ensure that everything we do serves as a force for good. Axon recognizes the immense promise of ethical AI innovation and aims to harness cutting-edge AI technology to revolutionize public safety, all the while prioritizing the rigorous mitigation of biases and other potential risks. This includes building tools that preserve the crucial role of human decision-making with specific controls that keep officers in-the-loop, while significantly improving efficiency and efficacy.

Draft One includes a range of strict safeguards and requires that humans make the decisions in key moments:

- **Officer required to review and sign-off:** Once the report narrative has been edited and key information has been added, officers are required to sign-off on the report's accuracy before submitting for the next round of human review.
- **Adheres to the audio data:** Report narratives are drafted strictly from the audio transcript from the body-worn camera recording. Axon calibrated the underlying model for Draft One to prevent speculation or embellishments.
- **Controls to ensure proofreading:** Each draft includes placeholders that officers are required to edit, by either adding more information or removing the placeholder.
- **Report drafts are restricted to minor incidents and charges:** The default experience limits report drafts to minor incident types and charge levels, specifically excluding incidents where arrests took place and for felonies. With this default, agencies can get started with Draft One and gain tremendous value in expediting report writing for the overwhelming majority of reports officers submit. This allows agencies the option to gain experience on low severity reports first, then expand to more severe reports once they gain experience in how to use the tool effectively. Agencies can set a policy determining which reports are eligible for Draft One utilization, and the tool then ensures enforcement of the agency policy.

Axon rigorously tests AI-enabled products to measure inherent bias in the models before they are released. Axon also actively seeks external feedback from its [Ethics and Equity Advisory Council](#) (EEAC) and others during product development, as it has with Draft One. Input from Axon's EEAC resulted in purposeful additions to Draft One's development process and resulting product, including conducting the double-blind study to measure quality and to test for bias risks.

"Rigorous testing is essential for ensuring accuracy and ethical integrity in new technologies. I commend Axon for their proactive approach in appropriately addressing the inherent challenges that may come with large language models," said Axon Ethics and Equity Advisory Council member Broderick Turner, PhD. "Axon's dedication to refining language tone to mitigate biases, while leveraging technology for good is crucial for fostering an equitable society. I'm inspired to continue partnering with them to promote continuous improvement and innovation in public safety and believe their commitment to mitigate unintended consequences through bias testing and appropriate safeguards is the key to innovating responsibly."

Draft One is available today in the U.S. as part of the Axon ecosystem and works for Axon body-worn camera and Axon Evidence customers, with even easier and more seamless insertion into Axon Records incident reports. For agencies not yet using Axon Records, the generated reports can be easily inserted into their current RMS. Draft One was built on top of Microsoft's Azure OpenAI Service platform. Data is always secured within the Axon network, where transcripts and reports maintain agency security controls. Axon unveiled this latest technology innovation at its leading public safety technology and training conference, [Axon Week](#). To learn more about the news announced at Axon Week, see [Axon's blog](#).

About Axon

Axon is the technology leader in global public safety. Our moonshot goal is to cut gun-related deaths between police and the public in the U.S. by 50% before 2033. Axon is building the public safety operating system of the future by integrating hardware devices and cloud software solutions that lead modern policing, defense and security. The Axon ecosystem includes TASER energy devices, body-worn cameras, in-car cameras, cloud-hosted digital evidence management solutions, productivity software, real-time operations capabilities and third-party integrations through Axon's partner network. Axon's growing global customer base includes first responders across international, federal, state and local law enforcement, fire, corrections and emergency medical services, as well as the justice sector, commercial enterprises and consumers.

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