

This report provides a general summary of all San Diego Police Department operations conducted by the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Unit during Fiscal Year 2024, (July 2023-June 2024). This report does not include UAS flights conducted for training or for the sole purpose of SDPD Media Relations.

This report is in accordance with the 2015 Presidential Memorandum: Promoting Economic Competitiveness While Safeguarding Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties in Domestic Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

During FY2024 the UAS Unit conducted 73 law enforcement operations. Twelve of these operations occurred outside the City of San Diego, in the following cities: Bonsall, Lemon Grove, Imperial Beach, Ramona, Carlsbad, Lakeside, El Cajon, Escondido and Chula Vista. During FY2024, the SDPD UAS Unit did not conduct any operations in support of state, tribal or territorial governments. The UAS Unit did conduct one operation in support of the City of San Diego’s Office of Emergency Services and one operation in support of the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department.

During special events and demonstrations in public venues, UAS video recording and photographic evidence collection are generally not collected unless to document a crime in progress, anticipation of a crime, upon request, or with approval of the Chief of Police or designee.

DATE	CATEGORY	SUMMARY
6/23/2024	Search and Rescue	UAS conducted aerial search for a missing at-risk hiker in Northeastern Division.
6/22/2024	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial photography/videography evidence collection of a crime scene to support Homicide Unit with a homicide investigation.
6/20/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch and interior search of a target residence to support SWAT operations during a high-risk search warrant.
6/11/2024	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch and interior search of a residence to support SWAT operations in response to a report of a barricaded and potentially armed suspect.
6/6/2024	Search and Rescue	UAS conducted aerial search for a missing at-risk juvenile for Northwestern Division.
6/5/2024	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a target apartment to support SWAT operations in response to a barricaded felony suspect.
6/2/2024	Special Events (Enhanced Security)	UAS Unit conducted perched overwatch to support enhanced security and anti-terrorism efforts during the Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon in Central Division.
5/25/2024-5/27/2024	Special Events (Enhanced Security)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch to support enhanced security and anti-terrorism efforts during San Diego Memorial Day weekend at Mission Beach and Belmont Park.

5/20/2024	SD Fire Assistance	The San Diego Fire-Rescue Department requested the UAS Unit to assist with the interior inspection of a structure fire for the purpose of examining structural integrity, damage, and safety concerns.
5/9/2024	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial photography/videography evidence collection of a crime scene to support a SDPD Dragnet Unit in a felony vandalism investigation.
5/7/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a target residence in support SWAT operations during a high-risk search warrant.
5/5/2024	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a target apartment to support SWAT operations in response to a barricaded felony suspect.
5/4/2024	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial photography evidence collection of a crime scene to support an SDPD Homicide Unit investigation of a San Diego Sheriff's Department officer-involved shooting.
5/1/2024	Security Overwatch at Demonstration.	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch to support enhanced security and anti-terrorism efforts during a civil demonstration at a commercial business complex in Northeastern Division.
4/25/2024	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial photography evidence collection of a crime scene to support an SDPD Homicide Unit investigation.
4/23/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during a planned warrant service.
4/23/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during a planned warrant service.
4/23/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch and interior search of a residence to support SWAT operations during planned warrant service.
4/22/2024	Suspect Search	UAS conducted aerial search for a felony vehicle suspect at-large, made public announcements, and overwatched officers as the suspect was taken into custody.
4/22/2024	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial photography evidence collection of a crime scene to support an SDPD Homicide Unit investigation.
4/22/2024	Suspect Search	UAS conducted aerial search in the Tecolote Canyon area for a suspect in support of a child molestation investigation.
4/19/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during a planned warrant service.
4/17/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch and interior search of a residence to support SWAT operations during planned warrant service.
4/5/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during planned warrant service.

4/4/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during a planned warrant service.
3/29/2024	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial photography evidence collection of a crime scene to support a SDPD Homicide Unit investigation.
3/26/2024	Search and Rescue	UAS conducted aerial search for a missing at-risk adult for Central Division
3/20/2024	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a target apartment to support SWAT operations in response to a barricaded felony suspect.
3/11/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during planned warrant service.
3/5/2024	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a target apartment and interior UAS Search to support SWAT operations in response to an armed barricaded suspect.
3/4/2024	Security Overwatch at Demonstration. Suspicious Package inspection.	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch to support enhanced security and anti-terrorism efforts during a civil demonstration at a commercial Business complex in Northeastern Division. UAS Unit also conducted forward observation of a suspicious package left by demonstrators.
2/28/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during planned warrant service.
2/26/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during planned warrant service.
2/22/2024	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted search and rescue and aerial photography evidence collection of two deceased subjects located in the Tijuana River.
2/12/2024	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial photography evidence collection of a crime scene to support an SDPD Homicide Unit investigation.
2/8/2024	Suspect Search	UAS Unit conducted an aerial suspect search for a felony theft suspect who fought with police and fled into the San Diego Riverbed.
1/29-30/2024	City of SD/EOC Support	The San Diego Emergency Operations Center requested the UAS Unit to collect aerial photos of impacted city-owned waterways and channels affected by the flood zones in the Mid-City and Southeastern Divisions to capture damage, blockage, and safety concerns.
1/24-1/27/2024	Special Events (Enhanced Security)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch to support enhanced security and anti-terrorism efforts during the Farmers Open Golf Tournament.
1/18/2024	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of surrounding area to support SWAT operations in response to an armed barricaded suspect.

1/18/2024	Search and Rescue	UAS conducted aerial search for a missing at-risk adult for Mid-City Division.
1/18/2024	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during planned warrant service.
1/15/2024	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of surrounding area to support SWAT operations in response to an armed barricaded suspect.
1/11/2024	Search and Rescue	UAS conducted aerial search for a missing driver involved in a vehicle collision.
12/31/2023	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted an interior building search and aerial overwatch of surrounding area to support SWAT operations in response to an armed barricaded suspect.
12/29/2023	Patrol Support – Armed Subject at large.	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of surrounding area to support patrol operations in response to a subject displaying a shotgun.
12/15/2023	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of surrounding area to support SWAT operations in response to a barricaded suspect and hostage situation.
12/7/2023	Search and Rescue	UAS conducted aerial search for a missing at-risk adult in Northeastern Division.
12/1/2023 - 12/2/2023	Special Events (Enhanced Security)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch to support enhanced security and anti-terrorism efforts during the December Nights special event.
11/30/2023	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial evidence collection of a vehicular-related homicide investigation by SDPD Homicide Unit.
11/28/2023	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of surrounding area to support SWAT operations in response to an armed barricaded suspect.
11/18/2023	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of surrounding area to support SWAT operations in response to an armed barricaded suspect.
11/16/2023	Search and Rescue	UAS conducted aerial search over canyon areas for occupants related to a vehicle collision investigation.
11/15-16/2023	Search and Rescue for Plane Crash	UAS conducted aerial search over canyons areas for survivors of a small plane crash in the La Jolla, Torrey Pines area.
11/3/2023	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial evidence collection of Escondido Police Department officer-involved shooting investigation by SDPD Homicide Unit.
11/2/2023	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during planned warrant service.

10/27/2023	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted perched remote observation of a suspect in his hotel room window to support SWAT operations in response to a potentially armed suspect who had committed a weapon-related felony.
10/21/2023	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial evidence collection of Carlsbad Police Department officer-involved shooting investigation by SDPD Homicide Unit.
10/16/2023	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch and interior search of a residence to support SWAT operations in response to a potentially armed suspect who had committed a weapon-related felony.
10/10/2023	Special Events (Enhanced Security)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch to support enhanced security and anti-terrorism efforts during a planned special event at the Jewish Community Center.
9/21/2023	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during a planned warrant service.
9/21/2023	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of a residence to support SWAT operations during a planned warrant service.
9/9/2023	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial evidence collection of Carlsbad Police Department officer-involved shooting investigation by SDPD Homicide Unit.
9/2/2023 - 9/4/2023	Special Events (Enhanced Security)	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch to support enhanced security and anti-terrorism efforts during San Diego Labor Day at Mission Beach and Belmont Park.
8/28/2023	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of surrounding area to support SWAT operations in response to an armed barricaded suspect who had committed a homicide.
8/25/2023	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial photography evidence collection of a fatal Traffic Collision investigation involving a watercraft.
8/23/2023	SWAT Support (Warrant)	UAS Unit conducted forward deployed UAS observation of an illegal gambling den to support a SWAT warrant service operation.
8/5/2023	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of surrounding area to support SWAT operations in response to an armed barricaded suspect who had committed a weapon-related felony.
7/25/2023	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial photography evidence collection of a crime scene to support a SDPD Homicide Unit investigation.
7/19/2023 - 7/23/2023	Special Events (Enhanced Security)	UAS Unit conducted perched and aerial overwatch to support enhanced security and anti-terrorism efforts during the San Diego Comic-Con Convention.

7/16/2023	SWAT Support	UAS Unit conducted aerial overwatch of surrounding area to support SWAT operations in response to an armed barricaded suspect who had committed a domestic violence-related felony.
7/15/2023	Special Events (Enhanced Security)	UAS Unit conducted perched and aerial overwatch to support enhanced security and anti-terrorism efforts during the San Diego Pride Parade.
7/11/2023	Search and Rescue	UAS conducted aerial search for possible injured or deceased subject in San Diego Riverbed.
7/5/2023	Evidence Collection	UAS conducted aerial photography evidence collection of a crime scene to support a SDPD Homicide Unit investigation.