FW: UAS Questions...

"Von Letkemann, Grant (FAA)" <grant.von.letkemann@faa.gov> From: "Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov> To:

Cc: "Yun, Kyung S (FAA)" <kyung.s.yun@faa.gov>

Tue, 24 Dec 2019 17:26:34 -0500 Date:

Mike-

Below is an email string from one of the analysts at the CIAG (Fusion Cell).

They originally reached out to me and I gave them the UAS website. They reached out a second time (below) with specifics and I advised them that I would need to forward this to you as the LEAP person.

They are looking for someone to talk to about some issues with UAS's in Eastern CO. (6) is probably the best POC to start with. Just'a heads up- there is a relationship there between one of the county emergency managers and someone in the Fusion Cell-I think they are direct family (just an FYI). Also, this is getting some local press (link below). https://www.denverpost.com/2019/12/23/drones-mystery-colorado/

Let me know if there is anything I can do to assist.

-Grant

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, December 20, 2019 8:17 PM @state.co.us> To: Von Letkemann. Grant (FAA) <grant.von.letkemann@faa.gov> @ha.dhs.gov> @state.co.us>; (b) (6) Subject: Re: UAS Questions...

Grant,

Good evening. Thanks for touching base with me, I appreciate it. I got a call the other day about some UAS activity out in Philips and Logan County. According to reports, on several occasions, victims have observed a 4 to 5-foot drone outside of their residence windows, and it appears as though the operator is looking inside of their residence. On one occasion one of the victims followed the drone down a county road as it left his house. We think the drone might have been utilizing the road for navigation. However, what is strange is that the victim reported that he followed the drone for approximately 40 miles. A Phillips County deputy also observed one of these drones and confirmed that it was a rotary-wing aircraft, with lighting that appeared consistent with commercial drone retailers.

While I found the 40 mile rotary part, to be far fetched/concerning, something seems to be happening because I have had reports of 3 more sightings in the following nights since the initial incident, with a new sighting happening tonight in Logan County. Under the circumstances, I am concerned that this information is going to spread to the media, the concern of the local community appears to be growing. Considering the apparent consistent operation with lack of line of sight, and the nature of the UAS activity, is there a chance we could get the FAA's assistance with this issue? If you would like I can get you in contact with the Phillips County officer who took the initial report, and with the Logan County Emergency Manager who personally reached out to the CIAC for assistance. I also don't mind in assisting with this issue in whatever way needed for it to be resolved. Thank you for your time and sorry for the late notice!

Best regards,



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SERVICE * TEAMWORK * RESPECT * INTEGRITY * VISION * EXCELLENCE

Our Mission is to lead and support Colorado's effort to prevent, protect, mitigate, respond to and recover from all-hazard events.

On Fri, Dec 20, 2019 at 10:12 AM Von Letkemann, Grant (FAA) grant.von.letkemann@faa.gov> wrote:

I can try to help with the UAS info- but depending on what it is, I may have to refer it out.

We have a decent website that I think you can access from outside our system. Let me know if that's not the case. https://www.faa.gov/uas/public_safety_gov/public_safety_toolkit/

Thank you, Grant

Grant Von Letkemann II Special Agent Infrastructure Protection Division Federal Aviation Administration, AXF-610 26805 East 68th Avenue, Suite 230 Denver, CO 80249-6339



To report an incident or lost badge, click here \rightarrow FAA's Online Incident Reporting System (WebIRS)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, December 20, 2019 8:08 AM @HQ.DHS.GOV>

To: Von Letkemann. Grant (FAA) <grant.von.letkemann@faa.gov>

Subject: UAS Questions...

Hi Grant,

Our UAS analyst here at the CIAC has a few questions. Not sure if you're the right guy or not, but you might be able to steer him in the right direction.

6 – feel free to reach out to Grant!

Vr,

ce Officer – Rocky Mountain Region
Colorado Information Analysis Center
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Office of Intelligenc 303 239 HSDN: Unclass



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Drone activity

From: (b) (6) < sheriff@lincolnsheriff.net>
To: michael.bumberger@faa.gov

 To:
 michael.bumberger@faa.gov

 Date:
 Mon, 30 Dec 2019 12:02:09 -0500

Michael

I recieved your information from Angela Otis who wanted me to reach out to you to report drone activity in the northern part of our county.

We have only had a couple reports in the last week as most of the activity is in Phillips, Sedgwick and Washington counties.

But our two reports is in the North part of our county in the area of county road 28 and county road 3R. Reporting party states 5-10 large drones flying "grid" patterns at approximately 200 feet.

These reports are approximately 9:30 at night. We are not identifying any criminal violations in our county just concerning to our citizens.

My concern is flight traffic from the Limon airport which is quite a ways from these reports and Airlife who fly missions in the county.

Not uncommon to see day drones in our county but night flights are definitely new.

Any questions feel free to call.

Thank you

Sheriff (b) (6) Lincoln if

(b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone

RE: Drone activity

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov> From:

(b) (6) <sheriff@lincolnsheriff.net> Mon, 30 Dec 2019 12:28:20 -0500 To: Date:

Thank you.

Michael Bumberger

Special Agent Special Agait Federal Aviation Administration National Security Programs and Incident Response Law_____sistance Program (LEAP), AXE-830

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Any questions feel free to call.

Thank you

Sheriff (b) (6) Lincoln

Sent from my iPhone

Re: Mystery Drone Sightings Continue in Colorado, Into Nebraska | Nebraska News | **US News**

From: "Papier, Leesa J (FAA)" < leesa.j.papier@faa.gov>

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov> To:

Date: Mon, 30 Dec 2019 12:50:59 -0500

Bam,

The drone issue is really ratcheting up. Some of the drones flew near Senator Gardner's house.

Could you send a quick update to me. And also, can you reach out to NORTHCOM / NORAD to see what they are tracking? If you need contact info for them, the Cite Watch should have it. Angela just received notification that Gardner's office wants to talk with someone in the administrators office ...

Thanks. Leesa

Sent from my iPhone

> On Dec 30, 2019, at 11:01 AM, Papier, Leesa J (FAA) <leesa.j.papier@faa.gov> wrote: >

NE Colorado Drone Activity UPDATE 1

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov> From:

To:

"Papier, Leesa J (FAA)" <leesa.j.papier@faa.gov>
"Holtzman, Joshua (FAA)" <joshua.holtzman@faa.gov>, "Feddersen, Brett (FAA)"

'guy.tumer@faa.gov>, "Burns, Craig (FAA)" <craig.burns@faa.gov>
Mon, 30 Dec 2019 13:17:23 -0500 Cc:

Date:

Attachments: Eastern Colorado Drone Activity.docx (20.6 kB)

Let me know if there are any question.

R, Bam

Eastern Colorado Drone Activity

Update 1 12/30/2019 0955 PST

This morning AXE830 LEAP Los Angeles spoke with Sheriffs from Washington, Lincoln, and Yuma County.

- Report have been from LE personnel and local citizens
- Washington County Sheriff (b) (6) provided the most detail
- Sheriff (b) (6) has personally observed the activity along with one of his deputies
- Activity has been almost nightly between 1800 and 2200 MST
- Activity consists of multiple "drones" flying a grid type pattern for staying airborne for several hours at a time
- Activity has taken place during less than optimum flying conditions (high winds and storm like conditions)
- Altitudes are difficult to judge due to night time conditions
- Cannot confirm what is being observed are UAS/drones
- No Colorado criminal codes have been violated
- Reports since Thursday indicate a southern movement of the activity. Lincoln County is the latest to receive reports from citizens.
- A new pipeline has been proposed in the Julesburg Basin. The area is northeast Colorado on the Colorado/Nebraska boarder. The counties where the sighting have taken place neighbor the basin.
- No operator has been identified

Denver FSDO is aware of the reports and are looking into it as well. AXE830 and Denver FSDO continue sharing information.

FW: NE Colorado Drone Activity UPDATE 1

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov> From:

To: "Whitaker-Gray, Pamela (FAA)" <pamela.whitaker-gray@faa.gov>, "Stewart, Ed (FAA)" <ed.stewart@faa.gov>

Mon, 30 Dec 2019 13:35:38 -0500 Date:

Attachments: Eastern Colorado Drone Activity.docx (20.6 kB)

FYSA.... We are using a new thread. I will include you on it next update.

R, Bam

From: Bumberger, Michael (FAA)
Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 10:17 AM
To: Papier, Leesa J (FAA) < Leesa J. Papier@faa.gov>
Cc: Holtzman, Joshua (FAA) < Joshua. Holtzman@faa.gov>; Feddersen, Brett (FAA) < Brett. Feddersen@faa.gov>; Turner, Guy (FAA) < Guy. Turner@faa.gov>; Burns, Craig (FAA) < Craig. Burns@faa.gov>
Subject: NE Colorado Drone Activity UPDATE 1

Let me know if there are any question.

Bam

Eastern Colorado Drone Activity

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RE: NE Colorado Drone Activity UPDATE 1

"Papier, Leesa J (FAA)" <leesa.j.papier@faa.gov> From: "Holtzman, Joshua (FAA)" <ioshua.holtzman@faa.gov> To:

Cc: "Turner, Guy (FAA)" <guy.turner@faa.gov>, "Feddersen, Brett (FAA)" <brett.feddersen@faa.gov>, "Burns, Craig (FAA)" <craig.burns@faa.gov>,

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" < michael.bumberger@faa.gov>

Date: Mon, 30 Dec 2019 16:12:44 -0500

Thank you. I agree!!

From: Holtzman, Joshua (FAA) <Joshua.Holtzman@faa.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 4:11 PM To: Papier, Leesa J (FAA) <leesa.j.papier@faa.gov>

Cc: Turner, Guy (FAA) <Guy.Turner@faa.gov>; Feddersen, Brett (FAA) <Brett.Feddersen@faa.gov>; Burns, Craig (FAA) <Craig.Burns@faa.gov>

Subject: Re: NE Colorado Drone Activity UPDATE 1

Importance: High

Makes sense for him to attend the meeting if possible. Thanks Leesa. Interesting about Robotflight and their 107.29 nigh ops waiver.

Joshua Holtzman Acting Deputy Associate Administrator Security and Hazardous Materials Safety (ASH) Federal Aviation Administration Cell:

Cell: (b) Office: 202-267-7980 Sent from my iPad

On Dec 30, 2019, at 16:09, Papier, Leesa J (FAA) < leesa.j.papier@faa.gov > wrote:

Josh,

I have spoken with Bam since the sending of this email.

rie continues to reach out to the Sheriffs in the affected areas, activity continuing in the original two counties. One company, been observed. Bam has called them to request information and Colorado just recently enacted more strict EPA-related laws leaving some to speculate that the birds are conducting IR surveillance for gas leak detection.

Counties. The movement appears to be extending in a southerly direction with activity continuing in the original two counties. One company, appears to have the capability and capacity to fly the extended times that have yet heard back. They do have a 107.29 night waiver. Bam also mentioned that Colorado just recently enacted more strict EPA-related laws leaving some to speculate that the birds are conducting IR surveillance for gas leak detection.

Since the reports are now in the national news, the sheriffs and other law enforcement have been inundated with calls. But he will continue to follow up.

The Sheriffs are having a Conference next week in Lynnwood, CO. They have asked him to attend the Conference and work with the Local Law Enforcement on training and educations

He will continue to keep us apprised of any updates.

Eastern Colorado Drone Activity Update 1 12/30/2019 0955 PST

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Denver FSDO is aware of the reports and are looking into it as well. AXE830 and Denver FSDO continue sharing information.

From: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael.Bumberger@faa.gov >

Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 1:17 PM

To: Papier, Leesa J (FAA) < leesa.j.papier@faa.gov >

Cc: Holtzman, Joshua (FAA) < Joshua. Holtzman@faa.gov >; Feddersen, Brett (FAA) < Brett. Feddersen@faa.gov >; Turner, Guy (FAA) < Guy. Turner@faa.gov >;

Burns, Craig (FAA) < Craig.Burns@faa.gov>

Subject: NE Colorado Drone Activity UPDATE 1

Let me know if there are any question.

Bam

<Eastern Colorado Drone Activity.docx>

NE Colorado Drone Detailed Report 1

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov> From:

"Papier, Leesa J (FAA)" <leesa.j.papier@faa.gov> To:

Cc:

"Holtzman, Joshua (FAA)" <joshua.holtzman@faa.gov>, "Feddersen, Brett (FAA)"

'guy.turner@faa.gov>, "Whitaker-Gray, Pamela (FAA)"
pamela.whitaker-gray@faa.gov>, "Stewart, Ed (FAA)" <ed.stewart@faa.gov>, "Burns,

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Craig (FAA)" <craig.burns@faa.gov>

Mon, 30 Dec 2019 16:19:58 -0500 Date:

Attachments: Colorado Drone Update Details1.docx (26.43 kB)

Please call if anything needs explaining. I have spent a vast majority of today trying to run this down.

Phone calls, interviews, and outreach were completed with Sheriffs from Washington, Yuma, Phillips, Sedgwick, and Lincoln County. Reports of drone activity have been from both LE personnel and local citizens. Each agency contact advised at least one deputy has witnessed the activity. As reported in the media and to me by LE, most reports indicate the drones have been flying in a grid pattern and have not been operating in a manner that place persons on the ground in danger.

All the LE personnel interviewed have stated the activity has been primarily between 1800 and 2200 MST.

The number of drones reported operating at one range from between 2 and 16 and appear to be approximately 6 feet width and length.

Flight time has been 2 to 3 hours continuous.

All reports indicate flight is between 200 and 300 feet. However several people interviewed stated it was hard to determine height due to the darkness and lack of clouds.

Sheriff (b) (6) from Washington County advised the drones were operating in adverse weather conditions with winds over 25 mph.

Sheriff (b) (6) also state he could not confirm what he saw was drone activity because he could not hear a noise from the motor and could not identify anything more than a bright white light. Other sightings lights were also reported to be either flashing or steady white, red, or green. One report mentioned flashing blue lights.

Reports since Thursday indicate a southern movement of the activity. Lincoln County is the latest to receive reports from citizens. Sheriff (b) (6) from Sedgwick County (where some of the first activity was pbserved) advised there have not been flights reported in the county for two nights. This is consistant with southern movement trend.

Possible explanation to the activity; a new pipeline has been proposed in the Julesburg Basin. The area is northeast Colorado on the Colorado/Nebraska boarder. The counties where the sighting have taken place neighbor the basin. Additionally, there are several existing gas pipeline running through eastern Colorado flight could be infrared gas detection. Still doesn't explain why a company would not step up and advised of inspection activity.

A list of pipeline co-op user was located. Calls are being made to inquire about inspection activity.

NORTHCOM and NORAD do not have any information, other than they are aware of the reports.

AXE830 is collaborating with Denver FSDO and continues the share information.

RE: CO & NE SIGHTINGS

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov> From: "Fields, Arjuna CTR (FAA)" <arjuna.ctr.fields@faa.gov> To:

Mon, 30 Dec 2019 16:33:16 -0500 Date:

Attachments: Colorado Drone Update Details1.docx (26.43 kB)

Likewise.... Today's event.

Mike

Michael Bumberger

Special Agent Federal Aviation Administration National Security Programs and Incident Response Law Enforcement Assistance Program (LEAP), AXE-830 Cell:

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From: Fields, Arjuna CTR (FAA) <arjuna.ctr.fields@faa.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 1:32 PM

To: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael.Bumberger@faa.gov > Subject: CO & NE SIGHTINGS

Great talking to you today.

Thank you, Tuna

Arjuna Fields
NISC / Tactical Operations
FAA CSC ATO AJV-C23
W: (817) 222-4639
C: (b) (6)
arjuna.ctr.fields@raa.gov leidos

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FW: drone info.

From: "Lloyd, Michael S (FAA)" <michael.s.lloyd@faa.gov>

To: "Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov>

Date: Mon, 30 Dec 2019 16:53:07 -0500

Agent Bumberger,

received from the Lincoln FSDO regarding our mysterious drones. Ms. Kerns called me shortly after sending the e-mail and told me to google at looks like they do commercial drone work.

Michael Lloy d Aviation Safety Aviation Safety Technician Denver FSDO, ANM-FSDO-03 Office: 303.342.1114

From: Kerns, Julie (FAA) <Julie.Kerns@faa.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 2:27 PM
To: Lloyd, Michael S (FAA) <Michael.S.Lloyd@faa.gov>

Subject: drone info.

The following information was also sent to your office manager, Dale Ogden.

Received a call regarding multiple, larger sized drones flying over rural western Nebraska in Perkins County, between Ogallala and Grant, NE. Gentleman reported there were maybe 12 or more drones with a 6 foot wingspan flying approximately 200 feel AGL, in a grid pattern. From his contacts, the drones seem to have covered 10 to 20 square miles. Some farmers/ranchers reported the drones flying over their farmsteads. The caller stated he saw the drones December 29th approximately from 7:00 pm to 10 or 10:30 MST. He was unable to get a photo or video.

Reports of (b) (6), (b) truck being in Grant, NE on Sunday, December 29th has led to speculation the drones may be associated with the company and possibly be mapping for gas or oil.

The caller stated he would provide a statement. I asked if he talked to other witnesses to have them reach out to this office as well. The caller does have an aviation background; he is a private pilot.

Grant is the county seat of Perkins Count had a population of 1,165 in 2010. The county population was 2,970 in 2010.

OFFICE EMAIL... 7-AFS-ACE-LNK-FSDO-09@faa.gov

Julie A. Kerns
Aviation Safety Technician
Flight Standards District Office
3431 Aviation Road, Suite 120
Lincoln NF
(5) (6)

The Lincoln Flight Standards District Office is dedicated to quality service and values your feedback. Please provide any feedback at: https://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/avs/stakeholder_feedback/afx/field/sf_fsdo/

RE: drone info.

From: "Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov>
To: "Llovd, Michael S (FAA)" <michael.s.llovd@faa.gov>

Date: Mon, 30 Dec 2019 17:08:31 -0500

Thank you. Has anyone reached out to ? If not I will

From: Lloyd, Michael S (FAA) <Michael.S.Lloyd@faa.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 1:53 PM

To: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael. Bumberger@faa.gov>

Subject: FW: drone info.

Agent Bumberger,

received from the Lincoln FSDO regarding our mysterious drones. Ms. Kerns called me shortly after sending the e-mail and told me to google (5) (5) (6) (6) It looks like they do commercial drone work.

Michael Lloyd Aviation Safety Aviation Safety Technician Denver FSDO, ANM-FSDO-03 Office: 303.342.1114

From: Kerns, Julie (FAA) < Julie.Kerns@faa.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 2:27 PM
To: Lloyd, Michael S (FAA) < Michael.S.Lloyd@faa.gov>
Subject: drone info.

The following information was also sent to your office manager, Dale Ogden.

Received a call regarding multiple, larger sized drones flying over rural western Nebraska in Perkins County, between Ogallala and Grant, NE. Gentleman reported there were maybe 12 or more drones with a 6 foot wingspan flying approximately 200 feel AGL, in a grid pattern. From his contacts, the drones seem to have covered 10 to 20 square miles. Some farmers/ranchers reported the drones flying over their farmsteads. The caller stated he saw the drones December 29th approximately from 7:00 pm to 10 or 10:30 MST. He was unable to get a photo or video.

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Julie A. Kerns Aviation Safety Technician Flight Standards District Office 3431 Aviation Road, Suite 120 Lincoln NF

(b) (6)

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RE: drone info.

"Lloyd, Michael S (FAA)" < michael.s.lloyd@faa.gov> From:

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" < michael.bumberger@faa.gov> To:

Date: Mon, 30 Dec 2019 17:17:24 -0500

Yes.

I called (b) (5), (b) They are located in Alberta, Canada. They have no knowledge of our drone occurrences. I have not contacted (b), (5), (b) yet.

Michael Hoyd

Michael Lloyd Aviation Safety Aviation Safety Technician Denver FSDO, ANM-FSDO-03 Office: 303.342.1114

From: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) <Michael.Bumberger@faa.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 3:09 PM
To: Lloyd, Michael S (FAA) <Michael.S.Lloyd@faa.gov>

Subject: RE: drone info.

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Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 1:53 PM

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Subject: FW: drone info.

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RE: NE Colorado Drone Activity UPDATE 1

From: "Papier, Leesa J (FAA)" <leesa.j.papier@faa.gov>
To: "Holtzman, Joshua (FAA)" <joshua.holtzman@faa.gov>

Cc: "Turner, Guy (FAA)" <guy.turner@faa.gov>, "Feddersen, Brett (FAA)"
brett.feddersen@faa.gov>, "Burns, Craig (FAA)" <craig.burns@faa.gov>,

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov>

Date: Mon, 30 Dec 2019 17:22:00 -0500

Josh.

Regarding inquiries to the Drone activity in North East Colorado.

Michael Bumberger began looking into the reports on Thursday after seeing several references in the news, to include the Denver Post on Monday (12/23). https://www.denverpost.com/2019/12/23/drones-mystery-colorado/

The US News report (12/28) appears to be circular reporting and in the aggregate, reports are not conclusive or substantiated at this point in time.

Michael Bumberger (Bam), AXE 830 LEAP, spoke with Sheriffs from Washington, Lincoln, and Yuma Counties to gather additional information and provid ance. From this interaction, Bam found reports have been received from both law enforcement and local citizens with Washington County Sheriff, and his Deputy providing first-hand accounts. The activity reported occurs primarily between the hours of 1800 and 2200 MST and demonstrate he not multiple "drones" flying a grid type pattern and remaining airborne for several hours at a time in less than optimum flying conditions (high winds and storm-like conditions). Observers of the aircraft have been unable to determine altitude. Reports are extending in a southerly direction with activity continuing in the original two counties. Lincoln County is the latest county to report activity.

Two explanations that lead toward survey operations: 1) A new pipeline has been proposed in the Julesburg Basin, an area northeast Colorado on the Colorado/Nebraska boarder and the counties where the sightings have taken place neighbor that basin; and 2) Colorado recently enacted more strict EPA-related laws leaving some to speculate that the aircraft are conducting IR surveillance for gas leak detection. No operators have been identified yet, but Bam continues to research options.

Since the reports are now in the national news, the sheriffs and other law enforcement have been inundated with calls. But he will continue to follow up. Law Enforcement has been consistent in stating that no Colorado criminal codes have been violated and there is no confirmation that these observables are UAS.

The Sheriffs are having a Conference next week in Lynnwood, CO. They have asked Bam to attend the Conference and work with the Local Law Enforcement on training and education. Denver FSDO is aware of the reports and are looking into it as well. AXE830 and Denver FSDO continue sharing information.

Bam researched out to one company, (b) (5), who has the capability and capacity to fly extended hours as observed and was granted a 107.29 night waiver. We have just confirmed they are not on the areas with reported sightings.

He will continue to keep us apprised of any updates.

Please let Bam or me know if you need anything.

Thank you, Leesa

FW: Swarms of Giant UAS in the Colorado and Nebraska areas

From: "Papier, Leesa J (FAA)" <leesa.j.papier@faa.gov>

To: "Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov>

Date: Mon, 30 Dec 2019 17:23:44 -0500

From: 9-AWA-ASH-WOC (FAA) <9-AWA-ASH-WOC@faa.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 4:44 PM

To: Stubblefield, Angela H (FAA) <Angela.H.Stubblefield@faa.gov>; 9-AWA-ASH-EIC (FAA) <FAA-EIC@faa.gov>; 9-AWA-ASH-WOC (FAA) <9-AWA-ASH-WOC@faa.gov>; 9-ASH-AXE-CITE-Watch (FAA) <9-awa-ash-aeo-cite-watch@faa.gov>; Anderson, John A (FAA) <John.A.Anderson@faa.gov>; Arroyo, Javier (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Beauchamp, Dale (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Baulkner, Don (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Baulkner, Don (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Faulkner, Don (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Baulkner, Don (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Baulkner, Don (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Gordon, Garland (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Gordon, Garland (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Holtzman, Joshua (FAA) <Indoore@faa.gov>; John.Son, Dennis A (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Holtzman, Joshua (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; John.Son, Dennis A (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Holtzman, Joshua (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Manno, Claudio.Manno@faa.gov>; McBurrows, Walter (FAA) <Walter.McBurrows@faa.gov>; Mitchell, Karlesta (FAA) <karlesta.mitchell@faa.gov>; Moore, Gerald (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Mitchelle.Root@faa.gov>; Moore, Gerald (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Mitchelle.Root@faa.gov>; Sinder, Aaron (FAA) <John.A.Arthur.Bell@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray, Pamela.Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray, Pamela.Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray.Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov>; Whitaker-Gray@faa.gov

Subject: Swarms of Giant UAS in the Colorado and Nebraska areas

FYSA

Received a call from Mr. Arjuna Fields (Arjuna.CTR.Fields@faa.gov) (work) 817-222-4639 reference these reports.

https://www.wearethemighty.com/news/nobody-knows-mysterious-drone-swarms

https://markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/giant-drone-swarm-mystery-in-colorado-nebraska-skies-2019-12-1028787104

Regards,

Garland Gordon

Washington Operations Center AXE-100 Phone: 202-267-3333 Fax: 202-267-5289 VIPER Phone: 202-267-5290



WASHINGTON OPERATIONS CENTER

RE: drone info.

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" < michael.bumberger@faa.gov> From: "Lloyd, Michael S (FAA)" <michael.s.lloyd@faa.gov> To:

Mon, 30 Dec 2019 17:29:45 -0500 Date:

If you don't mind I will contact (b) (5), (b) in the morning.

From: Lloyd, Michael S (FAA) < Michael.S.Lloyd@faa.gov> Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 2:17 PM

To: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael. Bumberger@faa.gov>

Subject: RE: drone info.

I called (6) (5) (b) They are located in Alberta, Canada. They have no knowledge of our drone occurrences. I have not contacted (b) (5) (b) yet.

Michael Lloyd Aviation Safety Aviation Safety Technician Denver FSDO, ANM-FSDO-03 Office: 303.342.1114

From: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael.Bumberger@faa.gov > Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 3:09 PM

To: Lloyd, Michael S (FAA) < Michael.S.Lloyd@faa.gov>

Subject: RE: drone info.

Thank you. Has anyone reached out to (6) ? If not I will

From: Lloyd, Michael S (FAA) < Michael.S.Lloyd@faa.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 1:53 PM

To: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael.Bumberger@faa.gov>

Subject: FW: drone info.

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OFFICE EMAIL... 7-AFS-ACE-LNK-FSDO-09@faa.gov

Julie A. Kerns Aviation Safety Technician Flight Standards District Office 3431 Aviation Road, Suite 120 <u>Lincoln NE</u>

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RE: drone info.

"Lloyd, Michael S (FAA)" < michael.s.lloyd@faa.gov> From:

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" < michael.bumberger@faa.gov> To:

Date: Mon, 30 Dec 2019 17:35:13 -0500

No problem. On a hunch I have been looking at Natural Gas lines in the reported areas, so there may be a connection.

Michael Lloyd Aviation Safety Aviation Safety Technician Denver FSDO, ANM-FSDO-03 Office: 303.342.1114

From: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael. Bumberger@faa.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 3:30 PM

To: Lloyd, Michael S (FAA) < Michael.S.Lloyd@faa.gov>

Subject: RE: drone info.

If you don't mind I will contact (b) (5), (b) in the morning.

From: Lloyd, Michael S (FAA) < Michael.S.Lloyd@faa.gov> Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 2:17 PM To: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael.Bumberger@faa.gov> Subject: RE: drone info.

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Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 3:09 PM

To: Lloyd, Michael S (FAA) < Michael.S.Lloyd@faa.gov >

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To: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael.Bumberger@faa.gov >

Subject: FW: drone info.

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Julie A. Kerns Aviation Safety Technician Flight Standards District Office 3431 Aviation Road, Suite 120



 $\label{thm:confice} The \ Lincoln Flight \ Standards \ District \ Office \ is \ dedicated \ to \ quality \ service \ and \ values \ your \ feedback. \ Please \ provide \ any \ feedback \ at: \ \underline{https://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/avs/stakeholder_feedback/afx/field/sf_fsdo/}$

Re: NE Colorado Drone Activity UPDATE 1

From: "Holtzman, Joshua (FAA)" <joshua.holtzman@faa.gov>

To: "Manno, Claudio (FAA)" <claudio.manno@faa.gov>, "Stubblefield, Angela H (FAA)" <angela.h.stubblefield@faa.gov>

Cc: "Turner, Guy (FAA)" <guy.turner@faa.gov>, "Feddersen, Brett (FAA)" <bre>brett.feddersen@faa.gov>, "Burns, Craig (FAA)" <craig.burns@faa.gov>,

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov>, "Papier, Leesa J (FAA)" <leesa.j.papier@faa.gov>, "Bumberger, Michael (FAA)"

<michael.bumberger@faa.gov>
Date: Mon, 30 Dec 2019 17:48:48 -0500

Claudio/Angela: Here is the latest from Bam. He continues to investigate possible explanations and coordinate with LE on the ground.

losh

Joshua Holtzman Acting Deputy Associate Administrator Security and Hazardous Materials Safety (ASH) Federa ministration

Cell: (b) (6)
Office. 80
Sent from my iPad

On Dec 30, 2019, at 17:22, Papier, Leesa J (FAA) <leesa.j.papier@faa.gov> wrote:

Josh,

Regarding inquiries to the Drone activity in North East Colorado.

Michael Bumberger began looking into the reports on Thursday after seeing several references in the news, to include the Denver Post on Monday (12/23). https://www.denverpost.com/2019/12/23/drones-mystery-colorado/

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He will continue to keep us apprised of any updates.

Please let Bam or me know if you need anything

Thank you,

Leesa

RE: UAS Questions...

"Von Letkemann, Grant (FAA)" <grant.von.letkemann@faa.gov> From: "Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov> To:

Cc: "Yun, Kyung S (FAA)" <kyung.s.yun@faa.gov>

Tue, 31 Dec 2019 09:33:02 -0500 Date:

Good morning.

The state of Colorado is planning to officially request FAA assistance with figuring out who is operating these drones.

How should I route the official request from the state? Do you want me to have them send it to you, route it through the ROC, or send it to your Division Manager with LEAP?

Grant

From: Von Letkemann, Grant (FAA)

Sent: Tuesday, December 24, 2019 3:27 PM

To: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael. Bumberger@faa.gov>

Cc: Yun, Kyung S (FAA) <Kyung.S.Yun@faa.gov>
Subject: FW: UAS Questions...

Mike-

Below is an email string from one of the analysts at the CIAG (Fusion Cell).

They originally reached out to me and I gave them the UAS website. They reached out a second time (below) with specifics and I advised them that I would need to forward this to you as the LEAP person.

They are looking for someone to talk to about some issues with UAS's in Eastern CO. Keaton Pope is probably the best POC to start with. Just a heads up- there is a relationship there between one of the county emergency managers and someone in the Fusion Cell- I think they are direct family (just an FYI). Also, this is getting some local press (link below). https://www.denverpost.com/2019/12/23/drones-mystery-colorado/.

Let me know if there is anything I can do to assist. -Grant

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, December 20, @state.co.us>

To: Von Letkemann, Grant (FAA) < grant.von.letkemann@faa.gov>

Cc: Devon Rhoads - CDPS <<u>devon.rhoads@state.co.us</u>>; Grenis, Timothy <<u>timothy.grenis@hq.dhs.gov</u>>

Subject: Re: UAS Questions...

Grant,

Good evening. Thanks for touching base with me, I appreciate it. I got a call the other day about some UAS activity out in Philips and Logan County. According to reports, on several occasions, victims have observed a 4 to 5-foot drone outside of their residence windows, and it appears as though the operator is looking inside of their residence. On one occasion one of the victims followed the drone down a county road as it left his house. We think the drone might have been utilizing the road for navigation. However, what is strange is that the victim reported that he followed the drone for approximately 40 miles. A Phillips County deputy also observed one of these drones and confirmed that it was a rotary-wing aircraft, with lighting that appeared consistent with commercial drone retailers.

While I found the 40 mile rotary part, to be far fetched/concerning, something seems to be happening because I have had reports of 3 more sightings in the following nights since the initial incident, with a new sighting happening tonight in Logan County. Under the circumstances, I am concerned that this information is going to spread to the media, the concern of the local community appears to be growing. Considering the apparent consistent operation with lack of line of sight, and the nature of the UAS activity, is there a chance we could get the FAA's assistance with this issue? If you would like I can get you in contact with the Phillips County officer who took the initial report, and with the Logan County Emergency Manager who personally reached out to the CIAC for assistance. I also don't mind in assisting with this issue in whatever way needed for it to be resolved. Thank you for your time and sorry for the late notice!

Best regards,

| IP/UAS Intelligence Analyst

Work| 720.576.8757 Fax| 720.852.6768 690 Kipling St. Suite 2100, Lakewood, CO 80226

@state.co.us | www.COEmergency.com | www.DHSEM.state.co.us | www.Colorado.gov/MARS | www.READYColorado.com

Twitter: @COEmergency | Facebook: COEmergency Twitter: @READYColorado | Facebook: READYColorado

Receive COEmergency Twitter messages by text: Simply text follow COEmergency to 40404.

(fees may apply)

SERVICE * TEAMWORK * RESPECT * INTEGRITY * VISION * EXCELLENCE

On Fri, Dec 20, 2019 at 10:12 AM Von Letkemann, Grant (FAA) <grant.von.letkemann@faa.gov> wrote:

Good morning,
I can try to help with the UAS info- but depending on what it is, I may have to refer it out.
We have a decent website that I think you can access from outside our system. Let me know if that's not the case.
https://www.faa.gov/uas/public_safety_gov/public_safety_toolkit/

Thank you, Grant

Grant Von Letkemann II Special Agent Infrastructure Protection Division Federal Aviation Administration, AXF-610 26805 East 68th Avenue, Suite 230 Denver, CO 80249-6339



To report an incident or lost badge, click here \rightarrow FAA's Online Incident Reporting System (WebIRS)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: F
AM

To: Von Letkemann Grant (FAA) < grant.von.letkemann@faa.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)
@state.co.us>

Hi Grant,

Our UAS analyst here at the CIAC has a few questions. Not sure if you're the right guy or not, but you might be able to steer him in the right direction.

– feel free to reach out to Grant!

Vr,

e Officer – Rocky Mountain Region
Colorado Information Analysis Center
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Office of Intelligenc
303.239
(b) (6) (c)
HSDN: (b) (6) (goy
Unclass (b) (6) (hq.dhs.goy



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FW: CO & NE SUSPECTED UAS SWARM SIGHTINGS (INTERNAL ONLY)

From: "Fields, Arjuna CTR (FAA)" <arjuna.ctr.fields@faa.gov>
To: "Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov>

Date: Tue, 31 Dec 2019 10:09:25 -0500

Attachments: Colorado LEAP Drone Update Details1.docx (13.1 kB)

For your SA, this is what I sent to the Service Center Directors yesterday afternoon. Some of the folks are not familiar with LEAP and the ASH & AJR offices. I used the email to educate them a bit also.

From: Fields, Arjuna CTR (FAA)

Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 4:54 PM

To: Atchley, Andy (FAA) <andy.atchley@faa.gov>; Desing, Clark (FAA) <Clark.Desing@faa.gov>; Maibach, Joseph (FAA) <Joseph.Maibach@faa.gov>; Page, John (FAA) <John.Page@faa.gov>; Murray, Stacy (FAA) <Stacy.Murray@faa.gov>; Szukala, Steven L (FAA) <steven.l.szukala@faa.gov>; Forkner, Johanna (FAA) <Johanna.Forkner@faa.gov>; Giles, Vonnie L (FAA) <vonnie.l.Giles@faa.gov>; Chew, Byron (FAA) <Byron.Chew@faa.gov>

Subject: CO & NE SUSPECTED UAS SWARM SIGHTINGS (INTERNAL ONLY)

Andy & Clark,

Based on the article on the FAA website today, there are a lot of questions within HQ offices and at the Service Center Director level on the recent, suspected UAS sightings in Colorado and Nebraska.

This afternoon I reached out to the WOC, SOSC, and a few POCs within ASH, AXE, & AJR...they had no official reports or talking points. Finally, I tracked down the local FAA Law Enforcement Assistance Program (LEAP) agent that is working the case in CO/NE. He sent his initial report (attached) today to HQ. From the attached report, there is not conclusive evidence on the origin or nature of the sightings. The LEAP agent is collaborating with the Denver FSDO and several local law enforcement entities to acquire more evidence so that a positive ID can be made. I chatted with the WSC OSG and they have done a preliminary review of known UAS authorizations for possible linkages.

Janet Riffe is briefing Josh Holtzman so he can brief Angela Stubblefield and the Administrator. I would assume that more information and possibly official talking points will flow to Mission Support Services and Directors tonight or tomorrow as more info becomes available.

Thank you,

Arjuna Fields
NISC / Tactical Operations
FAA CSC ATO AJV-C23
W: (
C: (b) (6)
arjuna.ctr.rields@raa.gov

Phone calls, interviews, and outreach were completed with Sheriffs from Washington, Yuma, Phillips, Sedgwick, and Lincoln County. Reports of drone activity have been from both LE personnel and local citizens. Each agency contact advised at least one deputy has witnessed the activity. As reported in the media and to me by LE, most reports indicate the drones have been flying in a grid pattern and have not been operating in a manner that place persons on the ground in danger.

All the LE personnel interviewed have stated the activity has been primarily between 1800 and 2200 MST.

The number of drones reported operating at one range from between 2 and 16 and appear to be approximately 6 feet width and length.

Flight time has been 2 to 3 hours continuous.

All reports indicate flight is between 200 and 300 feet. However several people interviewed stated it was hard to determine height due to the darkness and lack of clouds.

Sheriff (b) (6) from Washington County advised the drones were operating in adverse weather conditions with winds over 25 mph.

Sheriff (b) (6) also state he could not confirm what he saw was drone activity because he could not hear a noise from the motor and could not identify anything more than a bright white light. Other sightings lights were also reported to be either flashing or steady white, red, or green. One report mentioned flashing blue lights.

Reports since Thursday indicate a southern movement of the activity. Lincoln County is the latest to receive reports from citizens. Sheriff (b) (6) from Sedgwick County (where some of the first activity was pbserved) advised there have not been flights reported in the county for two nights. This is consistant with southern movement trend.

Possible explanation to the activity; a new pipeline has been proposed in the Julesburg Basin. The area is northeast Colorado on the Colorado/Nebraska boarder. The counties where the sighting have taken place neighbor the basin. Additionally, there are several existing gas pipeline running through eastern Colorado flight could be infrared gas detection. Still doesn't explain why a company would not step up and advised of inspection activity.

A list of pipeline co-op user was located. Calls are being made to inquire about inspection activity.

To date no operator has been identified. SA Burns mentioned an aerial survey company he ran across at Kit Carson airport several years ago. Several attempts have been made to call and email (b) (5), (b) (c) (c), (d) (d) (e) (e) (f), (e) (f), (f) (f), (f)

NORTHCOM and NORAD do not have any information, other than they are aware of the reports.

AXE830 is collaborating with Denver FSDO and continues the share information.

FW: LEAP

From: "Lloyd, Michael S (FAA)" <michael.s.lloyd@faa.gov>

To: "Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov>

Cc: "Kerns, Julie (FAA)" <julie.kerns@faa.gov> **Date:** Tue, 31 Dec 2019 13:21:44 -0500

Agent Bumberger,

Please see the question below from AST Kerns at the Lincoln FSDO.

Michael Lloyd Aviation Safety Aviation Safety Technician Denver FSDO, ANM-FSDO-03 Office: 303.342.1114

From: Kerns, Julie (FAA) <Julie.Kerns@faa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 31, 2019 11:20 AM
To: Lloyd, Michael S (FAA) <Michael.S.Lloyd@faa.gov>

Subject: LEAP

Michael,

Question for you... Do you know if LEAP has made contact with Kansas folks? We received more reports of drones spotted south of Imperial, NE in the Benkelman/Haigler. That is just north of Kansas. Could be heading that area next?

OFFICE EMAIL... 7-AFS-ACE-LNK-FSDO-09@faa.gov

Julie A. Kerns Aviation Safety Technician Flight Standards District Office 3431 Aviation Road, Suite 120 Lincoln NF

(b) (6)

The Lincoln Flight Standards District Office is dedicated to quality service and values your feedback. Please provide any feedback at: https://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/avs/stakeholder_feedback/afx/field/sf_fsdo/

Re: FAA POC

From: @gmail.com>

(b) (6) @gmail.com/ "Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov> To:

Tue, 31 Dec 2019 14:11:11 -0500 Date:

Attachments: Chase Co Sheriff Drone Call Sheet -12-30-2019.pdf (58.16 kB)

This is my issued account.. We do not have .gov accounts.

let me know if you need more info,

Thanks

Deputy (b) (6)

On Tue, Dec 31, 2019 at 11:47 AM Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael.Bumberger@faa.gov > wrote:

When you get the opportunity can you send me an email from your department/gov issued email account.

Thank you,

Mike

Michael Bumberger

Special Agent

Federal Aviation Administration

National Security Programs and Incident Response

Law Enforcement Assistance Program (LEAP), AXE-830

Cell: (b) (6)

Fax: (310) 725-6660

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Chase County Sheriff's Office

921 Broadway Imperial, NE 69033

December 31, 2019

Call for Service

Created:

2019-12-30 06:45 PM MST

Updated:

2019-12-30 09:26 PM MST

Case Numbers:

2019-0002999 (Suspicious Activity)

Call Type:

Suspicious Activity

Reported By/From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Call Status:

Unassigned

Priority:

Medium

Notes:

- 2019-12-30 06:45 PM MST

a pair of drones were following us. when we stopped they stopped now they are just hovering here. both appear to be white. one had a spot light and has flown off the other is still here. about 200' off the ground.

- 2019-12-30 06:45 PM MST

advised 9724

- 2019-12-30 06:47 PM MST

RP is on private property near the intersection of road 727 in a red and white pickup

- 2019-12-30 06:59 PM MST

9724 10-78 i have a cluster of these drones over WAU

- 2019-12-30 07:09 PM MST

called rp they had went home with no incident. 9724 10-78 dozen or so of these drones in the area

- 2019-12-30 07:11 PM MST

9724 - 10-78 i will be heading to old 6 for better vantage point

b) (**6)**, (**b)** (**7**)(**C)** - 2019-12-30 07:30 PM MST

Licking called drones are reported over the Parks area too

- 2019-12-30 07:31 PM MST

9724 is 10-8

1/2

- 2019-12-30 07:31 PM MST

10-98 10-8

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) - 2019-12-30 08:01 PM MST

a resident in WAU stated saw a drone flying away from her house to the East she was afraid to change her clothes

- 2019-12-30 08:03 PM MST

Male RP states seeing a handful of drones near the Dundy/Chase County line on HWY 61. Far enough UP he was not confident he could shoot it with a rifle.

- 2019-12-30 08:13 PM MST

318 @ 743 rd 3 drones overhead

- 2019-12-30 09:22 PM MST

9723 print and hold CO LUP484 Denver Wholesale Florist 4800 n dahlia st denver co

Location:

Nebraska

United States of America

Beats/Districts: Chase County Sheriff's Office (Chase County Sheriff's Office)

Assignment History:

2019-12-30 06:45 PM MST - 9724 Dispatched 2019-12-30 06:54 PM MST - 9724 Enroute 2019-12-30 07:05 PM MST - 9724 On Scene

2019-12-30 07:16 PM MST - 9724 In Service 2019-12-30 07:16 PM MST - 9724 Removed

Related Entities

Other Entities

Address: NE Location of

United States of America 40.3645957, -101.3802394

Phone Number: 3088831969

Used to report

Country:

United States of America

FW: FAA POC

"Bumberger, Michael (FAA)" <michael.bumberger@faa.gov> From:

"Papier, Leesa J (FAA)" <leesa.j.papier@faa.gov> To:

Tue, 31 Dec 2019 14:41:00 -0500 Date:

Attachments: Chase Co Sheriff Drone Call Sheet -12-30-2019.pdf (58.16 kB)

Call out sheet from Chase County So, Nebraska. Thought I would share, for your reading pleasure. Have a Happy and Safe New Year.

R, Bam

From: (b) (6) @gmail.
Sent: Tuesday, December 31, 2019 11:11 AM @gmail.com>

To: Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael. Bumberger@faa.gov>

Subject: Re: FAA POC

This is my issued account.. We do not have .gov accounts.

let me know if you need more info,

Thanks

Deputy (b) (6)

On Tue, Dec 31, 2019 at 11:47 AM Bumberger, Michael (FAA) < Michael.Bumberger@faa.gov > wrote:

When you get the opportunity can you send me an email from your department/gov issued email account.

Thank you, Mike

Michael Bumberger

Special Agent
Federal Aviation Administration
National Security Programs and Incident Response
sistance Program (LEAP), AXE-830

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