



POLICING ADVISORY COMMISSION

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

6:35pm to 8:50pm
[Meeting Virtually](#)

Meeting Minutes

Commission members present: Kristy Daphnis, Christina DeLane, Vernon Ricks, Laurie Ekstrand, Cherri Branson, Ty McKinney, Eric Sterling [7 attendees]

Commission members absent: Ruhama Endishaw, Robin Gaster [2 absent]

Ex-officio members present: Sgt. Cate Brewer (FOP), Capt. Jordan Satinsky (MCPD) [2 attendees]

Support staff: Susan Farag [1 staff]

Guests: Captain Jason Cokinos, MCPD; Lt. Doug Miller, MCPD; Dale Phillips, MCPD; Heidi Rhodes (Jews United for Justice) [4 guests]

Mr. Sterling called the meeting to order at 6:35PM.

I. Attendance and Administrative Items

- Council staff took attendance and began recording the meeting. Chair Sterling confirmed at 6:42 that 7 members were present, which represents a quorum.
- Total attendees: 14

II. Approval of Minutes (September 2022 and July 2023)

- **VOTE:** The PAC voted (7-0) to approve the minutes.

III. Development of Annual Report

- The PAC discussed the annual report.
- Mr. Sterling had sent out Version 4 (draft) before the meeting, and requested any comments.

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- Ms. Ekstrand wanted to ensure all data requests were included, perhaps attached as an appendix.
- Mr. Ricks stated 10 pages is a fairly long report and suggested that there be a summary at the beginning.
- Ms. Branson agreed with Mr. Ricks and asked for a list of all the PAC meetings.
- Ms. Daphnis remarked that many commissions may not have met as often during COVID, and Mr. Sterling indicated that the PAC has been meeting virtually since its inception. And virtual meetings have helped maximize access and attendance.
- Mr. Ricks asked to thank both staff and the Police Department in the report for their help and support.
- **ACTION: Mr. Sterling will make the suggested changes.**

IV. Pilot program: Drone as First Responder (Captain Jason Cokinos and Lt. Doug Miller, MCPD)

- Captain Cokinos provided an overview of the DFR pilot program (slide deck attached to minutes).
- He advised that he understands there may be some community concern about privacy and noted that the drones do not have audio or facial recognition capabilities.
- Mr. Ricks asked how the drones could avoid potential obstacles like power lines and Capt. Cokinos described the drone's geofencing capabilities, so that certain objects could be geofenced and the drone would automatically stop before any collision.
- Mr. Ricks asks if there were loudspeaker capabilities to speak to anyone on the ground and Capt. Cokinos stated there were not.
- Ms. Branson asked what types of calls would trigger a drone response. Capt. Cokinos explained that the pilot would be listening to live calls and determine which calls would benefit from a drone response.
- Ms. Branson asked why Wheaton and Silver Spring were picked as the pilot locations. Capt. Cokinos said they conceivably could be used across the county but the pilot if focusing on areas with higher calls for service. In addition, the department looked at which shifts and districts had the shortest staffing.
- Ms. Branson asked about how physical reports will be generated. Capt. Cokinos indicated every flight will be logged, and there will be a data dashboard online that is updated daily.
- Ms. Branson asked about other jurisdictions and whether they have had any complaints or concerns by the community. The only concerns were regarding privacy from camera recordings, which MCPD will address by keeping the camera pointed up to the sky until the drone arrives close to the area of the 911 call, and MPIA requests, which will be handled the same way they have been to keep things consistent. He mentioned that he is working with Councilmembers to hold public forums, including one in Wheaton on 9/12, to explain the program to residents. This will provide an opportunity for feedback and questions.
- Mr. McKinney asked how many manhours were needed to run the program. Capt. Cokinos stated that it was two sites, 40 hours a week.
- Mr. Sterling asked whether there would be a function code policy created. Capt. Cokinos said there is one for current drones. It will be updated shortly to reflect the DFR.
- Mr. Ricks asked if drones would be used for surveillance and Capt. Cokinos said no.

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- Mr. Ricks asked if they work with gun shot detections and Capt. Cokinos said no, but eventually could integrate with the Violent Crime Information Center by sharing the livestream video from the drone with the analysts.
- Ms. Branson asked how long the pilot would be. Capt. Cokinos stated through FY24 and then if it is successful, it will be planned for in the FY25 recommended budget.
- Ms. Branson asked what are the measures of success? Capt. Cokinos stated that the department will look at response times, whether DFR can help reduce the number of officer responses, and attach a cost per hour to police officer + car + equipment/per hour, and estimate any actual cost savings. MCPD will also track de-escalations and crime apprehensions due to the DFR program.
- Ms. Branson asked how people would make complaints. Capt. Cokinos said they could be sent by email and to the PAB, which is the same process as any other police complaint.
- Mr. Ricks asked if the drones could respond to FRS events, too, and Capt. Cokinos said yes if appropriate.
- Mr. Sterling thanked Capt. Cokinos for the presentation.

V. Update on Virtual Reality Training

- Mr. McKinney has been working with the department to research and select a VRT module. He asked for an update. Captain Satinsky provided a brief update, that a vendor had been selected but they were in the middle of contract negotiations, and he could not disclose the vendor yet.
- Ms. Branson asked about the procurement method, scope of work, etc. and Capt. Satinsky believed it was grant funded, but he said he would find out and provide the information.
- Mr. McKinney stated he had ongoing concerns about whether there was implicit bias built into the software program.

VI. [Bill 12-23](#) Police – Traffic Stops - Limitations (STEP ACT) – discuss recommendation to Public Safety Committee (now postponed until the fall)

- Mr. Sterling had circulated a draft created by Dr. Gaster.
- Ms. Ekstrand stated she would like to return to the original language in the draft after stating the PAC has not concluded disparities means there is racism in the department.
- Ms. Branson stated it should be deleted.
- Mr. McKinney stated it was not necessary for the PAC to comment on whether it believes there is racism in the department.
- Mr. McKinney stated that he had concerns about the consent search prohibition in the bill and that Councilmember Jawando had previously stated he was amenable to amending it. In Mr. McKinney's experience, they could be very useful. What Mr. McKinney would like to see is that individuals are clearly given the right to refuse to be searched, without penalty.
- Ms. Ekstrand indicated she would like to require officers to speak their reasons for asking for a consent search into their Body Worn Cameras, for the record.
- Mr. McKinney stated that if there is probable cause, there is no need to request permission to search. He'd like to see it codified similar to Miranda warnings.
- Mr. Ricks and Ms. Branson questioned whether the consent search might be misused more often in certain neighborhoods.
- Mr. Sterling asked for Sgt. Brewer's opinion. She stated that police are taught they cannot ask a leading question. They must complete the original stop first before asking for a consent search. The

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academy does not teach consent searches because they do not have the experience yet to surmise when a consent search may be helpful, and they are trained later on that.

- Mr. Sterling called for a vote on the modified letter. He said there would be two major changes. One was to take out the two sentences that may infer conclusions drawn about whether police were racist or not. The second was to request an amendment on consent searches, stating they were a valuable tool, but could be misused. The amendment should explicitly require officers to tell individuals they may decline a search, without consequence.
- Ms. Branson motioned to adopt these changes. Mr. McKinney seconded it.
- **VOTE:** The Pac voted 5-1, with Mr. Ricks opposed and Ms. Delane abstaining.
- **ACTION:** Mr. Sterling will revise the letter and circulate.

VII. Adjourned

- Ms. Daphnis moved to adjourn; Mr. McKinney seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

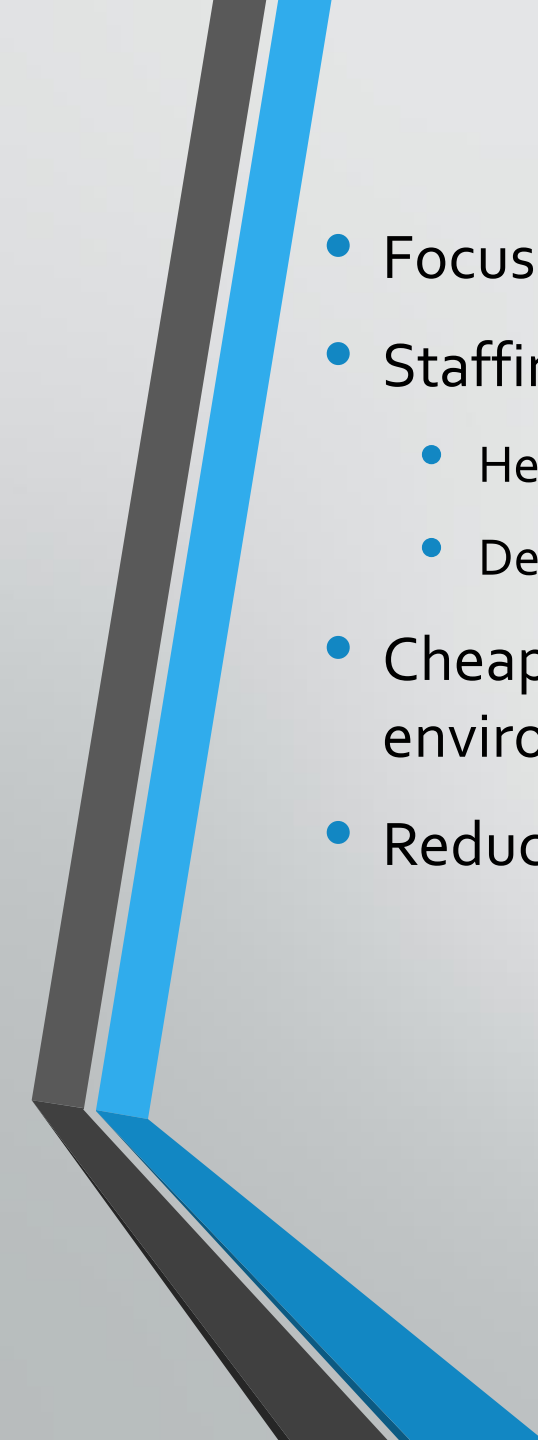
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Drone as First Responder (DFR)

Drone as First Responder (DFR): The DFR program utilizes a UAS to fly to a call for service and arrive prior to, or in conjunction with, first responders on the ground. DFR assists in helping evaluate the scene and circumstances before officers arrive and while an event is ongoing. This will provide necessary tactical information and situational awareness to help officers safely respond to incidents, de-escalate situations, and increase efficiency.

- 
- Focused program – related to police calls for service
 - Staffing issues
 - Helps with response times
 - Decision making, de-escalation, and enhances public safety.
 - Cheaper and safer than a helicopter – doesn't burn fuel, clean for environment.
 - Reduces unnecessary law enforcement contacts in certain circumstances.

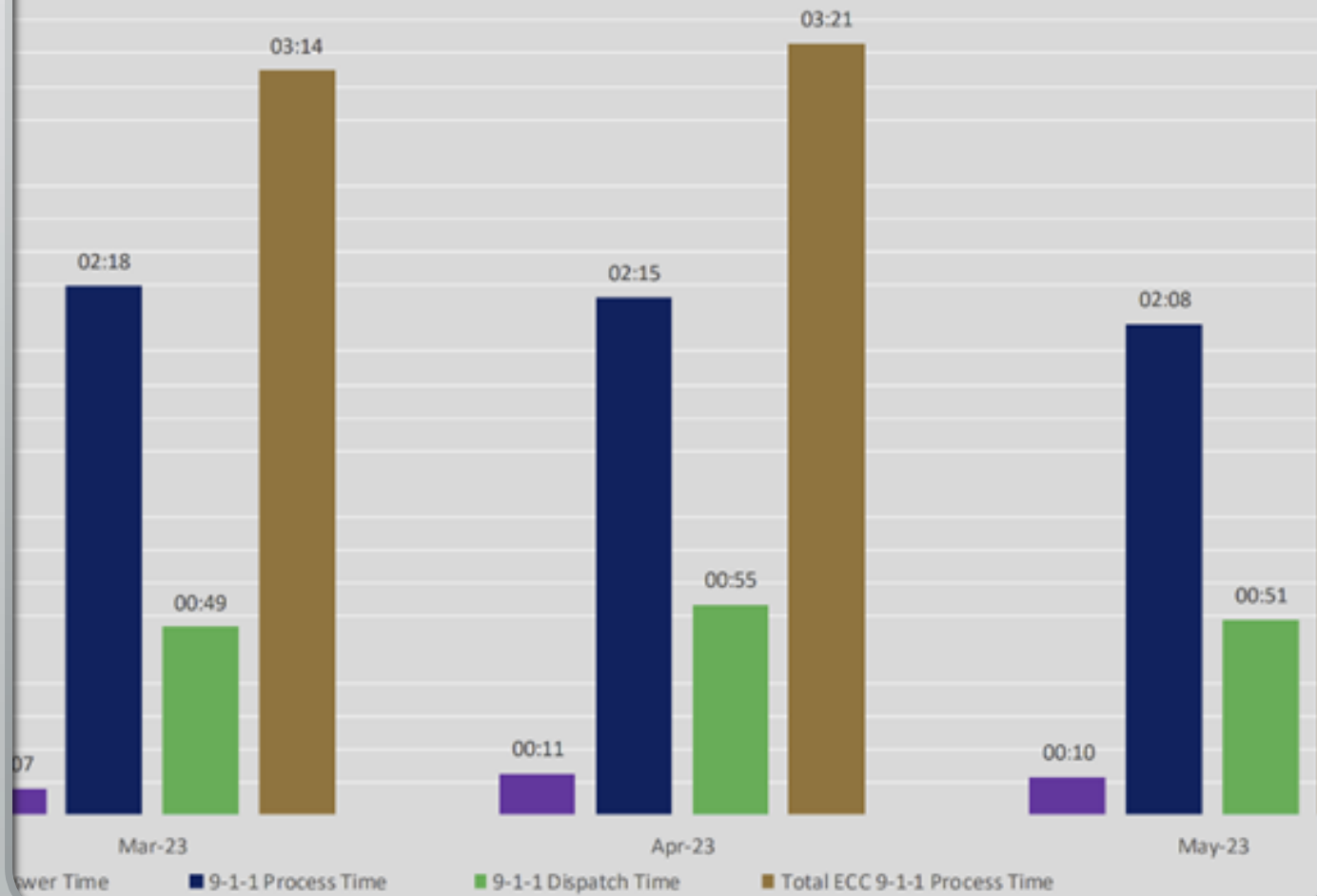
D. Restrictions on Operating the UAS

1. The UAS shall be deployed and used only to support official law enforcement and public safety activities to include outreach and community engagement.
2. The UAS shall not be operated in an unsafe manner or in violation of FAA rules.
3. Collection, use, dissemination, or retention of UAS-recorded data will not be based solely on individual characteristics (e.g., race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, or gender) or *to identify persons participating in lawful* First Amendment-protected activities.
4. *UAS shall not be used for the purposes of facial recognition or for the collection of audio/voice recordings.*

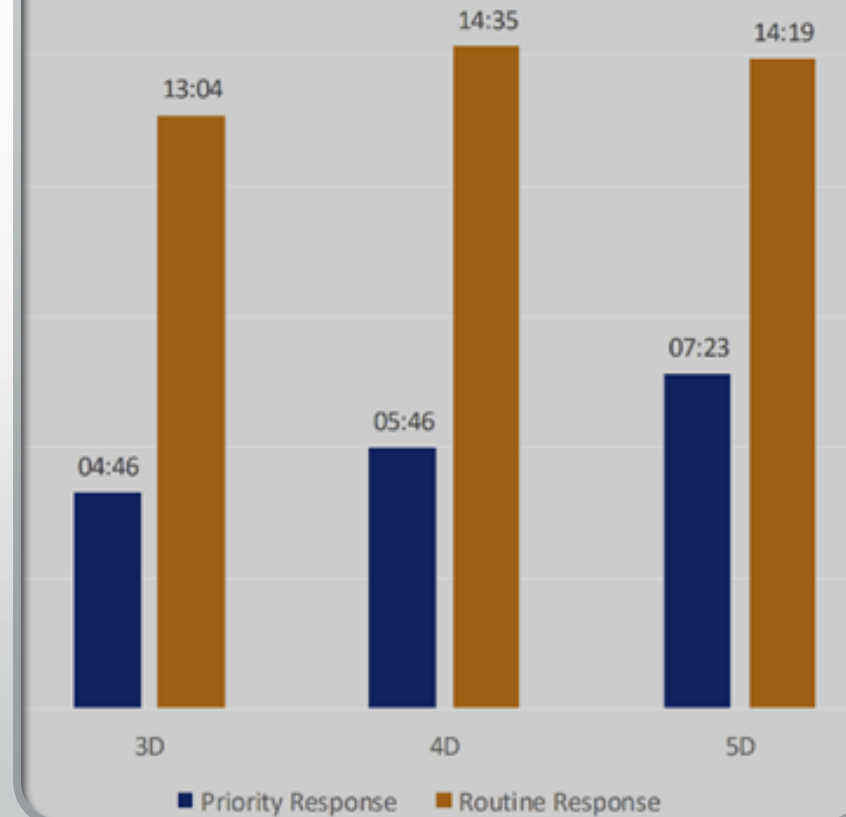
Drone as First Responder: (DFR)



TY INCIDENTS – AVERAGE TIMES



Emergency Communications RESPONSE TIMES – MAY 2023



HigherGround 9.2022 UI

live911svr/wbi/

CAPE-MTORDLA LIVE-911

Welcome, CBH-watchcommander!

Powered by HG

Unit ID:

LIVE 911 Monitor

Mute 0:15

Stop Player Move To Start

In order to get the most accurate geo location you need to run the Live911-GpsProxy application on your device. If you have already downloaded it then make sure that its running on your device. If you have not downloaded it then you can download it from the following link. Click [here](#) to download the application. This application reads the geo location of this device from the GPS receiver installed on this device and hence will provide the most accurate location. [Hide this message](#)

Distance	Damms	Location	Caller ID
1.41		136 N Willaman Dr, Beverly Hills	(323) 309-0592

Current: Current

(323) 309-0592, 136 N Willaman Dr, Beverly Hills

Call Start: 6/6/2023, 2:01:52 PM Approx Duration: 11 sec Channel: CLU1-006 Station: 6 Station Name: Cad 6

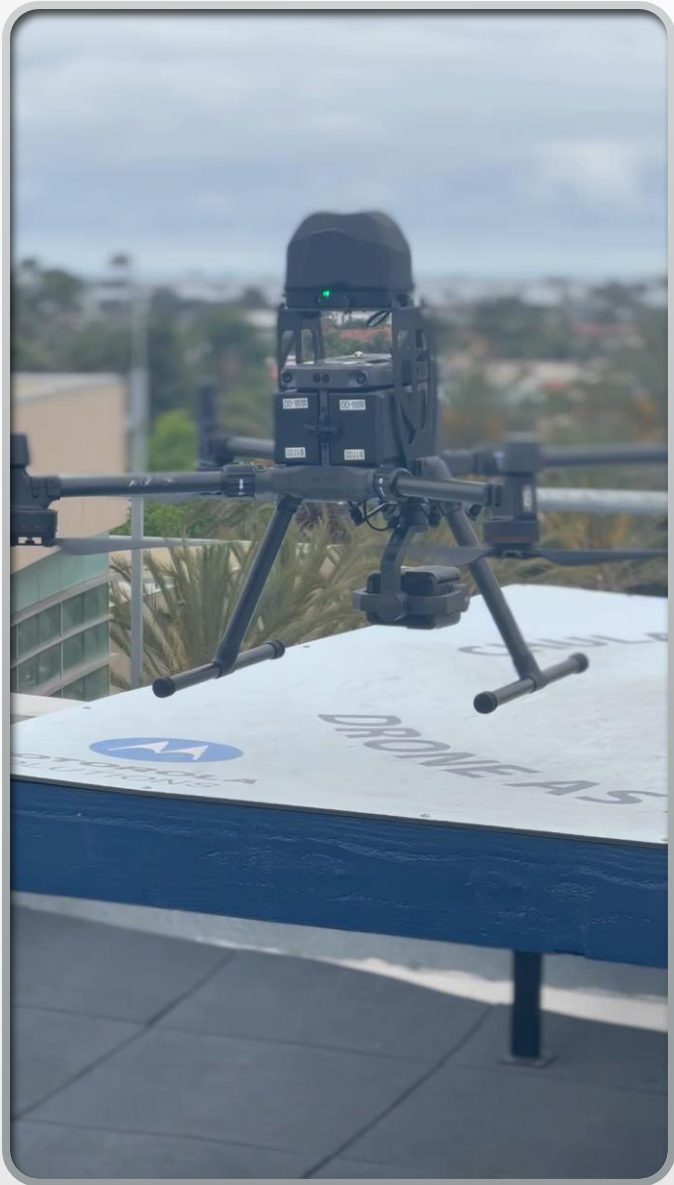
Leaflet | Powered by Esri | Bureau of Land Management, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, NGA, USGS, U...

Leaflet | Powered by Esri | Bureau of Land Management, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, NGA, USGS, U...

65°F Cloudy

Search

2:02 PM 6/6/2023



DJI Matrice 300 RTK



Weight: About 20 LBS

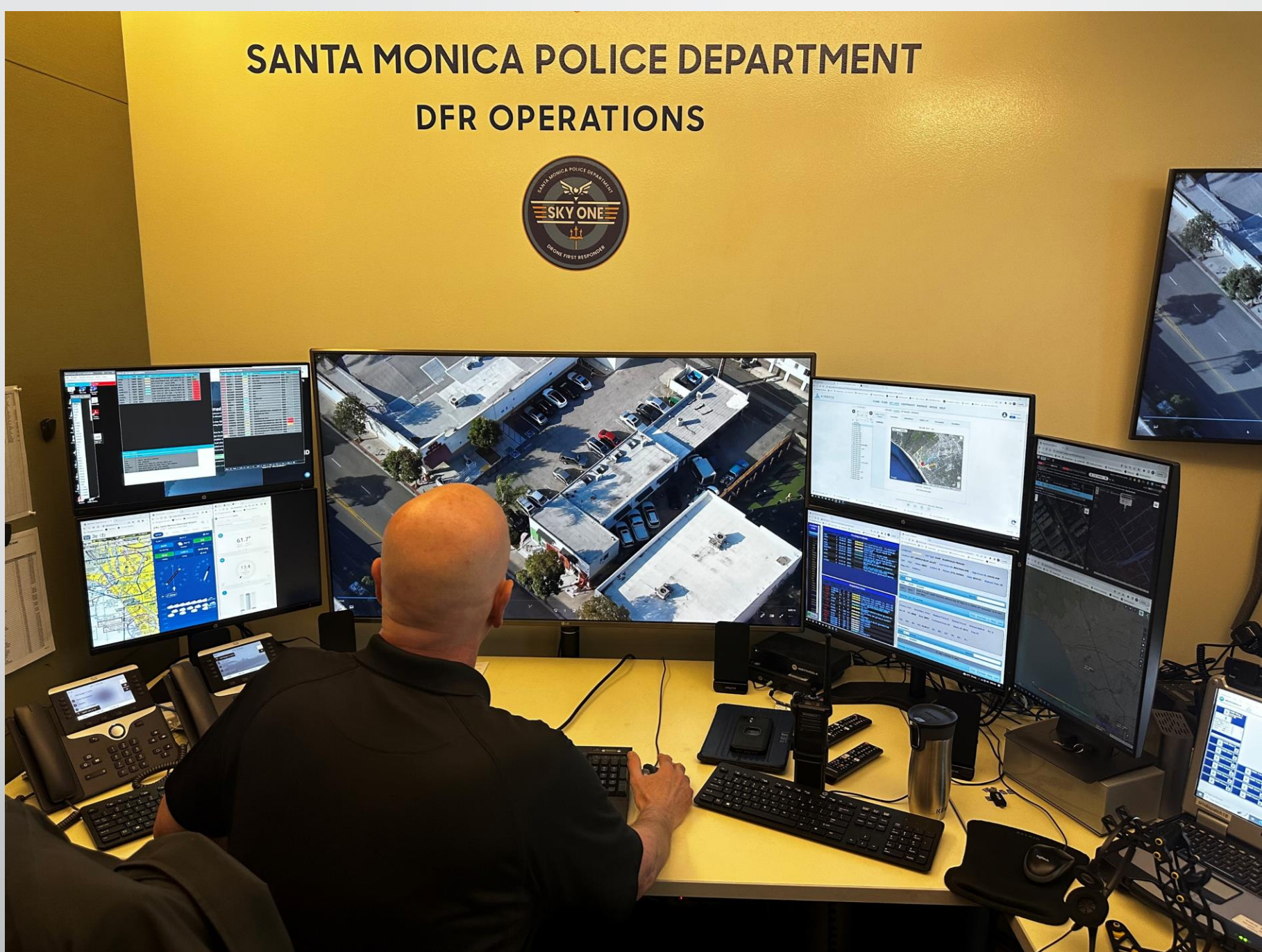
Speed: Up to 51 MPH

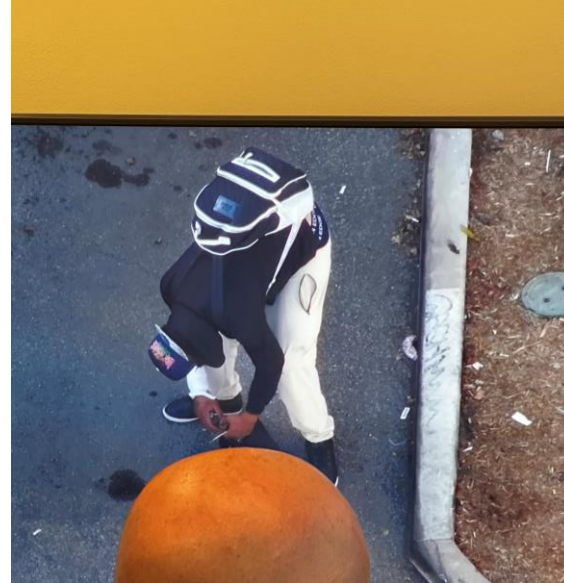
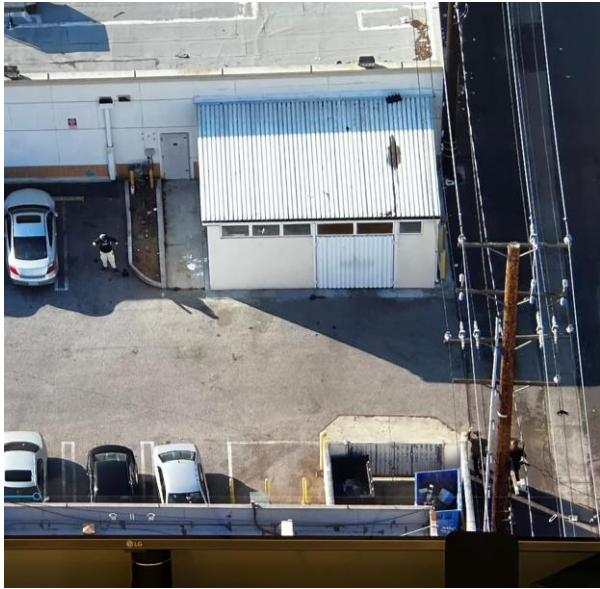
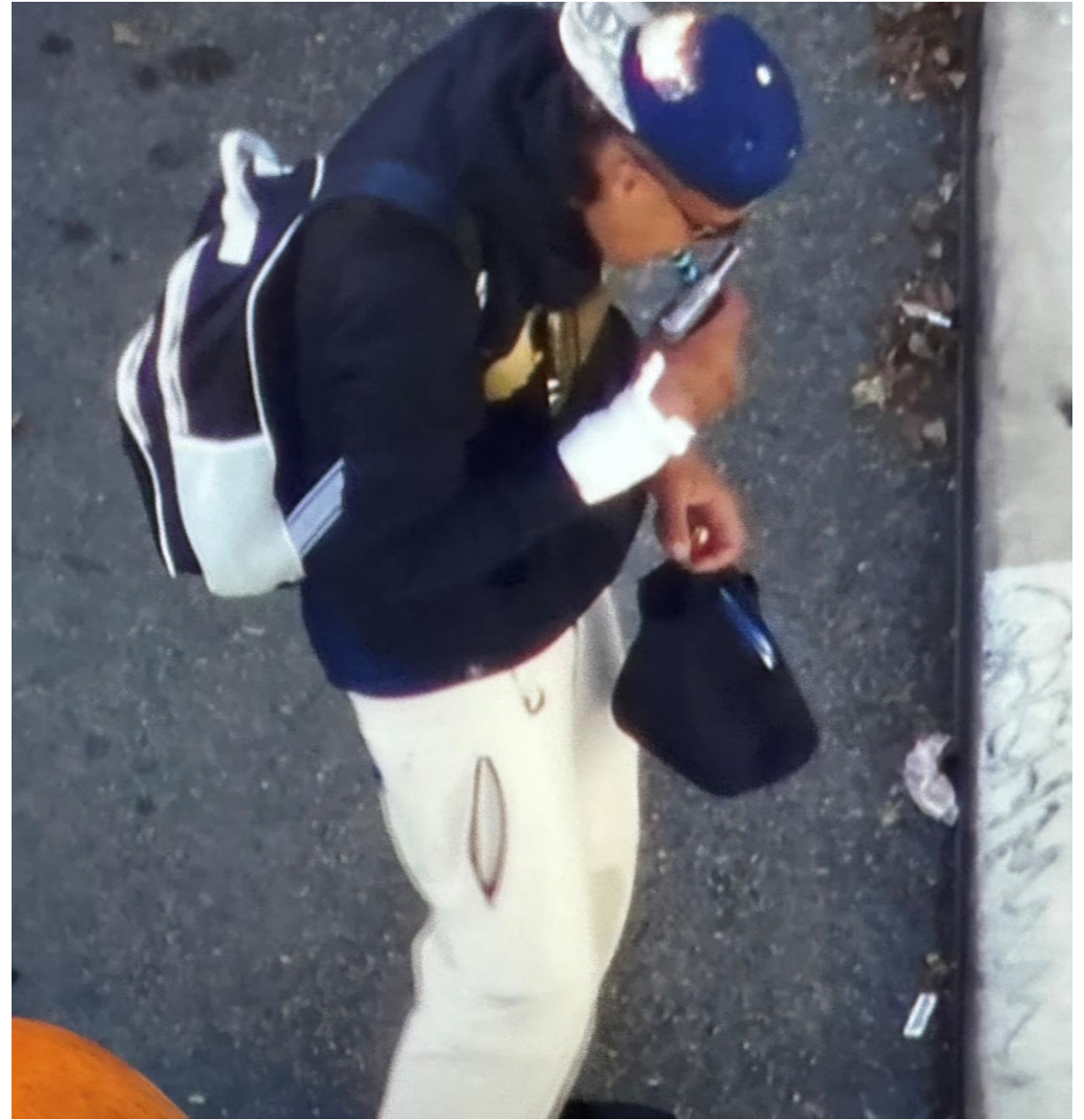
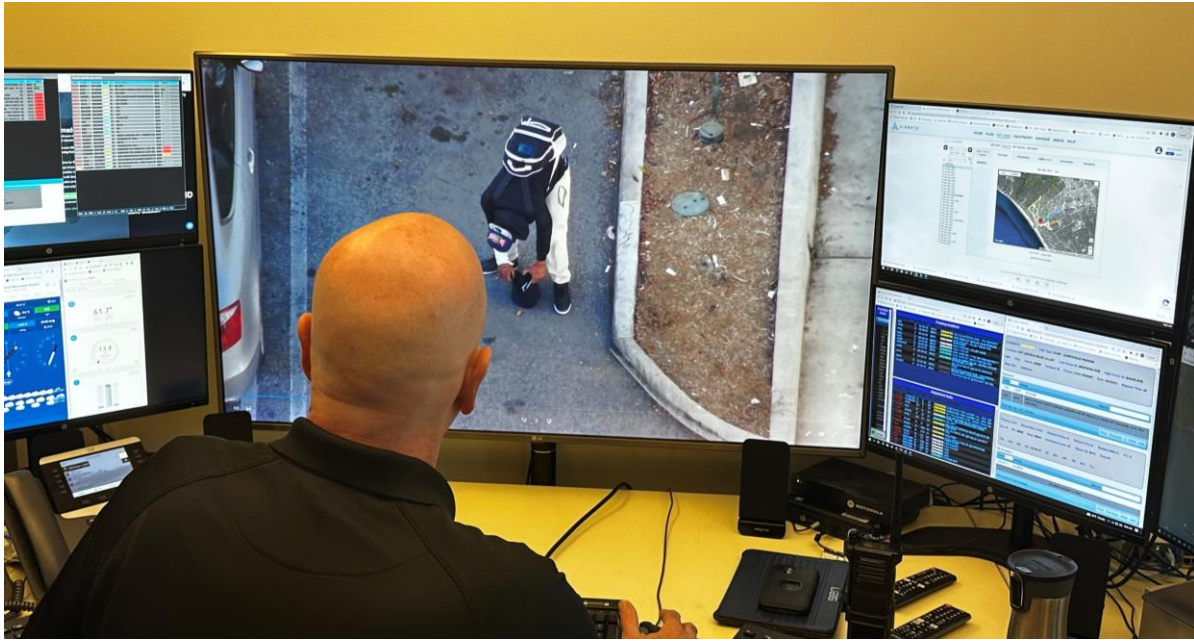
Flight Time: Up to 55 Minutes

Flying at 400 FT above ground / buildings

SANTA MONICA POLICE DEPARTMENT

DFR OPERATIONS





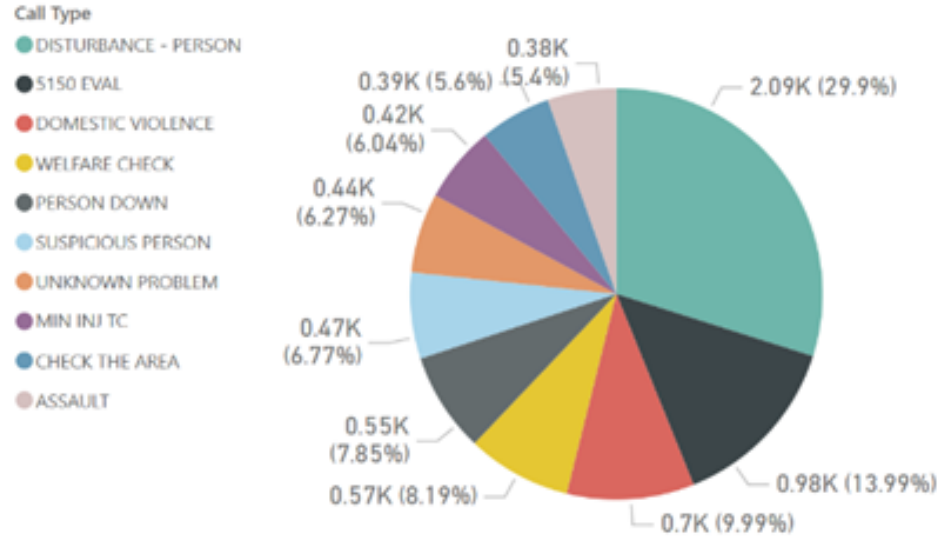


CHULA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT - DRONE AS FIRST RESPONDER (DFR)

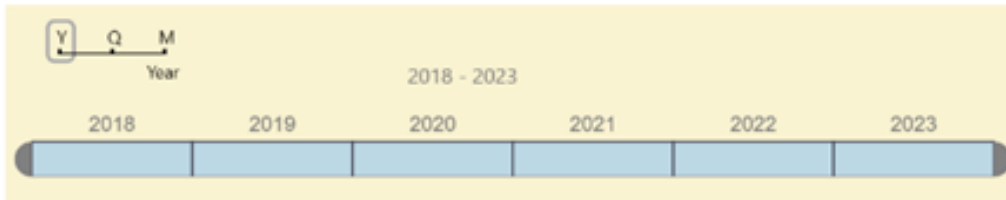
CHULA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT DFR PROGRAM FACTS

- * Selected as part of the IPP on October 2018
- * First program in the nation using Drones as a First Responder (DFR). [See FAA site](#)
- * Current status: DFR Pilot Program currently based from CVPD HQ with limited flight range of about 1 mile radius
- * Common use of drones in Chula Vista: Drones as first responders, documenting crime and accident scenes, searching for missing or wanted persons, fires, and evaluating damage after a major incident or natural disasters
- * Program envisioned December 2015

TOP 10 CALLS RESPONDED WITH DFR ASSISTANCE



PLEASE SELECT A TIME FRAME



DFR ACTIVITY BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL CALLS RESPONDED TO

15530

DFR ASSISTED ARRESTS

2087

DFR DEPLOYMENT AVOIDED
DISPATCHING A PATROL UNIT

3762

DFR FIRST ON SCENE COUNT

11.53K

AVG RESPONSE TIMES - FIRST ON SCENE
(IN SECONDS) *

97.51

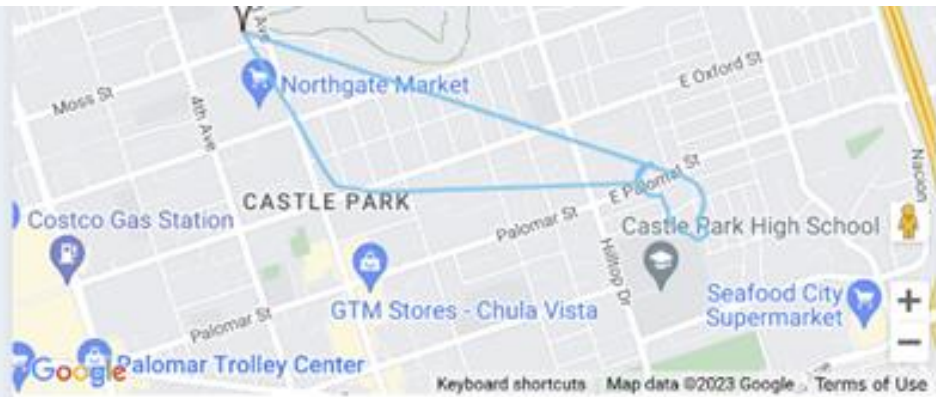
AVG RESPONSE TIMES - ALL CALLS
(IN SECONDS) *

116.86

* Response times from dispatch to arrival.

EARLIEST RESPONSE DATE/TIME 10/23/2018 8:29:57 AM

LATEST RESPONSE DATE/TIME 6/28/2023 4:50:25 PM



Date	Time	Case/Incident	Location	Summary
6-28-23	12:18pm	CVL054442	1300 Hellx Ave	Trespassing



Date	Time	Case/Incident	Location	Summary
6-28-23	12:05pm	CVL054419	1200 Broadway	Subject causing a disturbance



Date	Time	Case/Incident	Location	Summary
6-28-23	10:40am	CVL054409	700 Cholla Rd	Fight



Date	Time	Case/Incident	Location	Summary
6-27-23	7:00pm	CVL054246	1100 Broadway	Indecent Exposure