



Customer Case Study **Southwest ISD**

District Wide SB 507 Compliance

THE CUSTOMER

Located in Southwest San Antonio, Texas, Southwest ISD is an independent school district that covers 115 square miles with approximately 18 school campuses and 13,500 students. This district has 2,151 employees.

THE CHALLENGE

The district was searching for a company to provide a Senate Bill 507 Special Education Classroom Camera system to comply with the new law put into effect by the Texas Legislature. This law requires compliance from all special education classrooms within all districts throughout the State. This SB 507 system would need to be stand-alone, cover every square foot of each classroom with cameras and audio recording microphones, and record and store up to six months of video and audio for review upon request by a select group of people as specified by law (parents, law enforcement, school Special Ed administrators, etc.).

This SB 507 system could not be connected to any other camera systems on campus, and could not be monitored by anyone for any reason outside of a legitimate event request by authorized personnel.

As an unfunded mandate, SB 507 is not funded by the State and must be cost effective for the district as well as provide the necessary compliance functionality to meet the State standards.

THE SOLUTION

First Service Technology (FST) was selected by the district to install a SB 507 specific system that delivered all of the requirements necessary for compliance, while providing cost effectiveness and operational efficiencies. The system's core feature was the diagnostic dashboard function that allows system operators to view real-time information on the system, from the cameras to the storage and recording functionality. This diagnostic dashboard empowers IT managers and Special Ed staff to see how the system is operating at all times, without the need to view video on the live system, which is against the SB 507 law. Video can not be viewed without there being a requested event to facilitate it. Therefore, the dashboard acts as a key enabler to guarantee the system and all of its components are operational during school classroom hours.

FST installed the SB 507 system across SWISD to ensure compliance. Once compliant, the FST team trained all users and operators on the system for maximum value.

As soon as the system was in place, the district immediately had to deal with two events that were discovered from a parent request. These incidents, which were captured by the FST SB 507 system, were brought to light and critical decisions were made based on the recorded video. District officials took immediate action and the district was able to rectify the situation while setting an example as a leader in classroom safety for all districts around the city of San Antonio.

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