



NATIONAL SAFE SKIES ALLIANCE

Program for Applied Research in Airport Security

PARAS 0031 Project Summary

Project Title:	Airport Response to Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Threats		
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BACKGROUND

Federal agencies and the US Congress have identified potential threats from Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) as a major concern at airports. These threats may be the result of nefarious intent or simply a careless or uninformed UAS operator. Although UAS, or drones, have increased significantly in popularity, little guidance exists regarding response protocols for airports when a UAS is detected.

As federal agencies continue to develop a regulatory framework, there is an immediate need for guidance to assist airport operators in proactively preparing for a potential threat.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this research is to produce guidance to assist airports in working collaboratively to plan for and respond to UAS threats. At a minimum, the guidance should include:

- Strategies for:
 - Planning
 - Identifying relevant response stakeholders
 - Identifying local, regional, and federal resources
 - Tabletops/exercises
 - Federal, state, and local agency coordination strategies
 - Identification and Threat Assessment
 - Response
 - Recovery and returning to normal operations
- Detection system considerations and response implications
- Legal considerations
- Public policy and regulatory considerations
- Relevant examples and case studies
- Community awareness and prevention

The resulting guidance should be scalable so that airports of all sizes and resource levels can benefit.