

2016 UAV Report to Government Operations Interim Committee

Statutory requirement under 63G-18-105 that requires the Department of Public Safety to transmit a report to the Government Operations Interim Committee containing a summary of the information reported to the department regarding unmanned aircraft systems (or UAV) use by law enforcement agencies, the total number of warrants authorizing the operation of a UAV, and the number of denied warrants for the operation of a UAV.

The only agency that submitted a report regarding UAV use from May 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016, was DEM. A report outlining the flight information that was submitted is included. DPS discontinued UAV flights last spring as a result of our becoming aware that a certificate of authorization (COA) was required from the FAA in order to fly. Since that time, we were advised that the UAV's could be flown if hobbyist regulations were adhered to. We are currently working through the process of obtaining authorization to fly from the FAA. One of the challenges we are experiencing is the FAA requirement that a UAV pilot be a certified pilot in order to obtain the COA. It is unknown whether or not other law enforcement agencies have obtained authorization from the FAA, or if they are flying UAV's as no reports were submitted to DPS.

There were no reports submitted to DPS regarding the cost for a UAV program or source of funding that may have been provided.

Incident date	Agency	Data Type	Use type	Used for	Benefit of use
9/1/2015	DEM	Video	Other	Media interview with ABC4 to demonstrate Utah DEM UAV capabilities. Flight operation took place at Liberty Park in SLC and involved three flights.	Engaging in flights helps the pilot to maintain proficiency in operation of the UAV.
9/17/2015	DEM	Video	Search and Rescue	Search and Rescue during Hildale flooding as part of the joint information center team.	The UAV was flown over flooded and response areas to document the work being done by search teams.
9/18/2015	DEM	Video	Search and Rescue	Search and Rescue during Hildale flooding as part of the joint information center team.	The UAV was flown over flooded and response areas to document the work being done by search teams.
10/5/2015	DEM	Video	Other	Media interview in response to the UAV use during the Hilldale flooding.	This helps demonstrate how UAVs can be helpful in a variety of applications, including search and rescue, emergency communications and disaster documentation without having to hire an expensive helicopter for similar video.

- 1- None of the uses required a warrant
- 2- None of the data came from a private source