



DRONERESPONDERS.ORG

RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SAFETY DRONE PROGRAM

Name of Department/Agency: Burlington MA Police Department

Name: Sage Costa

Email Address: Scosta@bpd.org

Department URL: <https://www.bpd.org/>

How long program in operation? 2 Years

How many aircraft in program? 2

What types of aircraft in fleet? Mavic 2 Dual Enterprise & Skydio2

How many remote pilots in program? 3

Do you operate with COA, Part 107 or both? Part 107. Currently writing and researching our COA

How has your drone program been innovative for your department? The M2E's thermal and zoom features have brought new dimensions to old Police practices. Our drone program has improved the departments situational awareness and risk management. We have been able to better document our crashed and OUI (Operating under the influence) cases. We have partnered with Dronesense to bring live video to dispatch and cruiser's laptops. We have utilized this innovation in searches, S&R, tactile missions, evidence recovery and fires to name a few.

The Skydio2 has been a game changer for our indoor flights. Especially within our jurisdiction we have a Simons Mall which brings lots of attention. We have purchased the Skydio2 beacon to start training with the drone to enhance the technology features.

How has your drone program enhanced safety for your department? The Dronesense software ultimately enhances safety to patrol units involved in any case to identify possible hazards.

How has your drone program improved operational effectiveness?

We utilize our Skydio2 drone on SWAT missions, one in particular where we were able to fly within the wood line to the second floor of a house and obtain a line of sight inside of a home of a barricaded armed subject. Needless to say why this enhances the safety of the subject, Swat Officer's, and nearby residents. (See attached article)

Located in the Northeast and when searches take place in 10 degree weather. The drones allows officer to stay safe and out of the cold weather and respond to areas where it is deemed necessary. Ultimately this reduced unnecessary searches or in areas where the drone can easily search.

Our drone unit was able to take advantage of Dart-drones grants and our current three pilots took part in the Trusted Operator Program™ Level 1 Remote Pilot Certification, TOP Administrative Modules, and DART-drones Wings. We take pride and strive to operate safely while we continue to grow. We utilize our drone unit to respond to protests and times of unrest to gain an advantage for the operation. The drone has identified vehicles that drive around barriers, gain a better vantage of crowds to identified potential hazards and agitators.

Our drone unit has assisted in water rescues and allows incident command to have a wider range of an operation without over-stretching officers.

Operating the drone over a incident or mission it adds another level of security to the town and families of loved ones. When we deploy the drone this ensures that that the BPD is attempting every avenue and using every tool at its disposal to complete the mission safely and effectively.

<https://medium.com/skydio/skydio-2-in-action-first-responder-deployments-show-the-power-of-drone-autonomy-fd2a6267c929>

Chief Pilot was apart of this round table as a presenter. The page is down, but the was the Webinar.

Skydio Round Table with First Responders - Stories from Autonomous Drones in the Field. Wednesday, December 16, 2020 · 10:00:00 AM · Pacific Time (US & Canada)"