

Drones Research Guide

Overview

This research guide includes information and resources on drones, also known as unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). A UAS is defined by statute as an aircraft that is operated without the direct possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft (*Public Law 112-95, Section 331(8)*). The resources listed below are not exhaustive and may not include the most up-to-date information. It is for information purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice or act as the substitute for legal counsel.

Statutes and Codes

Texas Statutes Online www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov

Texas Administrative Code

[https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.VIEWTAC?tac_view=2&ti=37](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.VIEWTAC?tac_view=2&ti=37)

- 37 TAC §1.143 Use of Unmanned Aircraft by a Law Enforcement Authority
- 37 TAC §8.21 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Prohibited
- 37 TAC §8.22 Limited Use Authorization to Operate Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

Texas Government Code

- Ch. 423 Use of Unmanned Aircraft
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/GV/htm/GV.423.htm>

Texas Penal Code

- Ch. 9 §9.54 Limitation on Use of Force by Drone
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PE/htm/PE.9.htm#9.54>

- §21.15 Invasive Video Recording
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PE/htm/PE.21.htm#21.15>

Code of Federal Regulations

- 14 CFR Part 101 Moored Balloons, Kites, Amateur Rockets, and Unmanned Free Balloons <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-14/chapter-I/subchapter-F/part-101>
- 14 CFR 107 Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Regulations
<https://www.faa.gov/newsroom/small-unmanned-aircraft-systems-uas-regulations-part-107>

Secondary Resources in Print

Texas Administrative Code KFT 1235 .A215

- Vol. 37, Public Safety and Corrections
 - 37 TAC §1.143 Use of Unmanned Aircraft by a Law Enforcement Authority
 - 37 TAC §8.21 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Prohibited
 - 37 TAC §8.22 Limited Use Authorization to Operate Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

Neighbor Law: Fences, Trees, Boundaries & Noise KF 639 .Z9 J67

- Ch. 17 Other Common Neighbor Issues, Drones, p. 295-297

Texas Practice Series REF KFT 1280 .T4

- Vol. 15, §6.19 Registration of unmanned aircraft

Texas Jurisprudence KFT 1265 .T48

- Criminal Law: Offenses Against Property § 368 Operation of unmanned aircraft over or near critical infrastructure facility

Vernon's Statutes Annotated KFT 1230.5

- Government, Vol. 4, Part 1 § 411.062 Law enforcement and security authority
- Government, Vol. 4 Part 2, Ch. 423 Use of Unmanned Aircraft

United States Code Service KF 62.5 L49

- Vol. 49, Transportation, Ch. 448 Unmanned Aircraft Systems

Online Resources

Recording Laws – Drones (TSLL)

<https://guides.sll.texas.gov/recording-laws/drones>

Unmanned Aircraft Systems – Meacham Airport (City of Fort Worth)

<https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/aviation/meacham/uas>

Texas Drone Regulations (Texas Film Commission)

https://gov.texas.gov/film/page/drone_use

Park Reservations (*including drone use*) (City of Fort Worth)

<https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/parks/services/park-reservations>

Legal Assistance

Legal Lines – Ask Attorneys simple legal questions (free service)

- Tarrant County LegalLine Sign-up
<https://www.tarrantbar.org/>
- Dallas County LegalLine Sign-up
<https://www.dallasbar.org/index.cfm?pg=legalline>

Tarrant County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service: 817-336-4101 (\$20 for the first 30 minutes)