



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: February 1, 2025

TO: Joe LaCava, Council President, San Diego City Council  
Ike Anyanetu, Chair, Privacy Advisory Board

FROM: Steven Lozano, Deputy Chief, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

SUBJECT: Notification and Privacy Advisory Board Scheduling Request – Annual Surveillance Report

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Pursuant to §210.0108 of the San Diego Municipal Code (SDMC), please consider this written memorandum a formal notification that the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD) is seeking to present the Department's Annual Surveillance Report to the Privacy Advisory Board.

Specifically, SDFD will be seeking San Diego City Council approval for the continued use of the Department's Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) surveillance technology. This memorandum is accompanied by the Annual Surveillance Report for the UAS Program. The San Diego Fire-Rescue Department has also received PAB approval for the OB Pier and Mission Bay Camera System (Camera System) surveillance technology. The Camera System has not yet been implemented, however, pursuant to SDMC §210.0108(c), SDFD is seeking continued approval for use the technology. SDFD anticipates the Camera System to be installed and operational within the calendar year. Therefore, this memorandum is accompanied by the Annual Surveillance Report for the Camera System. I appreciate you scheduling this matter at the next scheduled meeting, which appears to be February 20, 2025.

Respectfully,

Steven Lozano

cc Joe LaCava, Council President  
Jennifer Campbell, Councilmember  
Stephen Whitburn, Councilmember  
Henry L. Foster III, Councilmember  
Marni von Wilpert, Councilmember  
Kent Lee, Councilmember  
Raul Campillo, Councilmember  
Vivian Moreno, Councilmember  
Sean Elo-Rivera, Councilmember  
Ike Anyanetu, Chair of Privacy Advisory Board  
Yaw Dapaa, Privacy Advisory Board  
Ted Womack, Jr, Privacy Advisory Board  
Tim Blood, Privacy Advisory Board  
Pegah Parsi, Privacy Advisory Board  
Taura Gentry Kelso, Privacy Advisory Board  
Ioana Magdalena Donea, Privacy Advisory Board  
Brett Timothy Diehl, Privacy Advisory Board  
Lee Duran, Privacy Advisory Board



# Annual Surveillance Report

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)  
San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

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**Department/Division: Fire/Special Operations**

**Subject Matter Expert: Captain Jeff Ring**

**Phone Number and Extension: (619) 236-6815**

**Related Policy/Procedure:**

- SDFD Operations Manual, Standard Instruction 02, Section 46 – Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)
  - SDFD UAS Operations Manual
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## DESCRIPTION

SDFD UAS were dispatched to a total of 19 incidents during calendar year 2024. The incident types included structure fires, vegetation fires, a natural gas leak, and a cave rescue. Of the 19 incident dispatches, SDFD flew the UAS on 8 of these incidents. The primary purpose of the UAS flights were to locate hot spots during active fire incidents and to confirm extinguishment.

## SHARING OF DATA

Of the 8 incidents where the UAS was flown, imagery was retained from two of the incidents.

- January 9, 2024 – The UAS responded to a cave rescue in the Sunset Cliffs area. The UAS captured aerial images of the cave rescue site and were transferred to the SDFD Training Division to be included in the incident After Action Review (AAR). No PII was captured in any of the images.
- February 13, 2024 – At the request of the City of San Diego Office of Emergency Services, the UAS was dispatched to the Tijuana River Valley. The purpose of the flight was to evaluate trash and debris build up in the river. Three images were captured and transferred to City OES. No PII was captured in any of the images.

## LOCATION

The UAS is a mobile resource that is deployed to a location upon request on an as needed basis.

## UPDATES, UPGRADES, AND CONFIGURATION CHANGES



# Annual Surveillance Report

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)  
San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

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In late 2024, SDFD has initiated the process of replacing aging aircraft. The capabilities and uses of UAS remain the same as approved in the SDFD Surveillance Use Policy.

## DEPLOYMENT LOCATION

During calendar year 2024, UAS flights occurred in council districts 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, and in the City of Santee.

## COMMUNITY COMPLAINTS OR CONCERNS

SDFD did not receive any complaints or inquiries regarding UAS operations in calendar year 2024.

## AUDITS OR INVESTIGATIONS

The UAS Program Manager conducted an annual audit for calendar year 2024 for all UAS operations. The results from the internal audit showed that authorized department personnel did comply with the Surveillance Use Policy. There were not any violations of the Surveillance Use Policy.

## DATA BREACH OR UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS

SDFD did not detect any data breaches or unauthorized access to the data collected by the UAS.

## DATA BREACH DETECTION

The City's Department of Information Technology oversees the IT governance process and works with SDFD's Department of IT regarding project execution and risk assessment, selecting, and approving technology solutions. Cyber security and technology risks are also assessed by the Department of IT. For additional details related to IT governance processes, refer to the information at the following link:

<https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/fy23-fy27-it-strategic-plan-sd.pdf>

SDFD was not notified of any data breaches relating to UAS data.

## PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUESTS

SDFD did not receive any Public Record Act Requests in calendar year 2024 relating to UAS operations.

## ANNUAL COST



# Annual Surveillance Report

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)  
San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

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The SDFD UAS Program is staffed by full time personnel as a collateral duty and has not required the hiring of additional staff.

During FY25, SDFD will spend \$321,986.71 in Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant funds to purchase new aircraft. As of January 2025, four new aircraft have been received and are in the process of being placed in service.

## **REQUESTED MODIFICATIONS TO THE USE POLICY**

SDFD is not requesting any modifications to the current UAS Surveillance Use Policy.



# Annual Surveillance Report

## Mission Bay and OB Pier UASI Camera System

San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

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**Department/Division:** Fire- Rescue/Lifeguard Services

**Subject Matter Expert:** James Gartland, Lifeguard Chief

**Phone Number and Extension:** (619) 221 8832

**Related Policy/Procedure:**

- Mission Bay and OB Pier UASI Camera System Surveillance Use Policy
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## DESCRIPTION

The Mission Bay and Ocean Beach (OB) Pier Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Camera System (Camera System) has not yet been purchased. This tool is planned for San Diego Fire Rescue Department's (SDFD) Lifeguard Services Division to observe water-related emergencies and public safety concerns on both Mission Bay and in the Pacific Ocean, adjacent to the Ocean Beach Pier. The Camera System is intended to increase capabilities for public safety and emergency management. As of January 31, 2025, the Camera System installation is not complete, and the Camera System has yet to be operational. Pursuant to § 210.0108(c) of the San Diego Municipal Code, the Department is seeking continued approval for use the technology. The Department anticipates the OB Pier and Mission Bay Camera System to be installed and operational within the calendar year (2025).

## SHARING OF DATA

No sharing of data has occurred, as the Camera System is not yet operational.

## LOCATION

As described in the Surveillance Technology approval process, the Surveillance Use Policy, and the Surveillance Impact Report, SDFD intends to install the Camera System at the following locations:

- OB Pier: 5100 Niagara Ave. San Diego CA 92107 GPS: 32.7502375 N, 117.2529870 W
- Mission Point: 2600 Bayside Lane GPS: 32.76205 N, 117.24591 W
- Quivira Basin: 2581 Quivira Ct. San Diego CA 92109 GPS: 32.76134° N, 117.24138° W
- Dana Landing: 1800 Dana Landing Rd GPS: 32.76659 N, 117.23464 W
- South Shores: 404 South Shores Parkway GPS: 32.76420 N, 117.21865 W



# Annual Surveillance Report

## Mission Bay and OB Pier UASI Camera System San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

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- Fiesta Island: 3000 Fiesta Island Rd GPS: 32.76880 N, 117.20913 W
- De Anza Cove: 3000 N. Mission Bay Dr. GPS: 32.79346 N, 117.20931 W
- Ski Beach: 2900 Ingraham St. GPS: 32.77308 N, 117.23365 W
- Vacation Island: 1404 Vacation Rd. GPS: 32.77193 N, 117.23981 W
- Ingraham Street: Ingraham Street X Crown Point Dr. GPS: 32.77981 N, 117.23603 W
- Santa Clara: 900 Santa Clara Pt. GPS: 32.78204 N, 117.24874 W

### UPDATES, UPGRADES, AND CONFIGURATION CHANGES

No updates, upgrades, or configurations have occurred, as the Camera System is not yet operational.

### DEPLOYMENT LOCATION

The Department has not deployed the Camera System, as installation has not been completed.

### COMMUNITY COMPLAINTS OR CONCERNS

SDFD did not receive any complaints or inquiries regarding the Camera System in calendar year 2024.

### AUDITS OR INVESTIGATIONS

No audits or investigations have occurred related to the Camera System, as the technology has yet to be operational.

### DATA BREACH OR UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS

SDFD did not detect any data breaches or unauthorized access to the data collected by the Camera System, as the Camera System is not yet operational.

### DATA BREACH DETECTION

The City's Department of Information Technology oversees the IT governance process and works with SDFD's Department of IT regarding project execution and risk assessment, selecting, and approving technology solutions. Cyber security and technology risks are also assessed by the Department of IT. For additional details related to IT governance processes, refer to the information at the following link:

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# Annual Surveillance Report

## Mission Bay and OB Pier UASI Camera System

### San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

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SDFD was not notified of any data breaches relating to the Camera System, as the Camera System is not yet operational.

## **PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUESTS**

SDFD did not receive any Public Record Act Requests in calendar year 2024 relating to the Camera System.

## **ANNUAL COST**

The Camera System was not yet purchased in 2024.

During FY25, SDFD will spend \$239,135.63 in UASI Grant Funds to purchase the Camera System.

## **REQUESTED MODIFICATIONS TO THE USE POLICY**

SDFD is not requesting any modifications to the current Camera System Surveillance Use Policy.