

Skydio Regulatory Services

Public Safety

Building Public Safety Drone Programs and Advanced Operations

Drones have unlocked massive value in public safety by providing patrol overwatch, through Drone as First Responder (DFR) for situational awareness by supporting search and rescue, and documenting crime/crash scenes faster, cheaper, and safer than traditional methods.

FAA regulations currently require that a drone be operated within visual line of sight, which can limit operational benefits by being resource-intensive and time-consuming.

Skydio's Regulatory Team helps agencies obtain the necessary FAA approvals to operate remotely beyond visual line of sight up to 200' or 400' AGL, enabling maximum scale and value from their drone program.



Skydio offers two options to help your agency achieve beyond visual line of sight operations, including the ability to conduct DFR and Patrol-led DFR across your jurisdiction.

Option #1: Free Part 91 BVLOS Waiver Guide

Skydio has published the industry's leading Part 91 BVLOS Waiver Guide. Scan to learn more.



Option #2: Skydio Regulatory Service (Waiver Application — Public Safety)

Skydio offers a paid service to accelerate your FAA waiver application with pre-filled documentation and expert guidance. The service includes:

Certificate of Waiver and Authorization Request Package

- Development and delivery of an FAA request package, including all necessary FAA documentation, Concept of Operation, and Skydio documentation.
- Review of the FAA request package with your team
- Guidance to submit the request package correctly to the FAA
- Support for any questions or inquiries by the FAA

The type of FAA request developed for your agency will be scoped during initial discussions, but typical FAA requests include BVLOS operations up to 200' with ADS-B or BVLOS operations up to 400' with ADS-B and additional non-cooperative detect and avoid technology.

Drone Program Documentation Review

Skydio will also review your agency's drone policies and procedures to identify changes that support the implementation of advanced BVLOS operations. If your agency does not yet have drone standard operating procedures, Skydio will deliver drone program documentation templates that can help establish a safe, professional, and effective public safety drone team from day one.

Written drone program policies and procedures help meet and exceed FAA standards when requesting BVLOS operations and support implementation.

What FAA approval do I need to start a DFR program?

Skydio recommends starting with a Part 91 BVLOS waiver to fly up to 200' AGL with ADS-B technology. On average, the FAA takes 6 days to approve this type of request from the time of submission. The approval can cover your entire jurisdiction, and no additional hardware/software is required.

Can I get a Part 91 BVLOS waiver before I've completed Skydio Dock installation?

Yes. You can request an FAA waiver at any time, it's not necessary to specify specific drones or equipment locations. It's also possible to conduct BVLOS operations without Skydio Dock to increase the capability of your Patrol-Led program.

What physical area does a Part 91 BVLOS COW cover?

Standard Part 91 BVLOS COWs are nationwide approvals now, allowing operations in all Class G airspace or below the UAS Facility Map altitudes in controlled airspace. If you choose to use Skydio's Regulatory Service, the Skydio Regulatory Team will conduct an analysis of your jurisdiction while developing the request and advise your team of any expected limitations.

Contact sledsales@skydio.com today to learn more about Skydio Dock, Remote Ops, and Regulatory Services.

