

**TITUS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
EXTERIOR SECURITY CAMERAS**

Commissioners:

The Titus County Historical Commission and the Titus County Veteran Service Office is requesting consideration for additional outside coverage of the Courthouse Grounds. County Judge Brian Lee was first approached about this issue and he referred me to Paul Lindsey for specific input on the present system and expansion capability. Paul reviewed the system with me and noted the coverage area provided by the system as it stands. Blind spots and areas of no coverage at all of the outside Courthouse and Grounds were noted. Paul identified the coverage areas for the 16 camera system at the Annex and the 12 camera system for the Courthouse. In doing so, Paul noted that the Courthouse system has the capacity to add 4 (four) additional cameras to its system. Paul gave me a "ballpark" figure of about \$400 per camera or about \$1,000 with hardware and installation.

More and more public activities and events are being scheduled and conducted on the Courthouse grounds and parking areas. In the past, during a night event, several individuals were found to have gained access to the south basement area, but were not able to get past the locked doors of the Custodian and Veteran Service Office before they were discovered by event staff. Graffiti has been found on the Courthouse East sidewalks and parking areas. Chalk was used in one of the incidents and was cleaned up without much trouble or expense. Spray paint was found on one West side bench, but was cleaned by the VSO with cleaning compound, solvent and wire brush.

The addition of these cameras for the outside of the Courthouse Grounds will definitely provide more security and may even prevent some malicious mischief or damage in the future, or possibly lead to the identification of such perpetrators, who could then be held accountable for such actions.

I have related this information to the Judge and he has directed me to bring this information to your attention. Thank You for your consideration on this matter.

Budget-wise, the cost of these additions could come from the "Courthouse Security Fund".

Commissioners Court Minutes: November 14, 2016; Agenda Item #12, ...Designate Titus County Commissioners' Court as the "Controlling Entity" Related to Memorials and Monuments located on County Property...

Thank You;

Steve Austin

TCHC / VSO