

Community Engagement

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Session Objectives

Community Engagement

1. Define core values associated with community engagement
2. Identify best practices and resources for communicating with DFR stakeholders
3. Evaluate program outcomes and effectively communicate data





Should agencies practice
community engagement?
Why or why not?

Community Trust

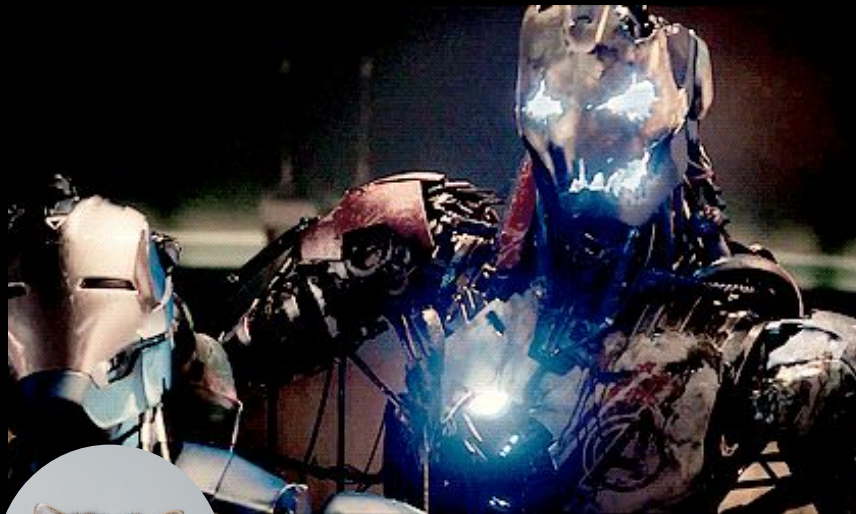


What are ways to build trust?

Perception is subjective



What you see



What your cat sees

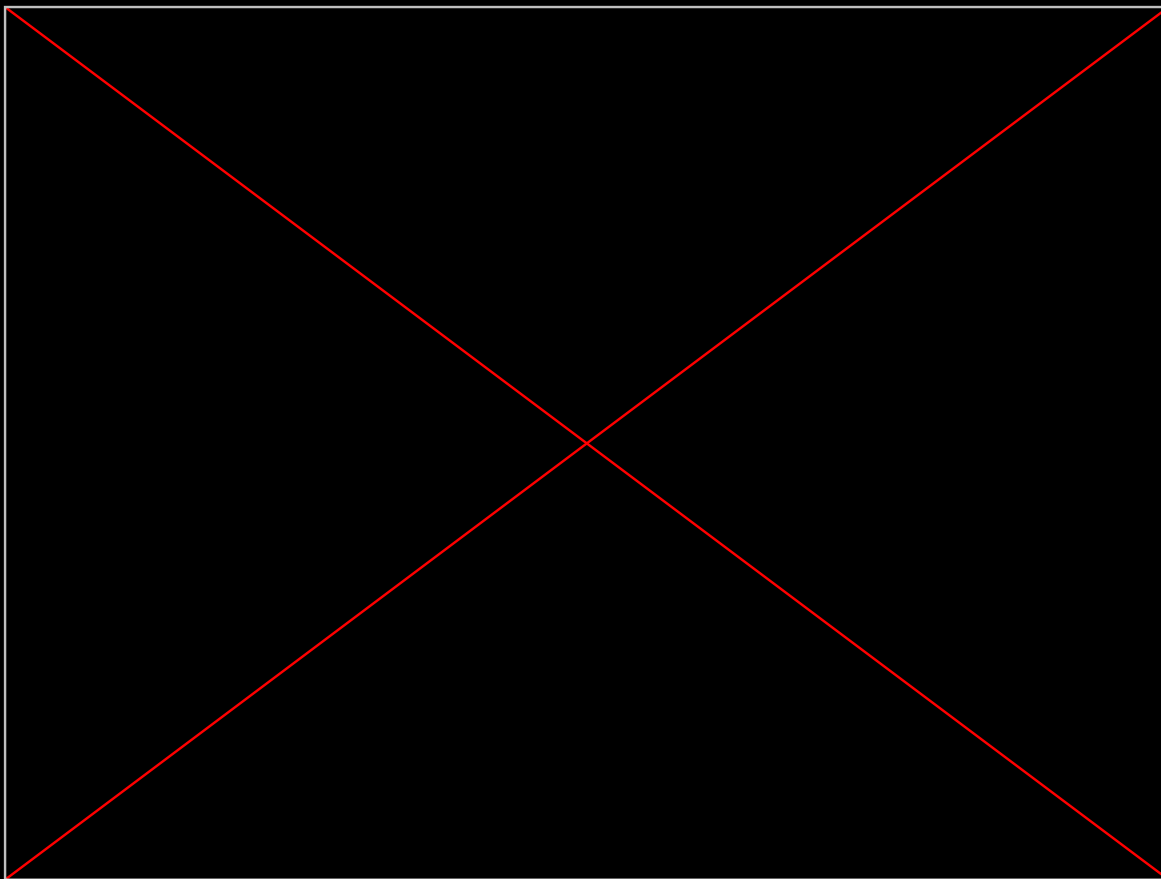
Building Community Relationships







YMCAs, Boys & Girls Clubs, &
Public Schools are great ways
to meet younger generations in
your community.



New Orleans Youth Fly Day

New Orleans Police Department

New Orleans Fire Department

Workforce Development

Agencies across the country are facing hiring challenges.

Opportunities to

- Empower Underserved populations
- Pathway to sustainable employment
- Local economic growth



Community Education Resources



- 411 for Drones in My Community
- Drone Applications
- Careers with Drones
- Non-exhaustive university list

Community Transparency



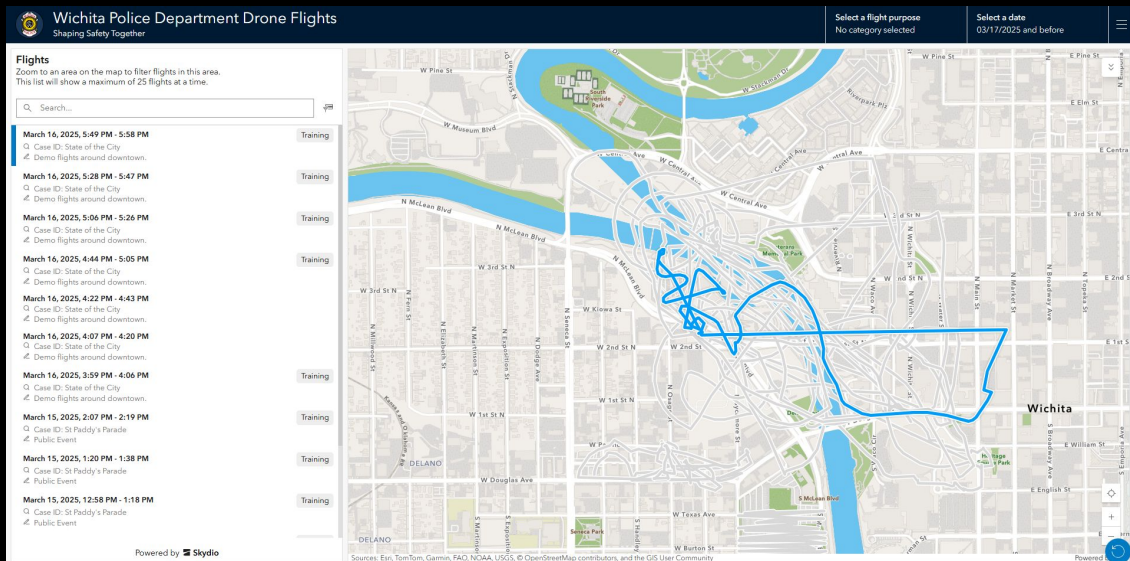
Should agencies have transparency
with their communities?
Why or why not?

DFR Announcement Resources



- DFR Media Announcement Playbook
- DFR Program Release Template
- Public Safety Comms + PR Onboarding
- BVLOS Waiver Comms Template
- Examples from other agencies
- Photos & Videos
- Skydio Logos + product imagery

Transparency Dashboard





How to Share Your Flights with Skydio Transparency Dashboard

Measuring Impact



DFR Outcomes Report

- Showcase the value of your drone program to leadership, city councils, and communities
- Track key metrics like first-on-scene response and successful drone-assisted resolutions
- Identify trends and opportunities to improve your DFR operations

The screenshot shows a 'DFR Outcomes Report' form overlaid on a map background. The form includes a close button (X) in the top right corner. It contains several sections: a 'Continuing response in another flight?' section with a checkbox and explanatory text; a 'CAD/CFS ID' section with a text input field; a 'Type of Incident' section with a list of checkboxes where 'Dispatch call for service' and 'Event overwatch' are selected; an 'Additional details for type of incident' section with a text input field; a 'Did the drone get to the scene first?' section with 'No' and 'Yes' buttons; and a final question 'Did the drone solve the call without external resources?' at the bottom. At the bottom right of the form are 'Save for Later' and 'Submit' buttons.

DFR Outcomes Report

Continuing response in another flight?

☐ This flight is part of an ongoing response. The DFR Outcomes Report will be completed in the final flight of this operation.

CAD/CFS ID

Type of Incident

☒ Dispatch call for service

☒ Event overwatch

☐ Scene reconstruction

☐ Search & rescue

☐ Passing check

☐ Non-operational (i.e. training flight)

☐ Other (describe)

Additional details for type of incident

Did the drone get to the scene first?

No Yes

Did the drone solve the call without external resources?

Save for Later Submit



How to Create Post-Flight Reports

Annual Reports



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Redmond Police Department





Skydio For All

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Talking DFR to Policymakers





The 5 C's: Principles for the Responsible Use of Drones by Public Safety Agencies

Skydio and DRONERESPONDERS collaborated to release pioneering work on the responsible use of public safety drones

1. Community Engagement & Transparency
2. Civil Liberties & Privacy Protection
3. Common Operating Procedures
4. Clear Oversight & Accountability
5. Cybersecurity



DRONERESPONDERS



The K.I.S.S. method is still #1

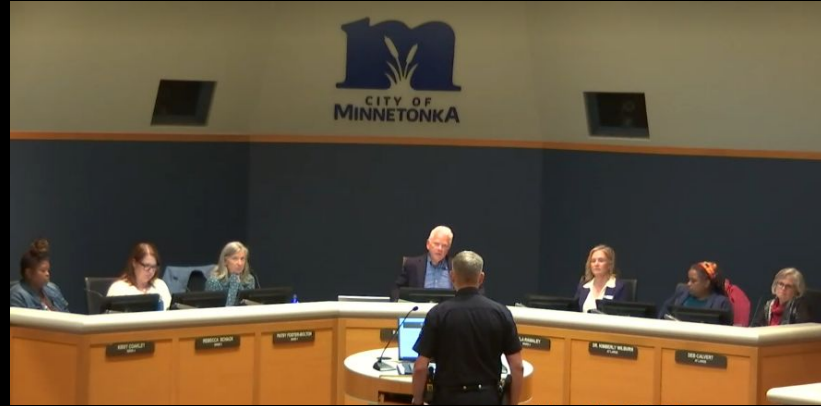


Drones fit as a spoke in a larger hub



The 4 D's of DFR

1. Define the issue
2. Discuss your policy
3. Deploy and develop the data
4. Direct your dollars



Define the Issue: Confronting a growing public safety crisis



The **workforce** is stretched thin

Staffing shortages and recruiting difficulties constrain operations



Risks to **officer safety** are rising

Constant threat of injury or death increases stress, burnout, and attrition



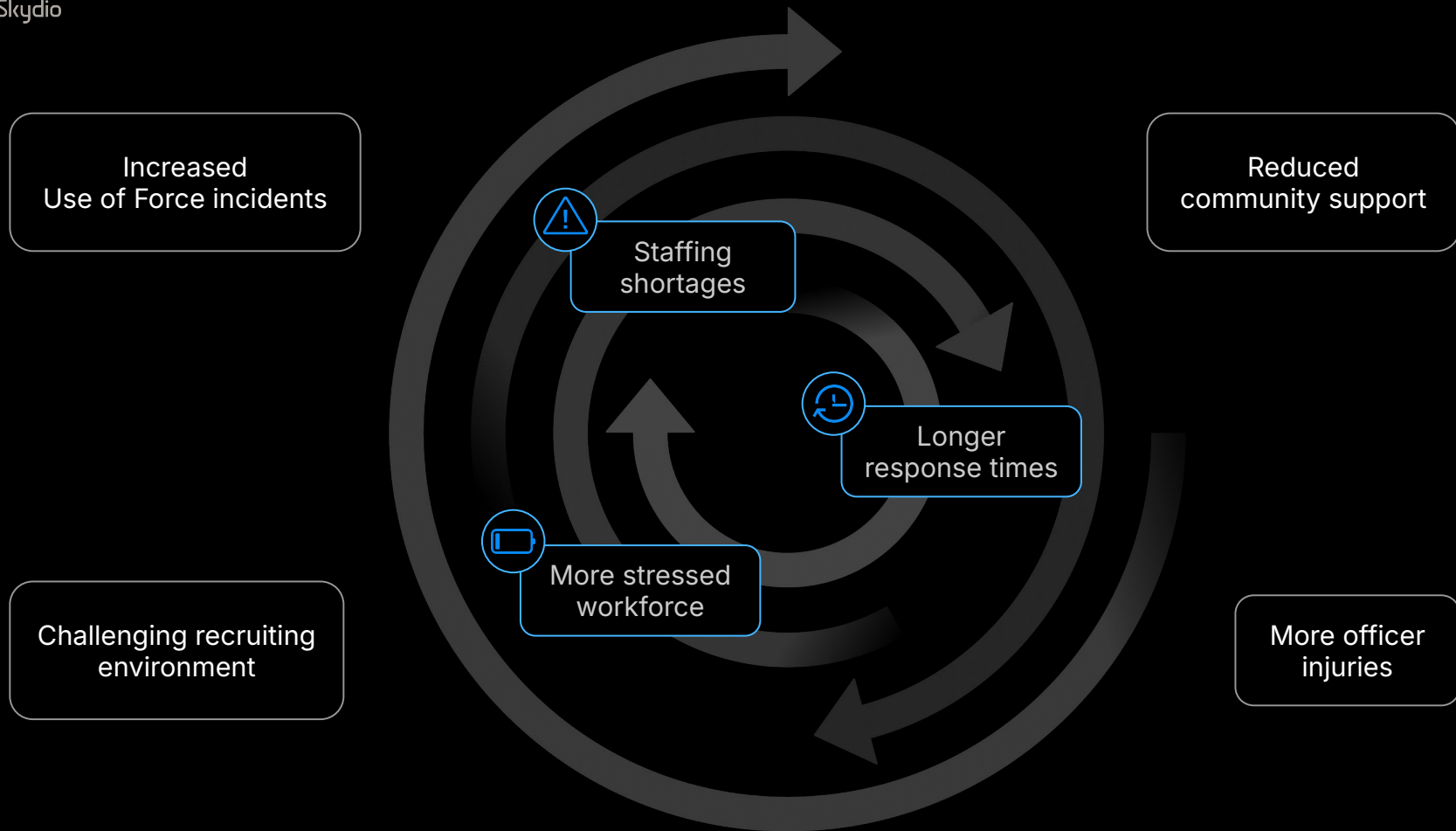
Declining **public trust** in law enforcement

Increased tensions and reduced cooperation from strained community relations

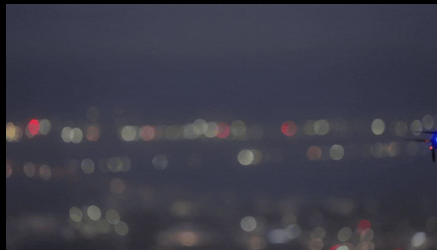


Emergency **response times** are increasing

Lower clearance rates from increasing call volumes and geographic coverage issues



DFR breaks the cycle...



Respond faster

Arrive on scene in less than 2 minutes



Increase arrests, reduce crime

Capture crime in progress,
locating subjects and
vehicles



Reduce use of force

More information, received
faster, allows for the time &
distance needed to make
better tactical decisions



Clear unnecessary calls for service

Avoid sending ground units
and clear calls with drone
and operator

Cameras document outcomes.

DFR changes outcomes.

Use of force is often a byproduct of walking into the unknown. While BWCs capture what happened, DFR provides real-time intelligence—giving officers the information they need to make safer, more informed decisions before they arrive.



Body-worn camera



DFR

Discuss Your Policy

DEPARTMENT MANUAL VOLUME I Revised by Special Order No. , 2025

Prohibited Uses. Department sUAS shall not:

- Be deployed or used in violation of the City of Los Angeles municipal laws, California State laws, the United States Constitution, any FAA regulations, or published flight restrictions (absent waiver);
- Be used to unlawfully harass, intimidate, or discriminate against any individual or group;
- Be used to target a person based solely on actual or perceived characteristics, such as, race, color, religion or creed, age, national origin, ethnicity, immigration status, gender (including gender identity or expression), sexual orientation, disability, or military status;
- Be used to record or photograph First Amendment assemblies for the purpose of identifying participants who are not engaged in unlawful conduct;
- Be equipped with any weapon system or facial recognition software;
- Be used as a weapon;
- Be deployed when weather conditions or other hazards prevent the safe operation of the aircraft or in a manner exceeding the manufacturer's recommendations;
- Be used for personal business of any kind; and,
- Be used in a manner that is contrary to any additional restrictions imposed by the sUAS Program Manager or an sUAS Coordinator.

Protection of Privacy. The Department shall only collect, use, and disseminate information obtained from an sUAS for a permissible use. Operators must follow FAA altitude regulations and are prohibited from intentionally recording or transmitting images of any location from an elevation or proximity in which individuals would have a reasonable expectation of privacy (absent a warrant, exigent circumstances, or consent of the property owner). Operators shall take reasonable precautions to avoid inadvertently recording or transmitting images of areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy.

Documentation and Inspection Procedures. All sUAS Deployments shall be documented in the proper format for the specific cadre using the sUAS. At a minimum, the documentation shall include the date, time, location, sUAS Operator's name and serial number, and purpose of sUAS Deployment. The sUAS Coordinator of the sUAS Cadre deploying an sUAS shall ensure the documentation of an sUAS Deployment and all flight data is provided to the sUAS Program Manager.

Recording of Incidents. Recording of each incident shall begin at or near the scene of the incident and continue until the sUAS either leaves the location or the investigative or enforcement activity involving a member of the public has ended.

SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (sUAS) OPERATIONS POLICY EXAMPLE

ISSUE DATE: MARCH 19, 2025

NOTE: THIS POLICY EXAMPLE IS TO BE USED FOR EDUCATIONAL/REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY. REFER TO FAA AUTHORIZATIONS AND WAIVERS, INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES, INTERNAL POLICIES, MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS, AND COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTING sUAS POLICY IN ANY JURISDICTION.

ABSTRACT

Drone technology is transforming public safety for the better. Fire, emergency management, and law enforcement agencies use drones every day to provide situational awareness during emergency situations when every moment matters. Obtaining real-time awareness in dangerous scenarios results in better outcomes, greater accountability, and increased leadership involvement in events as they unfold. Drones also provide a means of de-escalation—providing a perspective that allows for safe and thoughtful problem solving. Like body-worn cameras, drones provide an account of what occurred, but they also provide a pre-emptive capability to prevent tragedy and protect the community. When used appropriately, drones are a tool for good.

PURPOSE & SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Establish guidelines for the use of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) by [AGENCY NAME]
- Establish guidelines for the storage, retrieval, and dissemination of data captured by the UAS.

APPLICABILITY

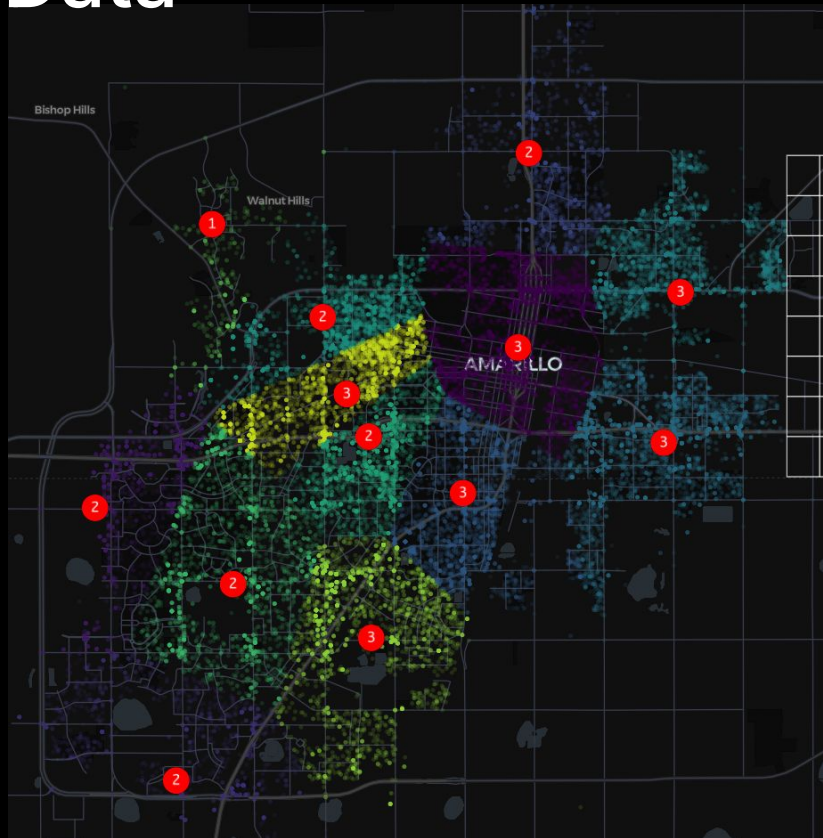
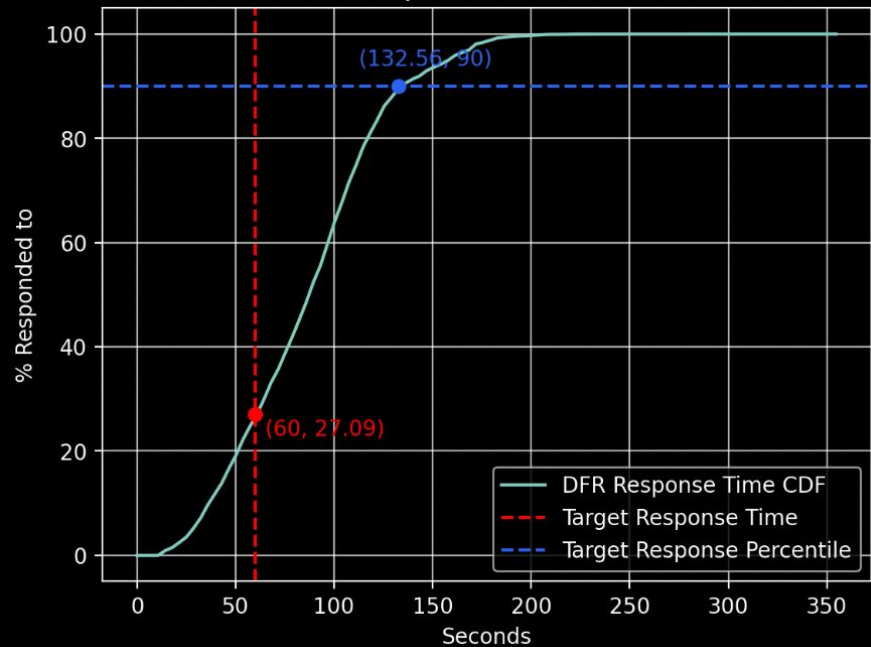
This policy applies to all [AGENCY NAME] employees who perform or manage unmanned aircraft operations. Any unmanned aircraft flown by [AGENCY NAME] personnel, during their scheduled work shift or for official [AGENCY NAME] business, must adhere to this policy.

DEFINITIONS

COA	Certificate of Authorization, issued by the Air Traffic Organization to a public operator for a specific unmanned aircraft activity.
DFR	Drone as First Responder - a type of unmanned aircraft operation where unmanned aircraft are strategically deployed from predetermined locations to respond to



Deploy and Develop the Data





SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPT

42% reduction in auto theft
500+ arrests
30% drop in overall crime



LAKEWOOD POLICE DEPT

590 flights in 11 weeks
47% of CFS received DFR
38% of CFS cleared without patrol



REDMOND POLICE DEPT

88 sec average response time
48% faster than officers on P1
25% of CFS cleared without patrol



OKLAHOMA CITY POLICE DEPT

40% flights for fire-related calls

Since implementing the DFR program in the City of Redmond, we've seen the ability to **cancel our ground response about 25% of the time.** That gives time back to the officers to do more proactive patrol or to be available for other emergency calls.



Chief Darrell Lowe

Direct Your Dollars

5 Year - \$1.8M per year

Payment Summary

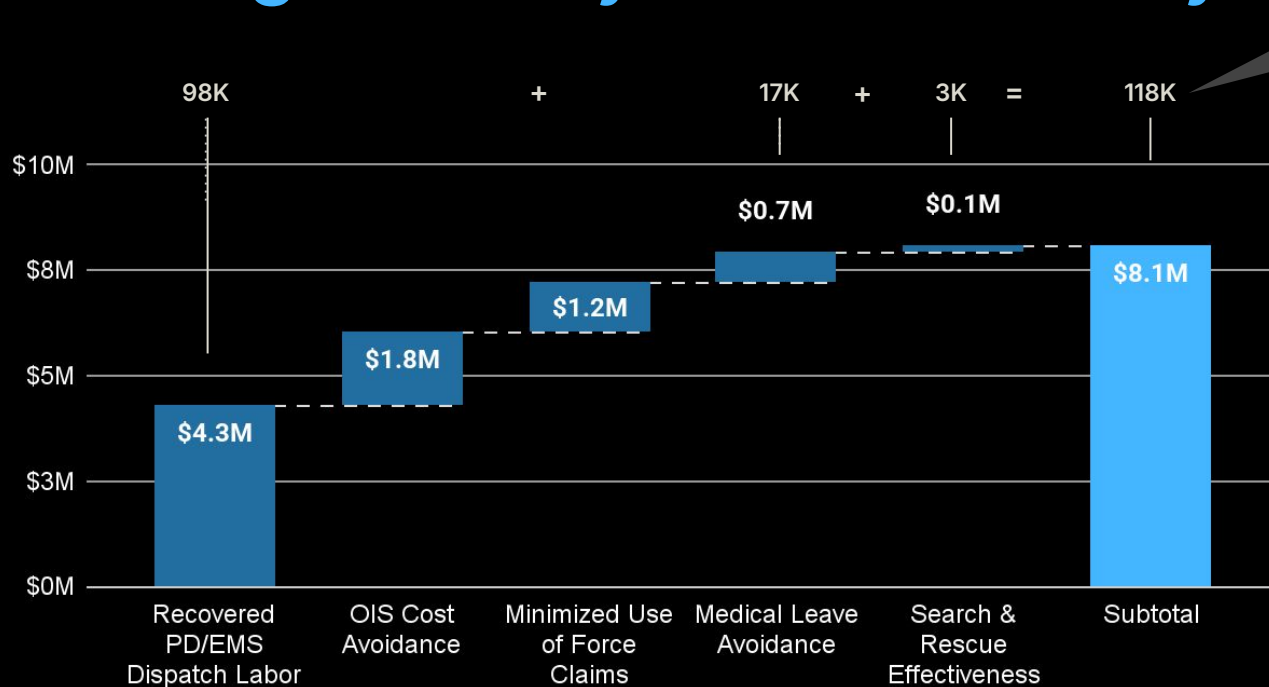
Date	Subtotal	Tax	Total
Dec 2025	\$1,845,662.16	\$0.00	\$1,845,662.16
Dec 2026	\$1,845,662.17	\$0.00	\$1,845,662.17
Dec 2027	\$1,845,662.17	\$0.00	\$1,845,662.17
Dec 2028	\$1,845,662.17	\$0.00	\$1,845,662.17
Dec 2029	\$1,845,662.17	\$0.00	\$1,845,662.17
Total	\$9,228,310.84	\$0.00	\$9,228,310.84

3 Year - \$2M per year

Payment Summary

Date	Subtotal	Tax	Total
Dec 2025	\$2,062,930.52	\$0.00	\$2,062,930.52
Dec 2026	\$2,062,930.50	\$0.00	\$2,062,930.50
Dec 2027	\$2,062,930.50	\$0.00	\$2,062,930.50
Total	\$6,188,791.52	\$0.00	\$6,188,791.52

Full scale DFR deployment could **reduce operating costs by \$8.1M annually**



Bonus: Officer hours freed annually

\$8.1M

Annual Savings

118K+ officer hours recovered from avoided medical downtime and unnecessary dispatches available to **redistribute to patrol**



Instagram

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The City of Miami Police Department showcasing their Drone First Responder initiative, which is designed to help build a safer and stronger community.

[#District5](#) [#CityofMiami](#) [#Drone](#)

**dmiramar** 3w

Drones mean less excessive force, fewer police shootings, and safer communities...

Like Reply

**sunblm.dust** 3w

Love seeing tech used to keep the community safe 🙌🚁

Like Reply

The social impact



32,000
views on Facebook