SAVANNAH POLICE DEPARTMENT
UAS Program Overview

Project Manager:
Sgt. M. Nowinsky
mnowinsky@savannahga.gov
What is a UAS?

• UAS stands for: Unmanned Aircraft System
• Describes the complete system to include the aircraft, controller, and the link between the two
• UAS is not capable of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft
• sUAS: weighs more than 0.55 lbs and less than 55 lbs including payload
• The devices used by SPD will be classified as sUAS
Benefits

• The Savannah Police Department anticipates that the use of UAS’s will allow us to provide better, more efficient services in specific types of incidents.

• UAS’s can be deployed quickly by trained personnel

• UAS’s are more cost effective than other aviation options

• UAS’s can be used in areas, and situations where traditional aviation may not be the best option
Devices

• DJI Inspire 1 2.0
• Will be utilized to photograph crime scenes, and major accident scenes. Primarily will be operated by the Forensic Unit.
• Equipped with a professional style camera that allows 360 degree aerial photography which may significantly reduce the time it takes to properly document crime scenes and major accidents.
Devices

• DJI Matrice 210
• Professional grade device that is weatherproof
• Will be equipped with a standard camera and FLIR.
• Used for search and rescue missions, and other tactical applications
Devices

• DJI Mavic Air
• Will be used by SWAT for tactical operations
Pilot Training

• Pilots are authorized to fly sUAS by the FAA under two conditions:
• Part 107 Certification
• Flying under a Certificate of Authorization (COA)
• The Savannah Police Department will require pilots to meet both standards.
• The department will have FAA approved COA’s which will outline the parameters in which we can operate
• Pilots will also be required to attend formal training to prepare them for the Part 107 Certification test.
Pilot Training cont.

• Pilots will be required to conduct monthly training flights
• They will be required to attend annual training that reviews:
  • Department Policy
  • COA
  • State and Federal Law regarding sUAS operations
• These training requirements take into account the expectation that laws and regulations that impact sUAS operations will continue to evolve and we recognize the need to have a system in place to ensure that we maintain strict compliance with all laws, rules, and regulations that address sUAS operations.
Pre-Approved Missions

• The sUAS Team Leader must approve all missions including:
  • Monthly training flights
  • Search and rescue missions for elderly, juvenile, or endangered persons
  • Tactical Operations
  • Crime Scene Processing
  • Major Accident Investigations
  • Post Incident Assessment/Evaluation (Weather related, Mass Casualty)
  • Special Event Public Safety Assessments (Races, Festivals, Public Gatherings)

• All missions must comply with the parameters set forth in the COA approved by the FAA
Prohibited Uses

• sUAS owned and operated by the Savannah Police Department will NOT be utilized for any of the following:
  • Random Patrol or surveillance
  • Will not be equipped with any lethal or non-lethal weapons
  • sUAS’s will not be operated in conditions or in situations that interfere with the ability to safely operate the device
Documentation

- A formal policy has been drafted and will be approved before sUAS operations begin.
- The policy will cover approved uses, prohibited actions, pilot and observer training requirements, and other specific requirements regarding the safe and effective use of sUAS’s.
- Every device will have a flight log.
- Accurate flight and training records will be maintained.
- Every time an sUAS is used for an actual mission, the operators will complete a report.
QUESTIONS?

Sgt. M. Nowinsky
mnowinsky@savannahga.gov
912-525-3100 ext 1753