



<i>Miami Township Police Department</i>			General Order	
Policy No:	90.7.0	Effective Date:	May 22, 2020	
Title:	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)			
CALEA No:	N/A	Approved By:	Chief of Police	

Purpose:

A primary duty of law enforcement is to safeguard lives and protect the citizens against violence and disorder. The Miami Township Police Department recognizes this duty and is committed to utilizing new technology to help accomplish this goal. The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) is one type of new technology the Miami Township Police Department has adopted to help safeguard the lives and property of Miami Township residents and those visiting the Miami Township area.

The Miami Township Police Department has acquired an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) and will have an Officer(s) assigned to operate/maintain the UAV during any incident, event, investigation, or call for service where this technology is needed. This policy is intended to provide guidelines and structure for the Officer(s) assigned to operate/maintain the UAV during a sanctioned event.

A. **Background**

1. Team size - The number of officers assigned to operate/maintain the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) program will be at the discretion of the Chief of Police.
2. Record Keeping - Officer(s) assigned to operate/maintain the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) will be responsible maintaining the following records: After Action Reports, training records, lesson plans, memorandums, correspondence, equipment lists, etc. The UAV Officer is responsible for seeing the records are forwarded to the UAV supervisor.
3. Forms - Forms utilized for the UAV program include: Inspection Forms, Flight and Maintenance logs, etc. New forms may be created, and existing forms done away with or modified at the discretion of the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
4. Inspections - Inspections are necessary to ensure the proper condition, maintenance, and operational readiness of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. It is the responsibility of the Officer(s) assigned to operate/maintain the UAV to see these inspections are done as needed.
5. Active/Inactive Status - Each officer assigned to operate/maintain the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) will be assigned as having an active status or inactive status. Active status indicates a UAV Officer is fit for duty and operational. Inactive status indicates a UAV Officer is not fit for duty and unavailable for duty. The Chief of Police, or his/her designee may place a UAV Officer in inactive status at their discretion. Reasons for placing a member in inactive status include but are not limited to; failure to meet standards, required licensing, poor attendance, and

fitness for duty concerns. Members in inactive status will not participate in UAV operations. Any change of a member's status will be documented in writing.

B. Requirements

1. Eligibility and Criteria - Operating/Maintaining a department Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)) is a voluntary/collateral duty assignment and is not eligible for "specialty pay." Individuals with a minimum of two continuous years of law enforcement experience will be eligible to apply for the assignment. The Chief of Police will decide the process used to select officers for the UAV program. The following are some of the criteria that will be considered while choosing an officer for the UAV program:
 - a. Operate as a team member, not an individual.
 - b. Serve on an on-call basis, while continuing full time duties.
 - c. Regularly attend team training. (Members must attend an average of 75% of the training offered per calendar year).
 - d. Pass all required licensing or training within 6 months of appointment.
 - e. Keep current on all Federal and State Laws on UAV deployment/use.

UAV Officers are required to meet these criteria upon initial assignment and throughout their tenure with the program

2. Selection Process - When a UAV Officer vacancy is to be filled, the position opening will be posted through departmental email and on Power DMS. Officers interested in applying for the UAV Officer position will submit their interest in the position via departmental email to the Chief of Police or his/her designee. The Chief of Police will decide on the process used to choose the new UAV Officer. Once the process is complete, the Chief of Police or his/her designee will make the appointment of the new UAV Officer.
3. Removal - The Chief of Police or his designee may remove an officer from the UAV program for one of the following reasons:
 - a. Failure to meet the criteria listed above in "Eligibility and Criteria."
 - b. Failure to maintain an attitude which supports the effective administration of the program and which furthers the mission of the department.

C. Training

1. Training Philosophy - Training is an imperative ongoing function, which reinforces basic and advanced technological skills. UAV Officers must practice their special skills and develop their abilities to function as a team through training. This is necessary due to many technological skills are perishable and must be exercised to build and maintain proficiency.
2. Licensing - Certain equipment associated with the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) program require special licenses, such as, the Part 107 FAA Certificate. The Part 107 Certificate must be obtained within six (6) months of joining the UAV

program and must be kept valid during the officer's tenure on the team. The officer must possess this certificate prior to operating a UAV, except during approved training.

3. Initial Training - An Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) course, like the Small UAV Drone Basic Operator Course offered through the Ohio Police Officers Training Council, or like and similar course taught by an approved training facility, will be required for all UAV Officers.
4. Continuing Training - The Supervisor of the UAV program will develop an annual training calendar. UAV Officers will normally train quarterly. Officers of the UAV program will be expected to log ongoing flight time, to stay proficient on UAV operations.
5. Training Records - The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Supervisor is responsible for the completion of all training records and will place the appropriate records in the UAV Officer's file.

D. Call-In Procedures

1. An order to activate the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) will be authorized by the Chief of Police, the Assistance Chief of Police, Lieutenant, or an on-duty Sergeant. Emergency call-ins will normally be relayed to the UAV Officer(s) via the on-duty Sergeant. Pre-planned call-ins will normally be relayed to the UAV Officer (s) through the UAV Supervisor.
2. Once authorization has been given for an emergency call-in, the authorizing individual will directly notify the UAV Supervisor and brief him/her on the reason for the UAV call-in.
3. The UAV Officer(s) responding to an emergency call-in will report to the scene and meet with the authorizing supervisor. The supervisor will brief the UAV Officer on the reason for the call-in.
4. UAV Officer(s) who are requested to respond by an outside agency, shall not respond without first obtaining authorization from the UAV supervisor or other MTPD supervisor.