

DRONERESPONDERS Tactical Beyond Visual Line of Sight Waiver (91.113) Supplemental Guidance – Example Waiver Request 19 August 2020

The following guidance builds on additional information that came out of the FAA UAS Virtual Symposium Episode II.

When applying for this waiver, the recommendation is to basically "repeat back" what is in the guidance document. DO NOT get overly specific with exception of air space classifications.

*PLEASE CUSTOMIZE THE AREAS IN RED WITH YOUR AGENCY INFORMATION

Example Waiver Request to be Emailed to the 91.113 Waiver Team:

Our agency is requesting a "First Responder Tactical Beyond Visual Line of Sight" (TBVLOS) waiver to 14 CFR 91.113(b)

CONOPS:

In a time of extreme emergencies to safeguard human life, **our agency** will operate unmanned aircraft (UAS) beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) to assess the operational environment such as a fire scene at a large structural fire, to conduct an aerial search on a large roof area for a burglary in progress, or fly over a heavily forested area to look for a missing person or active shooter situation or similar emergency incident.

Our agency will operate temporary UAS TBVLOS operations within specific conditions and requirements as described in the information below:

- ✓ Our agency has a Part 91 Certificate of Authorization (COA), the COA number is XXX and a copy is attached)
- ✓ TBVLOS will only to be used in extreme emergency situations to safeguard human life.
- ✓ The Pilot in Command (PIC) will return to Visual Line of Sight (VLOS) operations as soon as practical or upon the termination of the extreme emergency situation.
- ✓ The PIC will not operate any higher than 50 feet above or greater than 400 feet laterally of the nearest obstacle while operating TBVLOS. The 50 feet above an obstacle cannot exceed the 400 feet above ground level (AGL) hard ceiling.
- ✓ The UAS will remain within 1500 feet of the PIC.
- The UAS will operate, during an extreme emergency to safeguard human life, TBVLOS in controlled airspace not to exceed the UAS Facility Map altitude values which is a hard ceiling for these operations. This includes operations in controlled airspace where UAS Facility Map altitude values exist, but Low Altitude Authorization Notification Capability (LAANC) authorizations are not available (red grids). LAANC Authorizations are NOT required to conduct TBVLOS Operations.
- ✓ Operations at night, including operations at night that are in controlled airspace below the UAS Facility Map altitude values, and will abide by the standard provision for 'Night Small UAS Operations' in your COA.
- ✓ Provide an overview of your specific airspace classifications and how these waiver conditions apply to each of the different airspace classifications.
- ✓ Our agency will be operating with UAS weighing under 55 lbs and our current UAS fleet includes XXXX, XXXX, XXXX

- ✓ When operations need to exceed the 400 feet hard ceiling or the UAS Facility Map altitude value, our agency will request a Special Governmental Interest (SGI) COA/Waiver from the FAA's Systems Operations Support Center: https://www.faa.gov/uas/advanced_operations/.
- ✓ During Loss of Link the aircraft autopilot will be programmed to enter a Return To Home within 2 seconds of the lost link condition being detected, climb to an altitude that clears all obstructions and is below the approved ceiling authorized under the COA and return to Home point or other defined lost link waypoint within the controlled UAS Operation Area and land.

HOW DO YOU APPLY? Follow this two-step process:

Step One:

Send your initial Requests for the TBVLOS airspace authorization to: <u>9-UAS-91.113Waivers@faa.gov</u>.

The request should include:

- ✓ Your concept of operations (including operational area and UAS information) highlighting the required conditions as describe in this resource document (SEE ABOVE CONOPS section)
- ✓ Your existing Part 91 COA number (send a copy to expedite process)

NOTE: This initial request starts the process. Do NOT use this process to request time sensitive First Responder TBVLOS operations. Send time sensitive requests to the FAA's Systems Operations Support Center SGI process (link above).

Step Two:

Once your concept of operations is approved, you will be instructed to submit through the COA Application Process system (CAPS https://caps.faa.gov) for the TBVLOS 91.113(b) waiver. It is important that your application notes that you are seeking a TBVLOS 91.113 waiver. DO NOT SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR A TBVLOS 91.113(b) WAIVER UNLESS DIRECTED BY THE FAA WAIVER TEAM!

- It is important to note that you CANNOT operate TBVLOS until you are issued and receive a signed FAA Form 7711-1 (COA/Waiver form).
- All PICs should review and abide by the provisions of the issued FAA Form 7711-1 for TBVLOS.
- A copy of FAA Form 7711-1 and a copy of the CAPS Application must be kept as part of any TBVLOS operation and be available for inspection by the FAA.

If you have questions regarding TBVLOS 91.113(b) wavier process, using CAPs, and/or general questions regarding TBVLOS operations, please contact the UAS Support Center via email at UAShelp@faa.gov or by calling 844- FLYMYUA. Please indicate in the email subject line "TBVLOS."