

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Unmanned Aerial Systems and Maritime Transportation Security Act Regulated Waterfront Facility Reporting Processes

The Sector New Orleans Captain of the Port (COTP) has identified an increase in the frequency of National Response Center (NRC) reports addressing Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) operating in airspace in the vicinity of and/or inside airspace directly above the property boundaries of Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA) regulated waterfront facilities in the New Orleans COTP Zone. Therefore, to reduce the frequency of erroneous or unverifiable NRC reports and to more efficiently employ investigative and law enforcement resources, it is recommended that the facility intending to conduct UAS operations notify the adjacent facilities of the operation 24-48 hours in advance along with providing a "24-Hour Advanced Notice of UAS Operation" form to Sector New Orleans Facility Compliance Branch through electronic mail at Transfnoticeola@uscg.mil, or through facsimile at (504) 365-2287 and fistnola@uscg.mil

If a facility representative observes an unidentified UAS operating in the airspace in the vicinity of and/or inside airspace directly above the property boundaries of a MTSA regulated waterfront facility (to include "Secure Areas" and/or "Restricted Areas"); the standard NRC reporting process for MTSA regulated waterfront facilities in the New Orleans COTP Zone is encouraged. Furthermore, facility personnel and mariners are also encouraged to report suspicious UAS activity to American Waterways Watch (877-249-2824) and DHS "See Something Say Something."

Additionally, if the UAS lands/impacts against the ground and/or physical infrastructure within a "Secure Area" and/or "Restricted Area" of a MTSA regulated waterfront facility, then facilities shall file a "Security Breach" with the NRC as per 33CFR101.305. Finally, facility representatives shall follow their approved Facility Security Plan and make all the required notifications to facilitate the investigation of the incident.


A "24-Hour Advanced Notice of UAS Operation" form is supplied with this MSIB, identified as MSIB XVII Issue 002a. Form can also be located at the Sector New Orleans, Homeport.

For further information, contact:

Coast Guard Sector New Orleans Facilities Compliance Branch: (504) 365-2370

Coast Guard Sector New Orleans Command Center: (504) 365-2200

National Response Center: 1-800-424-8802, (202) 267-2675 or (202) 267-4477


CAPTAIN W.R. ARGUIN
Captain of the Port New Orleans

For a current list of MSIB's within the COTP New Orleans Zone click: <https://homeport.uscg.mil/nola> under "Safety and Security"