

Brian Sandoval
Governor



James M. Wright
Director

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December 27, 2017

Mr. Rick Combs, Director
Legislative Council Bureau
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Re: Report to the Legislature on the Department of Public Safety implementation of Assembly Bill 239 (78th Session)

Director Combs,

Assembly Bill 239 (AB239) passed and was signed during the 78th Legislative Session. In 2015. AB239 outlined various restrictions and provisions regarding the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVS) by public agencies, and it required the Nevada Department of Public Safety (DPS) to implement several specific elements of this bill. This memorandum provides an update on the various implementation requirements for DPS under AB239.

Section 22, paragraph 3 of this bill requires DPS to provide a report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau on the use of UAVs by public agencies in Nevada by February 1st of each year. This memorandum serves to fulfill this requirement.

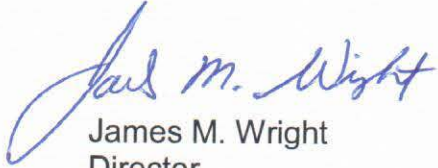
DPS Implementation: Additionally, DPS is required to implement two portions of AB239. First, DPS must develop a registry for public UAVs. Second, it requires DPS to adopt regulations for the use of UAVs by public entities. Updates on each requirement are below:

Registry: Section 21 of AB239 requires that public agencies register their UAV with DPS. Following DPS's development of registration forms and advertisement of this process throughout the state, public agencies began submitting these forms to DPS. In 2016, there were four UAV's registered by public agencies. Due to registrations throughout 2017, there are currently 34 UAV's registered by Nevada public agencies.

DPS continues to maintain an online registry on its public website, and a copy of the registry is provided here.

Regulations: DPS finalized the required regulations last year. This requirement is complete, and a copy of the adopted regulations is attached.

Please contact me should you have any questions or require additional information.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James M. Wright". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "W".

James M. Wright
Director

Attachments

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

LCB File No. R016-16

Effective June 28, 2016

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [~~omitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §1, Section 22 of Assembly Bill No. 239, chapter 327, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at page 1776 (NRS 493.118).

A REGULATION relating to unmanned aerial vehicles; prescribing the public purposes for which a public agency may operate an unmanned aerial vehicle that is registered with the Department of Public Safety; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides that a public agency in this State may operate an unmanned aerial vehicle only if the agency registers the unmanned aerial vehicle with the Department of Public Safety and operates the unmanned aerial vehicle in accordance with any regulations adopted by the Department. (Section 21 of Assembly Bill No. 239, chapter 327, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at page 1776 (NRS 493.115)) Existing law requires the Department to: (1) prescribe the public purposes for which a public agency may operate an unmanned aerial vehicle that is registered with the Department; (2) establish and maintain, to the extent money is available for this purpose, a registry of unmanned aerial vehicles that are operated by public agencies in this State; and (3) include on its Internet website the information contained in the registry. (Section 22 of Assembly Bill No. 239, chapter 327, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at page 1776 (NRS 493.118)) This regulation prescribes the public purposes for which a public agency may operate an unmanned aerial vehicle that is registered with the Department.

Section 1. Chapter 493 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A public agency which has registered an unmanned aerial vehicle with the Department of Public Safety in accordance with section 22 of Assembly Bill No. 239, chapter 327, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at page 1776 (NRS 493.118), may operate the unmanned aerial vehicle for one or more of the following public purposes:

1. *Fire services;*
2. *Emergency medical services;*
3. *Protection of a critical facility that is public property;*
4. *Search and rescue operations;*
5. *Preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies and disasters;*
6. *Communications relay and delivery;*
7. *Surveying and mapping;*
8. *Inspection of public land and infrastructure;*
9. *Inspection and testing of hazardous materials;*
10. *Inspection and evaluation of natural resources;*
11. *Inspection and evaluation of wildlife;*
12. *Inspection and evaluation of agricultural and environmental conditions;*
13. *Training of employees of a public agency;*
14. *Research and development of unmanned aerial vehicles;*
15. *Maintenance and testing of unmanned aerial vehicles;*
16. *Air quality testing; and*
17. *Evaluation of meteorological conditions.*



Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Registration Form

Agency Information

Public Agency Name: _____ Public Agency Address: _____

Point of Contact Name: First/MI/Last _____

Title: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Does Agency have an approved Certificate of Authorization (COA) issued by FAA? Yes No
Attach copy of COA

UAV Operations Information

Description of UAV use and capabilities:

Number of UAV Operators: _____

FAA Registration Number: _____

Name and Contact Information for each Operator (attach additional sheets as necessary):

Operator Name: First/MI/Last _____

Operator Name: First/MI/Last _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

E-mail Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Street Address: _____

Street Address: _____

Operator Name: First/MI/Last _____

Operator Name: First/MI/Last _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

E-mail Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Street Address: _____

Street Address: _____

UAV Identifying Information

General Description:

Aircraft Builder's Name: (Make) _____

Aircraft Model Designation: (Model) _____

Year Manufactured: _____

Aircraft Serial Number: _____

Color(s): _____

Wingspan: _____

Photo attached (required)