3/4/18

What is your experience with Security Cameras and equipment for PHA property including office, playground, maintenance and site.   Companies?   Good and bad experiences?   Lessons learned?

Security cameras are a great resource for the property law breaker; have caught on the cameras and used in court.

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Only have at office and entrance to the development.  Works good

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Fair to security .  Problems with equipment failure   Lots of internet issues with Frontier

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I absolutely love our security cameras. They’ve assisted in decreasing our crime rate tremendously. I used United Security Systems, Lufkin, Texas. The cameras have helped with many situations.

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Denison HA has had video cameras in the office and community center for a number of years. Cameras record all common areas (offices, community center, lobby, night drop box, parking lot, etc.).   The alarm company (Grayson Pro Tech) also installed the video systems (Alibi recorders). We have 16 cameras which can be singled out for one view at a time if needed. The recordings have been helpful to identify children who damaged back of building by pulling cable from wall;  can see date and time resident placed payment in night drop box; identified Neighbor who stole something from entrance ( not a resident) and simple things such as this.  Have signs in place showing VIDEO RECORDING in process.   Recently updated the recorder which now only records when movements activate them (instead of 8 hours of empty room).  Easy to run back for review and can print off the recording if necessary.  There are no cameras in the playgrounds or specifically for the apartments (some cameras do pick up a few apartments; but were not installed specifically for that reason).

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We don’t have the budget for security cameras, however we bought game cameras that are motion activated.  Legal Counsel said not to point the camera directly at a unit, but we can cover the parking lot and common areas.

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Not sure who installed but it’s next to impossible to find someone to work on them.

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We previously purchased and set up our own equipment to review/monitor as needed.

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Due to my sites being spread all over town, and needed not only electric service but WIFI in order to properly monitor, we have not installed any.  We have used game cameras on several sites when activity was suspicious.  However then you have to worry about them being stolen.

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We used a licensed Texas camera installer, Applied Network Security(ANS).    ANS acted as the general contractor and subbed the installation work out to Wildfire Systems.   Wildfire installed their proprietary cameras, but they only worked for one day.    Both the general and subcontractor blamed each other for the installation problems, and we never had a functioning system.     Lessons learned:  1.   Never install camera systems with proprietary systems.   Make sure any needed replacement camera, parts, etc… can be purchased through normal methods i.e. internet, local vendors/stores  2.  Require payment/performance bonds on projects over $50,000.  3.  Write into specifications the requirements for employee training.   4.  Use a professional vendor who specializes in surveillance systems.

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-Cameras are great to have.  We have them installed in our laundry rooms and this has stopped vandalism.

-Cameras are installed in our community centers and this helps us view the activities going on in these areas.

-Cameras are installed in some of our parking areas and these have helped our Police Department when they come seeking information with investigations.

-We do not have a company who is monitoring these cameras.  Our Executive Director, Director of Finance/HR and Director of Operations have monitors on their computers which display all the cameras.  There is peace of mind knowing that if there is an incident, we have some insight on what happened.

-No bad experiences.

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Mainly good; majority of residents like them; wireless has improved over the years and gives more freedom

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Good, EyeOn Security, we need more cameras

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Have Security equipment at the office and maintenance. Very efficient , no problems .The company was thru Dean Thetford, Coriscana

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self installed    no real experience one way or the other       serve as deterrents

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At this time we only have security cameras in & around the main staff offices/shop/board meeting room/office parking areas.  It has helped & the notices seem to help people “stay on task” since they know that they are being video & audio taped/dvr.  We use vallance security a local service in schertz that the police dept also uses.  We are not directly hooked up to the police.

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3D Security Camera.  I am giving the police department the rights to view for Criminal Activities.  They are improving for friendly user.