



# DEPARTMENT NOTICE

24-133

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## **Position Opening: Drone Operator Officer or Sergeant**

The Department is currently accepting applications from Officers and Sergeants for collateral positions as a Drone Operator. Selected members will receive advanced training. Members chosen for this assignment will remain in their current assignments and be detailed as needed.

\*All interested members must apply. This **includes** members who responded to the survey in Department Notice 24-074.

The department anticipates a need for up to 20 positions during the initial phase of the drone program. This Department Notice will be used to fill any vacancies in the next 12 months.

### **Duties include but are not limited to:**

- Respond to requests for dynamic drone deployment citywide for rapidly unfolding incidents.
- Operate a Drone as First Responder (DFR) from a designated fixed location.
- Deploy and operate drones during special events or preplanned operations.
- Responsible for maintenance and care of department issued drone.

### **Assignment schedule:**

- Members will be called to respond on duty as needed.
- Members must be willing to work on an overtime basis, have their schedule adjusted, and extended hours if necessary.
- This is an on-duty assignment with no on-call.

### **Minimum Qualifications:**

\* Minimum qualifications must be met by the application deadline, unless otherwise stated.

- Hold the rank of Officer or Sergeant.
- Must have completed probation as an Officer or Sergeant with SFPD.
- Must have or obtain an FAA Remote Pilot Certification (Part 107) within 1 month of selection to be a drone operator (any fees associated with the FAA certification and time studying for the examination are the responsibility of the member).
- Members must be willing to attend a three-day POST UAS Basic Pilots Course and pass a minimum qualification.
- Members must pass a biannual qualification course administered by the department.

### **Additional desirable qualifications include but are not limited to:**

- Experience operating drones.
- Ability to work in uncomfortable and adverse conditions (weather, heights, etc.)
- Capable of carrying heavy equipment to a rooftop location.

- Prior aviation experience and knowledge of FAA rules and regulations.
- Experience in specialized units involving dynamic police operations (plainclothes, Specialist, HNT, TAC, Fugitive apprehension, etc.)
- Experience with special event planning and crowd management.
- Experience in training and course development.
- IT experience navigating complex software programs, network engineering, and video editing.

**Selection Procedures:**

**Step 1: Deadline**

- The application deadline will be September 22, 2024.

**Step 2: How to apply**

- E-mail application with completed written responses to interview questions (black application attached): to [REDACTED]
- Subject: Drone  
Once your application is received, you will receive a confirmation email within 5 business days.

**Step 3: Selection Process**

- The selection process will consist of:
  1. A review of submitted applications and resumes (if included) to ensure all applicants meet the minimum requirement
  2. In addition to oral interviews, candidate written responses to the application questions will be reviewed by a panel to determine selection.
- [REDACTED] will [REDACTED] with any questions.  
If selected, the process is complete. If additional positions in the unit are available, notice will be issued.

Please email [REDACTED] with any questions.

Applicants for this position are required to perform the essential job functions of a sworn member with or without reasonable accommodation. Members should contact the Department's American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator, [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] with any questions regarding the essential job functions of a sworn member as they relate to reasonable accommodation.

*William Scott*  
**WILLIAM SCOTT**  
 Chief of Police

*Per DN 23-152, all sworn & non-sworn Members shall electronically acknowledge this Department document in PowerDMS within (30) thirty calendar days of issuance. Members whose duties are relevant to this document shall be held responsible for compliance. Any questions regarding this policy should be sent to [sfpd.writtendirectives@sfgov.org](mailto:sfpd.writtendirectives@sfgov.org), who will provide additional information about the directive.*