



ONE BREVARD INITIATIVE (OBI)

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (UAS)

This notice is to provide the citizens of Brevard County, Florida an opportunity to learn about the creation of a **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** under my "**One Brevard Initiative**" plan. This plan is designed to bring our municipalities and agencies together in crime prevention and overall public safety.

The "**One Brevard Initiative**" is contingent per the outcome of the November 5, 2024 General election for Brevard County Sheriff.

What is the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) program?

Unmanned aircraft systems, also commonly called drones, are revolutionizing the way we use airspace. These flying machines do not have a pilot on board, but are instead controlled remotely or fly pre-programmed routes.

A complete UAS includes the aircraft itself, a ground control station (laptop/tablet) for the pilot, and a communication link. With a wide range of applications, from photography to agriculture, UAS are increasingly being implemented due to the cost savings and multi-use capabilities they offer without the expense of traditional aircraft.

As Sheriff, I will begin procuring unmanned aircraft system (UAS) capability that will serve as a cost-effective approach to meeting the operational needs for a multi-use county wide airborne intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance asset. Use of UAS expands the on-the-ground awareness and disseminates actionable intelligence on maritime and ground-based hazards and threats.

The UAS program will provide long range (60+ miles), long duration flights (8+ hours) to support our local, state, and federal partners in search-and-rescue operations, monitoring civil disturbances and/or large gatherings, and providing vital airborne intelligence regarding missing and endangered persons or criminal activity.



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The UAS program overtime will cut the costs of operating one traditional aircraft (manned helicopter) by an estimated 80% over the lifetime of the program. *(Cost estimate based on helicopter operational costs of an estimated \$1000-\$1500 per hour, per 1000 flight hours, or approximately \$1.5M/year.)*

The UAS program would be replicated so that each Sheriff's Office precinct and each Brevard County municipality would have access to the UAS's along with many certified FAA drone pilots on each shift able to operate the UAS 24/7. This would create an almost immediate state of readiness.

Access to UAS aircraft within minutes would not only save lives but allow law enforcement and our partner agencies to gather vital intelligence quickly without the delay (up to 20 min) of waiting for a traditional helicopter to launch and fly to the location of the incident.

This simple cost-cutting program should have already been implemented years ago. The overwhelming lack of leadership from the current sheriff and command appointees is astonishing. Unmanned systems are readily available, reliable, and cheap compared to tradition aircraft.

The lack of searching for new solutions to help solve our problems, to the lack of even mentioning we have unresolved problems is a complete lack of responsibility and leadership.

The current Sheriff has not given anyone any reason to deserve a fourth term in office, except pretend to be a news reporter in cheaply made internet videos. The number of views and likes are not a measure of success.

The current Sheriff has worked as a bureaucrat most of his career, who was never held accountable. The current Sheriff has failed the agency, and failed the tax payer.



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This is just a first step in creating a Brevard County we can all be proud of. One that helps its friends and neighbors and does what is right for the betterment of the greater good.

I encourage everyone to get involved in 2024 as "We the People" will finally have a voice in how we want to move forward.

This is only the beginning for the "***One Brevard Initiative.***"

Our plan will continually be released as we move forward to the November 5, 2024 General election.

For questions or comments, please reach out to

Former Deputy Brian Potters, Write-In candidate for Brevard County Sheriff 2024 campaign at

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