



RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SAFETY DRONE PROGRAM

Name of Department/Agency: Southern Manatee FL Fire Rescue

Your Full Name: Rich Gatanis

Your Email Address: RGatanis@SMFR.com

Department URL: www.SMFR.com

How long program in operation? 2015-Present

How many aircraft in program? 9

What types of aircraft in fleet? M300, M210, M200, Mavic 2 Dual, 3- Mavic 2 Zooms, 2- Inspire 1's

How many remote pilots in program? 12

Do you operate with COA, Part 107 or both? If outside the U.S., tell what regulations you operate under. We operate as Part 107 and we hold our Jurisdictional and Class G COA

How has your drone program been innovative for your department? SMFR has been instrumental in developing strategies and tactics for utilizing UAS in Hazardous materials response. Our outside the box thinking has helped develop drone mounted hardware that allows us to carry atmospheric monitoring equipment on our aircraft as well as developing a system allowing us to chemically decontaminate a drone that had come in contact with a hazardous material.

How has your drone program enhanced safety for your department? Utilizing our aircraft as a "First out tool" has increased the safety of our personnel by increasing initial scene information, identifying hazards and monitoring the atmosphere. This has allowed our entry teams to have all available information before making entry to a hazardous environment.

How has your drone program improved operational effectiveness? Our UAS program has shown measurable changes in scene mitigation time. In HazMat response, every minute of the incident is costing the responsible party considerable amounts money. The information we are gathering utilizing UAS during the incident is allowing the decision makers to make better informed decisions which is reflecting on how quickly and more safely we are able to mitigate a hazmat incident.

If you have news stories of success of your program or missions, please provide links to stories (More than one link is OK):

<https://www.robrady.com/blog-entry/getting-handle-hazardous-situations>

<https://enterprise.dji.com/news/detail/smfr-embracing-new-drone-technology-for-hazmat-response>

http://www.cbrneworld.com/convergence2018/speaker/rich_gatanis

<https://www.firerescue1.com/fire-products/drones/articles/389882018-Fla-fire-department-leading-the-way-in-drone-use/>

https://www.srqmagazine.com/srq-daily/2017-11-16/7312_Gatanis--ROBRADY-Develop-Drone-for-Firefighters

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=an7F2hRiBI0>

http://www.mysuncoast.com/news/local/manatee-county-first-responders-avoid-hazardous-exposure-by-using-drones/article_2e761ff2-1a4f-11e8-b27c-0b8cd428e8f2.html

<https://youtu.be/fHfHmAkhFNU>

<https://youtu.be/4CBzW5PjqxM>

<https://youtu.be/EBtjpbqA8RM>