

ALERT

FAA Announces Next Steps for UAS Registration: Receipt of Task Force Recommendations, Issuance of Interim Final Rule, and Opportunity for Public Comment

November 20, 2015

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Administrator Michael Huerta announced today the next steps in the development of an unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) registration process. Huerta disclosed that on Saturday, November 21, 2015, the recently-formed Task Force on UAS registration will deliver its recommendations to the FAA. The FAA will consider the Task Force's recommendations and public comments already received in developing an Interim Final Rule on UAS registration which the FAA expects to release and make effective next month. The FAA will then seek another round of public comment on the interim rule to aid the agency in developing a final rule on UAS registration.

Just last month, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and FAA announced the establishment of a task force to develop a registration process for UAS and released a request for public comment regarding electronic registration of UAS. The Task Force includes 25 representatives from the UAS and manned aviation industries, the federal government, and other stakeholders. The Task Force was charged with developing recommendations for a streamlined registration process for all UAS users, including hobbyists, and identifying UAS that could be exempt from registration because they pose a low safety risk. Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx directed the Task Force to deliver its report of recommendations by November 20, 2015.

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