



# **Airborne Assessment Team (AAT)**

Public Safety and Health Committee Briefing





# Historical Context

- **2011** - Term “Police Drone” trends on Google
- **2013** - Patrol Led Deployment - Mesa County Sherriff’s Office
- **2016** - Approximately 170 police reporting drone use
- **2018** - More than 600 agencies reporting drone use
- **October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018** – Drone as First Responder Deployment – Chula Vista Police Department
- **2022** – More than 1,000 police departments reporting integrated drone operations





# Impact

- Provide life-saving situational awareness that enhances citizen and officer safety
- Develop opportunities to positively engage with the community
- Enable and scale efficient operations





# De-escalate

- During response, allow time for assessment from a safe distance
- Manage event safety while minimizing uniformed presence
- Reduction in liabilities – Criminal, Civil, Workers Compensation
- Accountability – BWC with a better perspective





# Engage and Excite

- Innovative and advanced “multi-tool” to address community concerns
- Opportunities to educate and partner with the public
- Business engagement during and since the RNC
- Recruitment and retention tool





# Enable Efficiency

- Minimize time required to complete investigative tasks, administrative planning, etc.
- Manage responding resources and redirect as necessary
- Provide DA's and courts with relatable evidence to boost convictions
- Promote success via public facing social media and transparency dashboard





# AAT Policy

- **Usage limits** - Clearly defined use cases with supervisory oversight
- **Data Retention** – In accordance with existing policy and only with relevance to specific crimes
- **Policy** – Clear, written, and available to the public
- **Abuse Prevention and Accountability** – To the Commission, Council, and Public
- **Weapons** – Restricted by law, policy, and moral sense
- **ACLU Guidelines**





# Use Cases

1. Land and waterborne search, rescue, and recovery
2. Port and critical infrastructure security
3. Active threat response
4. Event management
5. Investigative evidence collection
6. In support of Department and City operations
7. Counter UAS Operations







# AAT Statistics to Date

- 250 flights
- 55 hours flight time
- Search and Rescue, Event Management, Investigative Evidence Collection, In Support of Patrol and Administrative Operations, Counter UAS







A dark, atmospheric photograph of the Milwaukee skyline at dusk or dawn. The sky is a deep, dark blue-grey with some lighter, wispy clouds. The city's lights are visible, reflecting on the water in the foreground. The architecture is a mix of modern glass skyscrapers and older, more traditional buildings. The overall mood is somber and mysterious.

# Questions?

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# Video Context and Information

## **1. Post Pursuit in McGovern Park – In support of Patrol Operations**

- Search for four armed robbery / car jacking suspects fleeing on foot after pursuit
- Cleared the park from 350' in 4 minutes and minimized risk of armed encounter

## **2. 2025 Polar Plunge – Search and Rescue**

- Provided situational awareness to ensure safety of those jumping into Lake Michigan on New Year's Day

## **3. 2024 RNC Demonstration – Event Management**

- Provided situational awareness to ensure demonstrator's safety
- Minimized officer presence and created distance to ensure 1<sup>st</sup> amendment rights of demonstrators

## **4. Armed Subject – In support of Patrol Operations**

- Colorado search warrant execution for erratic subject armed with a firearm



## **5. 2024 Puerto Rican Fest – Event management**

- Provided situational awareness to ensure officer and citizen safety
- Emphasis on traffic control and resource management to prevent injuries

## **6. Crash Reconstruction – Investigative evidence collection**

- Demonstration of reconstruction techniques that will cut crash investigative time by 50% or more, allowing for better personnel management

## **7. Explosive Breach Training – In support of Patrol Operations**

- Flight to assess team coordination and tactics during Active Threat response training

## **8. 2024 Puerto Rican Fest – Event Management**

- Street takeover - no patrol assets available for response
- Provided situational awareness to ensure officer and citizen safety

## **9. Dignitary Visit – In support of Patrol Operations**

- Report of possible armed subject on the Couture roof
- Minimized ambush potential by clearing the roof prior to arrival of police personnel



## **10. Search Warrant Execution – In Support of Patrol Operations**

- Subject of arrest warrant discovered hiding on neighbors roof
- Checked roof for weapons to ensure safety of subject and negotiators.

## **11. 2024 RNC Critical Incident – In support of Patrol Operations**

- Provided situational awareness to ensure officer safety and scene security

## **12. Person in the Water – Search, Rescue, and Recovery**

- Assisted with PIW recovery exercises required by U.S. Coast Guard

## **13. 2024 RNC Red Arrow Park – Event Management**

- Responded to reports of counter protestors converging in the park
- Provided situational awareness to ensure officer and demonstrator's safety

## **14. Maritime Intercept Training – In support of Patrol Operations**

- Flight to assess team coordination and tactics during Marine Operation's Security Zone Enforcement training

## **15. Security Zone Enforcement – In support of Patrol Operations**

- Provided situational awareness to ensure officer and citizen safety during a boat stop for entering a security zone

## **16. Search Warrant Execution – In Support of Patrol Operations**

- Suspect wanted for homicide.
- Livestreamed extensive barricade and provided situation awareness of movements to ensure officer and suspect safety

## **17. Concert Stage Jumper – In Support of Patrol Operations**

- Provided situational awareness to route officers in the crowd to the developing situation and ensure officer and citizen safety

## **18. Public Relations – In Support of Administrative Operations**

- Provided footage and photos to the U.S. Coast Guard for public relations. Shared with the public via social media.