

OFFICE OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS

NOTICE
1.18

October 30, 2017

TO: All Commanding Officers

FROM: Director, Office of Special Operations

SUBJECT: SMALL UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS ONE-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM


On October 17, 2017, the Board of Police Commissioners approved a request by the Department to start a one-year pilot program for the use of the small Unmanned Aerial System (sUAS), commonly known as drones, in limited tactical and search and rescue situations. The Department has established guidelines for the use of these devices, and their deployment will undergo a stringent review process. Each request for deployment will require the approval of the Commanding Officer, Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau (CTSOB) and notification to the Director, Office of Special Operations, and the Chief of Police. Additionally, the devices can only be piloted by specially trained and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certified members of Metropolitan Division, Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT).

Other than the sUAS approved and acquired by the Department, no other such devices are authorized to be used, nor shall any Department personnel other than those specifically trained and certified, utilize such devices in the workplace. Personnel who own similar devices for recreational purposes shall not bring them to the workplace or use them while on-duty. It is critical that we maintain the trust of the community in abiding by the rules set forth in the sUAS one-year pilot program.

Should you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Commander Ed Prokop, at (213) 846-8780.


BEATRICE M. GIRMALA, Assistant Chief
Director, Office of Special Operations

APPROVED:


SEAN W. MALINOWSKI, Deputy Chief
Chief of Staff
Office of the Chief of Police

Attachment

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