



Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 4, 2024

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Hunterdon County Public Safety Director And Sheriff Provide Update On Recent Drone Sightings

At the December 3rd Commissioner Board meeting, Hunterdon County Sheriff Fred Brown and Public Safety Director Brayden Fahey updated the Board about recent drone sightings that are occurring across the State of New Jersey including Hunterdon County.

These sightings have raised concerns, and Commissioner John Lanza, who serves as the liaison to the Sheriff's Office and Department of Public Safety, requested the public update noting, "There have been reports of single drones hovering over people's houses for hours at a time. Other reports say the drones are often clustered together in groups as big as eight. Drones are considered aircraft. Aircraft and airspace are strictly regulated by the FAA."

Sheriff Brown and Director Fahey noted the situation remains an ongoing FBI investigation and requested the public's help by reporting all drone sightings directly to the FBI by calling: 800-CALL-FBI (800-235-5324). Sheriff Brown and Director Fahey emphasized that prompt reporting can assist authorities in tracking and addressing any potential threats or safety issues associated with drone operations.

Director of Public Safety and OEM Coordinator Brayden Fahey shared, "We are taking these sightings seriously and working closely with federal authorities to investigate and address any concerns. There have been confirmed drone sightings near Round Valley Reservoir and the Hunterdon County 9-1-1 Center."

Sheriff Fred Brown emphasized the importance of community vigilance stating, "If you see something, say something. Reporting drone activity to the FBI helps us maintain the safety and security of Hunterdon County. Public safety is our top priority, and we rely on the community's cooperation to ensure a swift and effective response. We appreciate the public's assistance and diligence in this matter."

Residents are reminded that unauthorized drone operations can pose significant risks to public safety, privacy, and national security. Proactive reporting is crucial in helping law enforcement and federal agencies mitigate this risk effectively. Residents are urged to not approach any downed drones that might result from mechanical failure but to instead immediately alert authorities.