



**San Marcos Police Department**  
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# REPORT FOR THE USE OF SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2018

IN HONOR OF OFFICER KEN COPELAND  
END OF WATCH 12/04/2017

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**San Marcos Police Department**  
**Report for the Use of Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems**  
January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018

This document satisfies the reporting requirements mandated by H.B. 912 related to the use of unmanned aircraft.

Background:

In 2013, the 83<sup>rd</sup> Texas Legislature passed H.B. 912. The bill requires that no earlier than January 1 and not later than January 15 of each odd-numbered year, a municipal law enforcement agency located in a county or municipality with a population greater than 150,000 that used or operated an unmanned aircraft during the preceding 24 months shall issue a written report to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and each member of the Legislature.

The San Marcos Police Department (SMPD) is authorized by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate one battery powered small unmanned aircraft system (sUAS) and conducted flights during the reporting period.

In accordance with H.B. 912, this report includes:

- Number of criminal investigations aided by the use of the unmanned aircraft and a description of how the unmanned aircraft aided each investigation;
- Number of times the unmanned aircraft was used for a law enforcement operation other than a criminal investigation, the dates and locations of those operations, and a description of how the unmanned aircraft aided each operation;
- Type of information collected on an individual, residence, property, or area that was not the subject of a law enforcement operation and the frequency of the collection of this information; and
- Total cost of acquiring, maintaining, repairing, and operating or otherwise using each unmanned aircraft for the preceding 24 months.

In addition, SMPD retains the report for public viewing at its headquarters located at 2300 IH 35 South, San Marcos, Texas, and has posted the report on the department's publicly accessible website at

[www.sanmarcostx.gov/151/Police](http://www.sanmarcostx.gov/151/Police)

Date	Time	Location	Incident Type	Justification	Description	Type and frequency of information collected on an individual, residence, property, or area which was not the subject of an LE operation
07/19/2017	1530	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
07/07/2017	1536	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
09/20/2017	1253	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
01/19/2018	1552	100 Center Point Rd, San Marcos, TX	Criminal Investigation	Criminal Investigation	Field search for Stolen vehicles	N/A
01/29/2018	0948	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
01/30/2018	1436	3939 IH 35 S. San Marcos, TX	Criminal Investigation	Criminal Investigation	Search for shoplifter that had fled	N/A
03/13/2018	1635	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	Orientation and precision flying	N/A
03/14/2018	1530	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
03/21/2018	1500	Rio Vista Park, San Marcos, TX	Suicidal Person	Welfare of Citizen	Search for a possible suicidal person	N/A
03/21/2018	1445	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
03/25/2018	1320	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
03/26/2018	1505	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
03/28/2018	1520	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
04/01/2018	1315	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
04/01/2018	1500	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
04/01/2018	1200	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
04/02/2018	0900	Wimberley Fire Dept. Wimberley, TX	Training	Training	Training	N/A
04/12/2018	1500	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
04/18/2018	1505	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	Orientation and precision flying	N/A
04/30/2018	1310	Wynn Ranch, Wimberley, TX	Training	Training	Search and Rescue training	N/A
05/02/2018	1530	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	Training with Autopilot App	N/A
05/29/2018	1300	2300 IH 35 S SMPD	DWI/Traffic Accident	Official Investigation	Photograph from overhead of vehicle involved in accident.	N/A

05/30/2018	1430	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	Utilizing different flight functions on aircraft	N/A
05/30/2018	1500	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
06/18/2018	1300	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Intoxication Manslaughter	Official Investigation	Take aerial photographs of vehicle accident	N/A
06/18/2018	1400	Riverside @ East Access IH 35	Intoxication Manslaughter	Official Investigation	Take aerial photographs and video of accident scene	N/A
06/20/2018	1530	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
06/28/2018	1500	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	Training	N/A
07/19/2018	1630	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	Precision flying, POI, ATTI and distance landing	N/A
07/30/2018	1525	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	Currency training	N/A
07/31/2018	1515	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	Currency training	N/A
08/16/2018	1400	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
08/28/2018	1445	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	Precision flying	N/A
09/07/2018		Meadow Woods, Kyle, TX	Training	Training	Test flight with new iPad	N/A
10/06/2018	1200	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	DWI/Accident	Official Investigation	Aerial photographs and video of vehicle accident	N/A
10/10/2018	1715	Reveille Ranch, Burnet County	Training	Training	NIST UAS course	N/A
10/23/2018	1530	Gregson's Circle	Suspicious Persons	Official Investigation	Subjects ran from Outlet Mall, across the IH 35 and into a field. Attempted to find possible stolen items discarded by suspicious persons.	N/A
11/03/2018	1130	Blanco River @ RR Trestle Bridge	Suicide	Official Investigation	Searched for evidence along the river and river banks	N/A
11/07/2018	1400	Purgatory Park, San Marcos	Training	Training	FAA currency training	N/A
11/26/2018	1245	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	Filmed Police driving training	N/A
12/26/2018	1300	2300 IH 35 S. SMPD	Training	Training	Precision flying, Orientation	N/A

**Normal Currency Training** is defined as an FAA requirement training flight. All FAA licensed pilots are required to maintain their flight currency by completing flights to include at least three take offs and three landing's within the previous rolling 90-day period. The San Marcos Police Department has three (3) FAA licensed sUAS pilots.

<b>Costs</b>	<b>Reporting Period</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Acquisition</b>	\$1500.00	One DJI Phantom Pro III One carrying case One Apple iPad
<b>Maintenance</b>	\$350.00	Replacement parts (blades, batteries, etc)
<b>Repairs</b>	\$100.00	Costs related to shipping unit back to vendor for repairs
<b>Operations</b>	\$0.00	No expenses
<b>Training</b>	\$4,000.00	Certification training (100 hours) for two (2) pilots.
<b>Medical Certifications</b>	\$0.00	No expenses
<b>Other expenses</b>	\$450.00	Cost to take the FAA aeronautical knowledge exam (for 3 pilots)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,400.00</b>	