

Drone Protective Measures and Procedures

Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure the compliance with safety measures by those individuals who operate (hereby known as "Licensee") an unmanned Drone device while within the Greater Columbus Convention Center. While there are no current City or State restrictions on the use of Drone devices outside Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) airspace, the growing use of Drones may create difficulties in distinguishing malicious from non-malicious activity. It is therefore necessary to properly identify internal restrictions imposed upon Drone licensees when operating any Drone device within the Greater Columbus Convention Center (the Center).

Program Administrator Responsibility

The SMG Public Safety Manager, Assistant Public Safety Manager and Director of Operations (the Operator) are responsible for adherence to this program.

Licensee Responsibility

Licensees must agree to the License Agreement between the Licensee and the Center, et al (attached) before any Drone device is permitted to be operated within the Center.

On June 25, 2014, the FAA published "Interpretation of the Special Rule for Model Aircraft" for comment. This interpretation of Section 336 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-95) defines a "model aircraft" as:

- Must be flown strictly for hobby or recreational purposes.
- May not be operated in the presence of spectators until the aircraft is successfully flight tested and proven airworthy.
- Must not be flown in populated areas.
- Must not be operated in noise sensitive areas, such as parks, schools, and hospitals.
- Must be flown below 400 feet.
- Must notify airport operator and control tower if model aircraft is flown within five (5) miles of an airport.
- Must yield to manned aircraft.
- Must be flown within visual line of sight of operator.
- Must weigh 55 pounds or less at the time of operation with full payload.
- Must not endanger the safety of the National Airspace System, including persons and property on the ground.
- Must obey applicable FAA Flight Exclusion Areas and Notice to Airmen.

Current Applicable FAA Notice to Airmen

- Restricts use of aircraft (including Remote Control Model Aircraft) within 3 miles around and 3,000 feet in altitude above events at stadiums with a capacity of more than 30,000 persons.
- Restriction commences one (1) hour prior to the scheduled time of the event until one (1) hour after the end of the event. This specifically includes all National Football League, Major League Baseball, and National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I events as well as National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing and Indy Car races.
- Advises pilots to avoid loitering, circling, or entering airspace above or in close proximity to sites such as nuclear, hydro-electric, or coal-fired power plants; dams; refineries; industrial complexes;
- DoD facilities; and other similar locations. However, these facilities and installations often have federal, state, or local regulations and guidelines prohibiting the activity.

For the purposes of this section, the term "Airmen" refers to the Licensee who will be operating the Drone device.

As stipulated in the Licensee Responsibilities above, the Greater Columbus Convention Center and SMG hereby reserve the right to modify the above FAA guidelines through limiting the maximum height and radius of flight. Said maximum height of flight is established as no more than 20 feet above the floor with a maximum radius of 70 feet, as measured from the Licensees' exhibit booth or other established takeoff or landing zone.