



# Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection

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## UPDATE ON DRONE SIGHTINGS IN CONNECTICUT

DESPP, which includes the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, the Connecticut State Police, and the Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC) is closely monitoring numerous reports of large drone, or Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), sightings across Connecticut in recent days.

The Connecticut State Police monitor drone activity through a system of portable and fixed drone sensing devices.

Drone sightings by CSP are now being handled through a detailed reporting process to collect as much information as possible.

CTIC analysts are also comparing reported sightings with Federal Aviation Administration flight data. CTIC has found most could be attributed to manned aircraft or those UAS devices operating in the private sector in a legal manner.

“We take all reports of suspicious drone activity seriously,” said Commissioner Ronnell A. Higgins. “To ensure the continued safety of all Connecticut residents, DESPP is working closely with local, state, and federal partners, including the Transportation Safety Administration and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.”

DESPP has no authority to take down a drone. Drone operators are required to maintain a flight altitude of 400 feet or less, and maintain visual line of sight by the operator. If being used for commercial purposes, drone pilots generally require a federal license.

Any suspicious drone activity may be reported through [www.portal.ct.gov/TIP](http://www.portal.ct.gov/TIP) or by phone 866-HLS-TIPS.

For immediate release Dec. 16, 2024. Contact: Rick Green, 860-539-0159, [richard.green@ct.gov](mailto:richard.green@ct.gov).