

# UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (DRONES) REGULATIONS AND ISSUES IN THE COMMUNITY

Riverside Police Department

City Council Meeting  
April 27, 2021

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## ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- Privacy
- Intrusiveness
- Accountability



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## WHAT RESTRICTS DRONE USE?

- **Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)**
- **California Penal Code**
- **Local Ordinances**



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## DRONE FAA REGULATIONS

- Drones are considered aircraft and are regulated by the FAA
- Generally, flights are restricted by maximum altitudes, not minimums for the safety of airplanes



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## DRONE FAA REGULATIONS

Hobbyist vs. \*Federal Regulation (Part 107)

- Flying for pure pleasure
- or
- For commercial purposes (Part 107)



\*subject to change by FAA



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## DRONE FAA REGULATIONS

- Under most circumstances, the maximum allowed altitude is 400 ft.
- Most altitude restrictions address maximum altitudes, not minimums
- Mostly determined by proximity to airport



\*subject to change by FAA



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## DRONE FAA REGULATIONS

\*All Drones must be registered (and labeled) with FAA if they are:

- Over .55 pounds, or
- Flown outside of the “Exceptions for Recreational Flyers”



*\*subject to change by FAA*

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## DRONE FAA REGULATIONS

For more information on registering your drone please visit:

[https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting\\_started/register\\_drone/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/register_drone/)



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## DRONE FLIGHT SAFETY REMINDERS

Drone Safety and Legal Guidelines:

- Do not interfere with other aircraft, emergency response, or law enforcement activities.
- Do not fly under the influence of drugs or alcohol.



*\*subject to change by FAA*

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## DRONE FLIGHT SAFETY REMINDERS

- Keep your drone within the visual line of sight and use a visual observer who is in direct, unaided communication with pilot
- There are restrictions on where you can fly (example-not over people without a waiver)



*\*subject to change by FAA*

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## DRONE FLIGHT SAFETY REMINDERS

- For up-to-date information on all the rules:
- [https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational\\_fliers/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational_fliers/)



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## PENAL CODE 647(J)(1)-DISORDERLY CONDUCT



- New Criminal Code
- Misdemeanor
- If a drone is used to view into a door or window where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy (windows, doors, etc.)



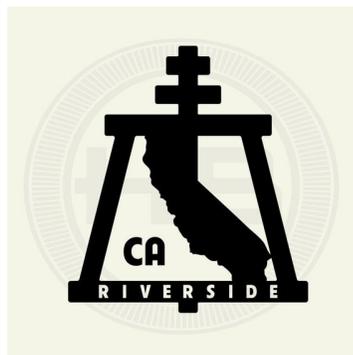
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## LOCAL ORDINANCES

- FAA has ultimate authority over drones since they are deemed as legitimate aircraft by the FAA
- Most ordinances can only regulate permitted locations for takeoff and landing



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## SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Close curtains when changing or showering
- Especially at night where the inside of your home illuminates into the night



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## WHAT TO DO?

- Legal vs. Illegal (let the COPS decide!)
- Try to determine what direction the drone came from
- Non-Emergency Number is (951) 354-2007



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## CONCLUSION

QUESTIONS?

Lieutenant Eric Detmer  
Riverside Police Department  
Chief's Office



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