



# DRONE AS FIRST RESPONDER

## MANHATTAN BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FEBRUARY 3, 2026



# DRONE AS FIRST RESPONDER (DFR)



**Eyes on Scene  
in 90 Seconds**



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# DRONES IN PUBLIC SAFETY

## Conventional/Patrol-Led Use Cases



On-Scene Deployment



Search and Rescue



SWAT Tactical Support



Investigation & Evidence



## Limitations

- Requires drone to be launched on scene
- Requires more officers to be trained drone pilots
- Takes officers away from their main job



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# WHY DFR MATTERS

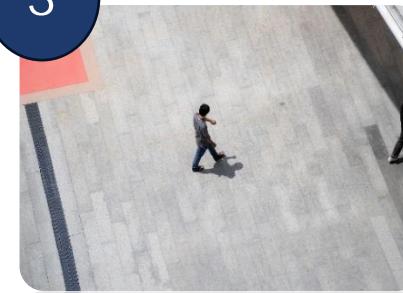
## Alhambra PD (est. 2019)



1



2



3



4

Arrives First  
On Scene

83 second  
average  
response time

80 % first on  
scene rate

Reduce  
Response  
Times

86%  
average  
reduction  
in response  
time

Locate Subjects

Located 1,826  
subjects prior to  
the patrol  
response

Clear Calls  
for Service

278 cleared  
calls without  
any patrol  
response  
required



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# NEIGHBORING AGENCY STATISTICS

## El Segundo PD

Since summer of 2025:

- Over 400+ Flights
- 50 + calls for service cleared without patrol resources
- 1st on scene over 85% of the time



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# MBPD DEMO DAY STATISTICS

- Responded to 14 calls for service in 10-hour period
- Average Response Time: 2min 17secs
- First on Scene 93% of the time

\*Demo did not include Live911 feature, which allows for a faster response



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# APPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

- Real-time Situational Awareness
- Search and Rescue Operations
- Traffic Congestion Monitoring
- Fire Suppression Support
- Directed Patrols of Public Areas
  - Downtown
  - Pier
  - Beach
  - Commercial Districts
- De-escalation of incidents



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# VENDOR RECOMMENDATION



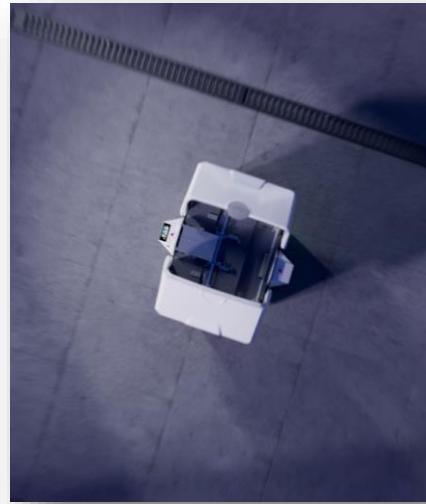
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# A TURNKEY PACKAGE/SEAMLESS DEPLOYMENT

- Drone, Dock, Camera
- Annual Battery Refresh
- Hardware Upgrades
- All Software
- FAA Waivers @ 400ft
- SOP & Policy Consulting
- DFR Remote Operations Training
- Full Suite of Integrations Included
- Community Engagement



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# SYSTEM COMPARISON / INSURANCE PLAN



Dock 3 w/Aerodome  
3 docks with 1 drone per station



Flock ALPHA DFR  
2 docks with 1 drone per station

Max Speed  
47 mph

60 mph

Average Uptime  
54 min

65 min

Coverage Area  
3.5 mile radius

4 mile radius

Camera  
Read a plate at ~700ft  
High-def thermal

Read a plate at ~2,000ft  
Max-def thermal



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# REAL TIME POLICING IN ACTION

## Elk Grove FD Fire Response



✓ Call 1: Structure Fire

✓ Arrived 2 minutes before first ground units

✓ Call 2: Vehicle Fire

✓ Arrived 4 minutes before first ground units



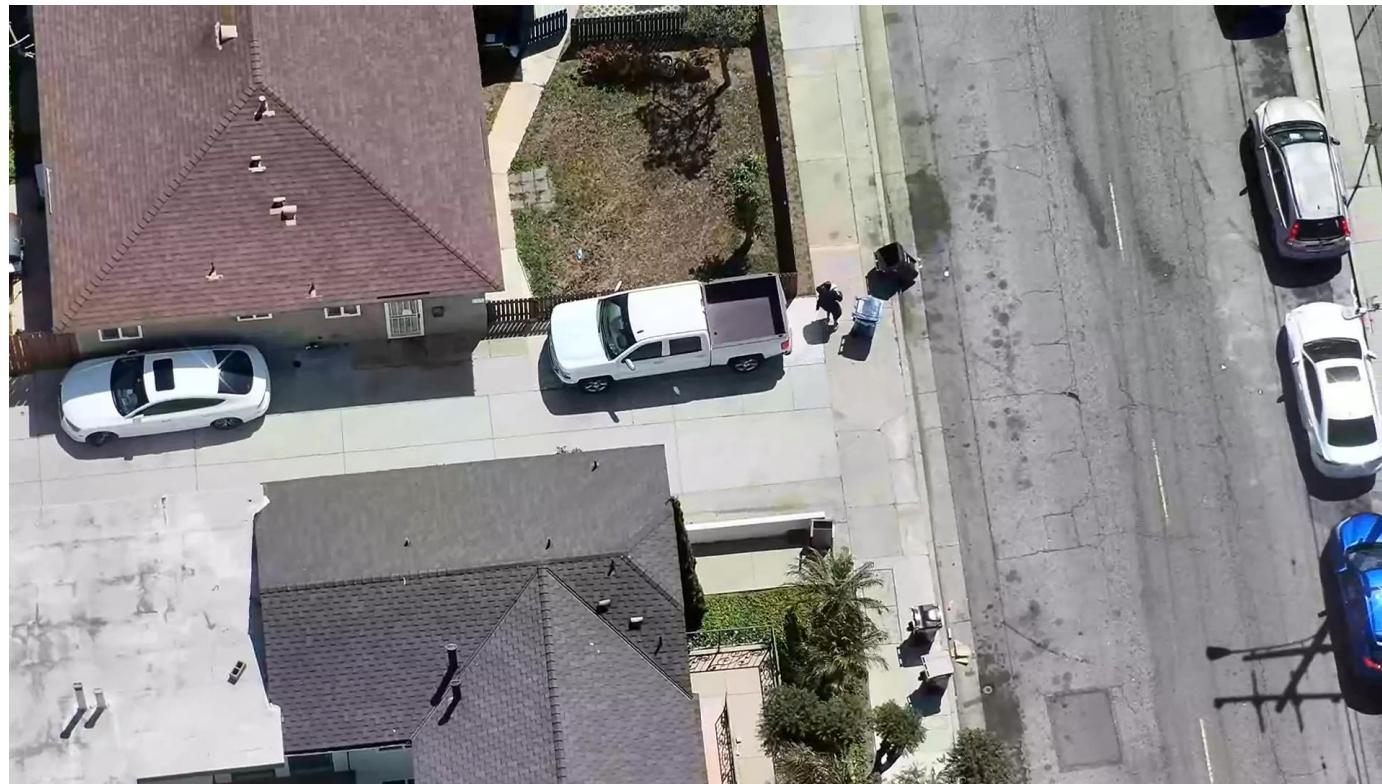
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# REAL TIME POLICING IN ACTION

## Hawthorne PD Domestic Violence w/ Weapon



- ✓ Man threatens to kill his girlfriend
- ✓ Flees on foot
- ✓ Drone locates him
- ✓ Drone witnesses suspect bury the gun
- ✓ Suspect tracked and arrested



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# FUNDING

## State Law Enforcement Services (SLES) Fund

- FY 2025-2026 (\$150,000)
  - SLES funds budgeted
- FY 2026-2027 (\$150,000)
  - Unreserved SLES funds available



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# RISK MITIGATION & PRVACY SAFEGUARDS

- All drone operations and pilots will adhere to FAA regulations and respect state privacy laws.
- All flights will be logged for transparency.
  - Agreement includes an automated public transparency portal for UAS flights
- Department Policy presently established for drone operations, ensuring responsible deployment.



# IMPLEMENTATION

- Planning Department/Permitting
- Hardware Installation
- User Training
- Fully Operational in eight to twelve weeks



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# REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

- Waive formal bidding per Municipal Code Section 2.36.140 (waivers); and
- Adopt Resolution No. 26-0007 approving a two-year agreement with Flock Group, Inc. for DFR Program in an amount not-to-exceed \$300,000 .



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