



PRESS RELEASE

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Washington, D.C. is a No Drone Zone

(Washington, D.C.) – As the 2017 Presidential Inauguration approaches, the United States Secret Service, the National Park Service (NPS) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) are reminding the residents of and visitors to Washington, D.C., that the city and surrounding areas are No Drone Zones.

Federal law prohibits flying all unmanned aircraft, more commonly called drones, in the heavily regulated Flight Restricted Zone (FRZ) around Washington, D.C., including from private property inside the FRZ. Individuals who operate drones in violation of any federal aviation regulation could face fines of up to \$1,414 per violation. Companies could face fines of up to \$32,140 per violation. Drone operators also could face additional penalties for failing to register a drone with the FAA.

Launching, landing or operating unmanned aircrafts also is prohibited in all areas administered by the NPS. The fine for violating 36 CFR 1.5 (f) in DC is \$85, in MD \$55, and in VA is \$100. An additional processing fee applies to all citations. Violators will have all equipment confiscated as evidence – this may include personal electronic devices such as cell phones, laptop computers, etc.

The airspace around Washington, D.C., is among the most restricted in the country. Rules put in place after the 9/11 attacks establish "national defense airspace" over the area and limit aircraft operations to those with an FAA and Transportation Security Administration authorization.

About the United States Secret Service

The United States Secret Service was originally founded in 1865 for the purpose of suppressing the counterfeiting of U.S. currency. Now an agency within the Department of Homeland Security, the Secret Service is widely known for its protective mission in safeguarding the nation's highest elected officials, visiting foreign dignitaries and events of national significance. Today, the Secret Service maintains a unique integrated mission of protection and investigations, as one of the premier law enforcement organizations charged with investigating cyber and financial crimes.

About the United States Park Police

USPP provides law enforcement to safeguard lives, protect national treasures and symbols of democracy, and preserve the natural and cultural resources entrusted to the care of the National Park Service. USPP officers are located in the Washington, New York, and San Francisco metropolitan areas. The force was created by President George Washington in 1791. Learn more at www.nps.gov/uspp

About the Federal Aviation Administration

The FAA's continuing mission is to provide the safest, most efficient aerospace system in the world. More than 45,000 FAA employees across the country are responsible for promoting safety, operating the air traffic control system, regulating U.S. commercial space transportation and developing new technologies.

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