

2023 – 2024

**UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS
LEGISLATIVE REPORT**



Leith Hill
Lieutenant

Chet Thatcher
UAS Sergeant

FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1ST, 2023 THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST, 2024

Sheriff David Criner

MIDLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



400 S. Main St.
Midland, Texas 79701

Phone (432) 688-4600

January 3rd, 2025

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Abbott:

The enclosed information on the operation of unmanned aircraft by the Midland County Sheriff's Office covers the period of January 1st, 2023 through December 31st, 2024 in accordance with Texas Government Code, Chapter 423.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. Thatcher".

Chet Thatcher
Sergeant
Midland County Sheriff's Office

Enclosure

Cc: Lieutenant Governor
Members of the Legislature

Sheriff David Criner



400 S. Main St.
Midland, Texas 79701

MIDLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Phone (432) 688-4600

**2023-2024 UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS REPORTING
TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 423 COMPLIANCE**

MIDLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
MIDLAND, TEXAS

Unmanned Aircraft Systems Budget Reporting:

Reporting period: January 1st, 2023 through December 31st, 2024

The total cost of acquiring, maintaining, repairing, and operating the reported unmanned aircraft for the listed reporting period was \$103,137.03

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. Thatcher".

Chet Thatcher
Sergeant
Midland County Sheriff's Office



Midland County Sheriff's Office 2023 – 2024 UAS Legislative Report

This document satisfies the reporting requirements as listed in the Texas Government Code Sec. 423.008, relating to the reporting of unmanned aircraft systems operations by Texas law enforcement agencies.

The Midland County Sheriff's Office operates Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). All operators are FAA-licensed remote pilots. The Midland County Sheriff's Office UAS Program uses unmanned aircraft to accomplish Midland County Sheriff's Office missions and the protection of human life and property.

Per current Texas Government Code Sec. 423.008:

- a. Not earlier than January 1 and not later than January 15 of each odd numbered year, each state law enforcement agency and each county or municipal law enforcement agency located in a county or municipality, as applicable, with a population greater than 150,000, that used or operated an unmanned aircraft during the preceding 24 months shall issue a written report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and each member of the legislature and shall:
 1. retain the report for public viewing; and
 2. post the report on the law enforcement agency's publicly accessible website, if one exists.
- b. The report must include:
 1. the number of times an unmanned aircraft was used, organized by date, time, location, and the types of incidents and types of justification for the use;
 2. the number of criminal investigations aided using an unmanned aircraft and a description of how the unmanned aircraft aided each investigation;
 3. the number of times an unmanned aircraft was used for a law enforcement operation other than a criminal investigation, the dates and locations of those operations, and a description of how the unmanned aircraft aided each operation;
 4. the type of information collected on an individual, residence, property, or area that was not the subject of a law enforcement operation and the frequency of the collection of this information; and
 5. the total cost of acquiring, maintaining, repairing, and operating or otherwise using each unmanned aircraft for the preceding 24 months.

The Midland County Sheriff's Office total cost during the 1/1/2023-12/31/2024 time period for acquiring, maintaining, repairing, and operating or otherwise using each unmanned aircraft is \$103,137.03

