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Approved for Release
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF FACILITIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

PROPERTY BULLETIN # 002, FY19

SUBJECT: Accountability of Government Unmanned Aircraft and Unmanned Aircraft Systems – Change to the Sensitive Items Listing

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 12, 2019

EXPIRATION DATE: Effective until canceled or superseded

SUPERSEDES: Not Applicable

BACKGROUND: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) under the Department of Transportation is responsible for promoting and regulating aviation within the National Airspace System (NAS). For unmanned aircraft (UA), which is classified as aircraft, approval is codified through Congressional rulemaking.

To ensure safeguarding and accountability of unmanned aircraft/unmanned aircraft systems (UA/UAS) that can easily be converted to private use or have a high potential of theft, the Department will now classify all UA/UAS as sensitive personal property. All domestic use of DOC UA/UAS will be conducted in accordance with FAA policies and regulations, unless otherwise permitted by law or agreement.

FAA DEFINITIONS:

Unmanned Aircraft (UA) – A device used or intended to be used for flight in the air that has no onboard pilot. The device can be any type of airplane, helicopter, airship, glider (powered or unpowered), powered lift-aircraft, or tethered aircraft without an onboard pilot.

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – An unmanned aircraft and its associated elements related to safe operation, which may include control stations, data links, support equipment, payloads, flight termination systems, and launch/recovery equipment.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this property bulletin is to formally acknowledge that all agency-owned UA/UAS will be considered sensitive personal property and will be added to the Sensitive Property listing, in accordance with the [Department of Commerce \(DOC\) Personal Property Management Manual \(PPMM\)](#), dated December 5, 2017, Chapter 2.4.4.

APPLICABILITY: This guideline will apply to all Department Property Officials and will serve as a supplement to the DOC PPMM, dated December 5, 2017, Chapter 2.4.4, entitled, “Sensitive Property.” All agency-owned UA/UAS are now considered sensitive personal property and must be bar-coded accordingly.

Bureau Property Management Officers (PMOs) must ensure that all agency-owned UA/UAS are bar-coded and accounted for within their respective Bureau Personal Property Management System by September 30, 2019. Upon revision of the DOC PPMM, the guidance contained in this property bulletin will be updated to reflect this modification.

FAA REGISTRATION PROCEDURES: Civil and public aircraft must be registered. [United States Code \(U.S.C.\) Title 49 §§ 44101-44104](#) prohibits operation of unregistered aircraft and establishes the requirements for aircraft registration. The regulations implementing those requirements are found in [14 Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\) Part 47](#) and now [14 CFR Part 48](#) for unmanned aircraft.

Public aircraft are not excepted from the registration requirements. Under § 47.3, aircraft owned by U.S. citizens, lawfully admitted permanent U.S. residents, and U.S. corporations are eligible for registration and operation. This includes the U.S. Government, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, territories, or possessions of the United States and political subdivisions thereof.

No registration is required for UAS owned by the Armed Forces or under temporary ownership of the Armed Forces. However, they must provide their own number identification program that is acceptable to the FAA. If temporary ownership of UAS by the Armed Forces ceases, the UAS must be registered prior to operating in the National Airspace System. Refer to [49 USC § 44101\(b\)\(2\)](#) or [14 CFR § 47.3\(b\)\(3\)](#) for additional guidance.

For additional guidance on registration requirements, please visit: https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/register_drone/

To register online, please visit: <https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/>

CATALOG MANAGEMENT FOR UA/UAS: For cataloging purposes, agency-owned UA/UAS will fall under the Federal Supply Group (FSG) 15, Aircraft and Airframe Structural Components and further defined under Federal Supply Classification (FSC) 1550, Drones. To standardize the naming convention for reporting UA/UAS, the

recommended nomenclature or official name should read as the following based upon the type:

- UNMANNED AIRCRAFT, DRONE
- UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM, DRONE, [SYSTEM TYPE]

REFERENCES:

[DOC PPMM](#), dated December 5, 2017

[U.S.C. Title 49 §§ 44101-44104](#), Operation of Aircraft

[14 CFR Part 47](#), Aircraft Registration

[14 CFR Part 48](#), Registration and Marking Requirement for Unmanned Aircraft

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