

# *Know Before You Fly Your Drone*

*< virtual workshop >*



UAS

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS  
COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNMENTS

## < Purpose of Workshop >

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), aka Drones, and their enabling technologies have arrived. The recent growth in this emerging industry has brought this technology to the masses and safe operation for all those involved is a top priority. From professional and recreational pilots to those who see drones flying near their home, it is imperative that all North Texans be aware of the rules and regulations, best practices, and safe places to fly. Originally, 12 workshops were to be held at locations across North Texas over the next two years. However, those efforts have changed due to COVID-19, with virtual workshops taking place for the foreseeable future. The North Texas UAS Taskforce plans to host monthly virtual workshops until it is safe to return to in-person workshops. These workshops are designed to educate and inform all UAS pilots including first time recreational, as well as, commercial and professional pilots.



## < Task Force >

The North Central Texas Council of Governments has convened the North Texas Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Safety and Integration Task Force to help mitigate reckless UAS operations and promote the safe integration of UAS technology into the DFW regional airspace. With over 200 members, the Task Force is comprised of public-sector representatives at the federal, state, and local levels as well as private-sector representatives from the Aviation and UAS Industries, Academia, Military, and others.



## < Agenda >

**Maggie Schuster** – Welcome & Introductions

**FAA Final Rules for Remote ID and Drone Operations Over People**

**Guest Speakers: Vic Moss and T. Kenji Sugahara**

- \*New Rule timeline
- \*Recurrent training
- \*Operations Over People
- \*Operations Over Moving Vehicles
- \*Miscellaneous New Rules
- \*Q & A

**Sharon Rossmark interview – Drone Lighting Solutions**  
**Drone Lighting Solutions for Night Flights**

Antonio Cugini, Business Development, FoxFury Lighting Solutions  
Maria Cugini, Vice President, FoxFury Lighting Solutions

**Evan Merelli**

- \*Changes to UAV operations
- \*Post Remote ID
- \*Airspace

**Maggie Schuster**

- \*Q&A
- \*Survey
- \*Closing and March workshop



## < UAS Quick Facts >



Unmanned aircraft should stay well away from manned aircraft, especially low-flying aircraft and helicopters



Unmanned aircraft should stay below 400 feet



Operators must keep unmanned aircraft in their sight



Never fly over groups of people or public events



Unauthorized unmanned aircraft near fires threaten safety and wildland firefighting efforts



Unmanned aircraft must follow temporary flight restrictions (TFR) around stadiums and racetracks



Businesses can request exemptions for the use of unmanned aircraft through the FAA

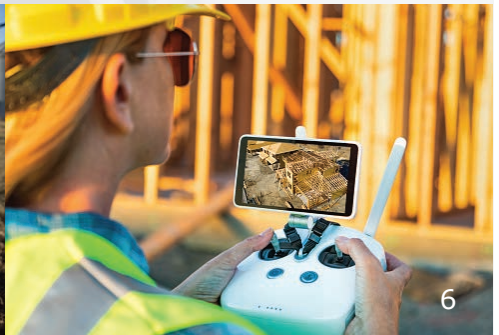


Anyone applying to take the PART 107 needs to establish an FAA Tracking Number within the Integrated Airman Certification and Rating Application database before taking any FAA airman knowledge test

## < Best Practices >

*Below is a list of voluntary guidelines for "neighborly" drone use, which serves to provide guidance to UAS operators on ways to balance their rights as drone users and other people's rights to privacy. The objective of the process was to develop and communicate best practices, accountability, and transparency issues regarding commercial and private UAS use in the National Airspace System (NAS).*

- If you can, tell other people you'll be taking pictures or video of them before you do so.
- If you think someone has a reasonable expectation of privacy, don't violate that privacy by taking pictures, video, or otherwise gathering sensitive data, unless you've got a very good reason.





## < Best Practices >

- Don't fly over other people's private property without permission if you can easily avoid doing so.
- Don't gather personal data for no reason, and don't keep it for longer than you think you have to.
- If you keep sensitive data about other people, secure it against loss or theft.
- If someone asks you to delete personal data about him or her that you've gathered, do so, unless you've got a good reason not to.
- If anyone raises privacy, security, or safety concerns with you, try and listen to what they have to say, as long as they're polite and reasonable about it.
- Don't harass people with your drone.



## < Commercial Vs. Recreational Drone Pilot >

**What is a commercial use of UAS? Any commercial use in connection with a business, including:**

- Selling photos or videos taken from a UAS
- Using UAS to provide contract services, such as industrial equipment or factory inspection
- Using UAS to provide professional services, such as security or telecommunications

**What are some examples of commercial uses of UAS?**

- Professional real estate or wedding photography
- Professional cinema photography for a film or television production
- Providing contract services for mapping or land surveys

**What is recreational use of sUAS?**

The recreational use of sUAS (small unmanned aircraft systems) is the operation of an unmanned aircraft for personal interests and enjoyment. For example, using an sUAS to take photographs for your own personal use would be considered recreational; using the same device to take photographs or videos for compensation or sale to another individual would be considered a commercial operation. You should check with the FAA for further determination as to what constitutes commercial or other non-hobby, non-recreational UAS operations.

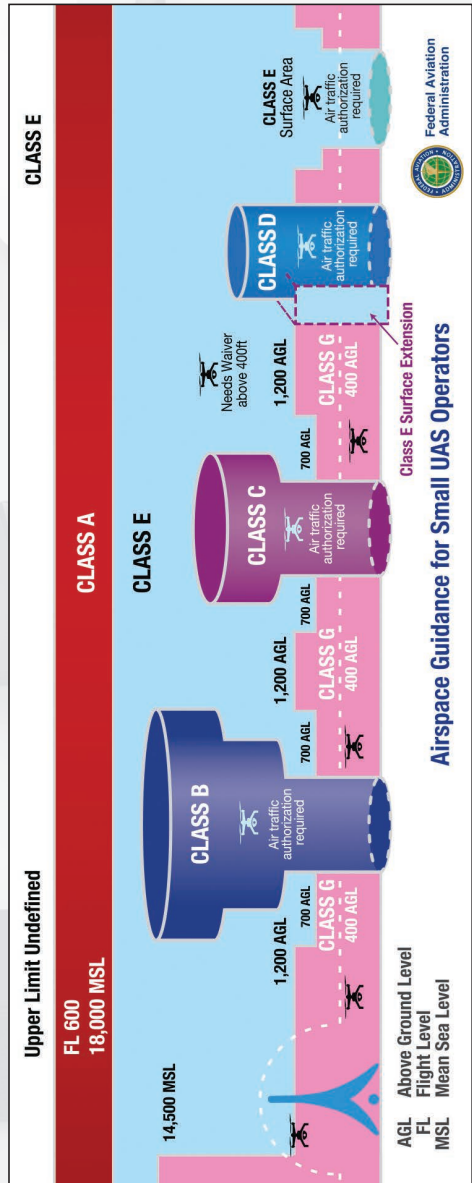


# < Controlled Air Space Levels >

FAA rules apply to the entire National Airspace System - there is no such thing as "unregulated" airspace. Drone operators should be familiar with the difference between controlled and uncontrolled airspace, and where you can legally fly. Controlled airspace is found around some airports and at certain altitudes where air traffic controllers are actively communicating with, directing, and separating all air traffic. Other airspace is considered uncontrolled in the sense that air traffic controllers are not directing air traffic within its limits.

In general, you can only fly your drone in uncontrolled airspace below 400 feet above ground level (AGL). Commercial drone operators are required to get permission from the FAA before flying in controlled airspace.

Read more about controlled and uncontrolled airspace, as well as the different classifications of controlled airspace at [FAA.gov](http://FAA.gov).



## < LAANC + Formal Requests to Fly >

The FAA UAS Data Exchange is an innovative, collaborative approach between government and private industry facilitating the sharing of airspace data between the two parties.

Under the FAA UAS Data Exchange umbrella, the agency will support multiple partnerships, the first of which is the Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC). It directly supports UAS integration into the airspace.

LAANC provides:

- Drone pilots with access to controlled airspace at or below 400 feet
- Awareness of where pilots can and cannot fly
- Air Traffic Professionals with visibility into where and when drones are operating

How does it work:

- LAANC automates the application and approval process for airspace authorizations. Through automated applications developed by an FAA Approved UAS Service Suppliers (USS) pilots apply for an airspace authorization.
- Requests are checked against multiple airspace data sources in the FAA UAS Data Exchange such as UAS Facility Maps, Special Use Airspace Data, Airports and Airspace Classes, as well as Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs) and Notices to Airmen (NOTAMS). If approved, pilots can receive their authorization in near-real time.
- Unless specifically requested in an authorization, drone pilots do not need to notify the tower before they fly.

*For more information on LAANC, please go to [FAA.gov](https://www.faa.gov).*

## < Speaker Bios >



### **Antonio Cugini**

*Antonio Cugini is the Director of Business Development for FoxFury Lighting Solutions. He has served the public safety industry for over 15 years. He has helped introduce innovative products and helped create unique educational content for UAVs, forensics, reconstruction and tactical applications.*



### **Maria Cugini**

*Maria Cugini is the Vice President of FoxFury Lighting Solutions. For over 17 years, Maria has helped develop the industry's best in high-powered, innovative lighting for public and private agencies worldwide. Her continuous work with the UAV community has allowed FoxFury to become the preferred source for drone lighting technologies.*



### **Evan Merelli**

*Evan Merelli is the owner and operator of ELM Aerial Services LLC. Between speaking and piloting he has become an advocate in UAS integration into the National Airspace System. He has worked on various projects with both private and public entities across the nation including recent work with the Parks Department of the City of Chicago as well as Lurin Property Management. Mr. Merelli uses his years of industry experience towards the future of the industry by working with Ten80 education in assisting with their international drone STEM competitions.*



### **Vic Moss**

*Vic Moss is the COO and Vice-President of DSPA. A commercial photographer, he has owned Moss Photography since 1988, and has been offering drone services since 2014. Vic is a nationally recognized voice for drone safety and an advocate for reasonable drone regulation. On social media, he serves as the administrator for the largest UAS specific legal forum, the UAV Law News & Discussion Group, and one of the largest commercial UAS pilot forums.*



### **Sharon Rossmark**

*Sharon Rossmark is the CEO of Women And Drones, the premier global platform featuring women who are disrupting, innovating and shaping the future of the drone industry. She is also a Certified Part 107 Remote (Drone) Pilot. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the company was listed as one of the "Top 100 Companies To Watch" in the drone industry by UAV Coach, a leading online drone industry website. The organization's educational theme centers on "learning through the wonders of flying robots."™ The focus is on collaborating with community and educational programs to incorporate drones into STEM programming for youth with an emphasis on engaging girls.*



### **Maggie Schuster**

*Maggie Schuster was introduced to Unmanned Aviation System/Drones while working as a 13-year veteran as a catastrophe insurance adjuster. She eagerly embraced the possibilities of this innovative technology and started her own UAS service company in the Spring of 2018. Maggie acquired her 107 FAA Pilot license and completed Level One with TOP-AUVSI Trusted Operator Professional certification.*



### **T. Kenji Sugahara**

*A graduate of Dartmouth College and the University of Oregon School of Law, Kenji is an attorney and the CEO and President of DSPA. He is chief pilot and one of the co-founders of A-Cam Aerials. He has been in the industry for over seven years and has experience flying both single and dual operations for major brand names such as Ford, ABC, and Disney.*

*Additional speakers/panelists: **Ernest Huffman**, NCTCOG*

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