



Manatee County Board of County Commissioners Administrative Policy Manual

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) - Drone Policy

Policy #: H.1

Date Issued: 02/26/19

Purpose

The purpose of a Manatee County Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS – drone policy is to support and augment the County's ability to efficiently provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public and County staff. This policy and associated procedure set forth the terms and conditions for the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in County department operations and are intended to ensure the safe and responsible operation of the County's unmanned aircraft, regardless of the nature of the mission.

Policy

This policy regulated the use of UAVs, commonly referred to as drones. UAVs are a component of an Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) program. This policy applies to all department users, including Manatee County Administrators, employee, temporary personnel, contractors and their agents. Violation of this policy may lead to revocation of user privileges and disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment. It is important to maintain personnel licensed and trained in the use of UAVs and to ensure this resource is deployed lawfully to protect life and property and to support County departments in providing services to Manatee County citizens.

The County UAS Team which includes the Program Manager and Program Coordinators are authorized to utilize the UAVs and associated technologies and are expected to implement the County's UAS Program to improve and expedite emergency management, mapping and measuring, damage assessments, and other authorized tasks that can be accomplished more safely and cost effectively through the use of UAS technology.

Safety and privacy concerns are priorities in the implementation of the County's UAS Program. The policy is intended to supplement and does not replace state and federal laws and regulations governing UAS operations, all other applicable County policies and procedures, and aircraft manufacturers' approved flight manual.

Originator, Title and Department Name

Diana Robinson, Energy Manager, Property Management

Authority

14 CFR Part 107

14 CFR Parts 21, 43, 61; Operation and Certification of Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems;
Final Rule US DOT-FAA Advisory Circular – AC No. 107-2 FDOT

History

None

Related Procedures

[801.000 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle \(UAS\) - Drone Procedure](#)

Issued and Sunset Dates

Issue Date: 02/26/19

Sunset Date: 02/26/28