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Subject: Fundraising | Department Form
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Message Body:

We are a coastal community on Cape Cod. We have a bay to our west and the Atlantic ocean to our east. We get many distress calls for vessels or persons in these waters.

However, due to the challenges of navigating the tides as well as the narrow channels, we exceed reasonable (NFPA) response times. Having a drone to quickly deploy and assess the situation would be invaluable to our department. One example was a report of a possible overturned vessel. From shore it looked like the hull of a small boat. We had to wait over 30 minutes before a boat could make it on scene and determine it was a large log! A drone would have made that determination in 5 minutes.

A person was reported in distress 1/2 mile off shore. Again, it took over 20 minutes to determine that he was fine and in waist deep water. A drone would have saved not only time, but the safety of all responders. These are just a few examples of the types of calls a drone would be beneficial to our Department.

We have requested money to obtain a drone through multiple grant sites with no luck yet. Currently, we have an FAA Part 107 pilot on staff to initiate the program. Only thing we need now is the aircraft.

The future uses are to use the drone to map out the best routes through our constantly changing waterways and marshes, search the vast Cape Cod National Seashore for potential wildfires and assist with missing persons. (We have a large elderly population).

This request is at a time when our town has just initiated a \$130 million municipal water project providing clean water and fire hydrants to the town. Understandably, our funds are quite tight. This program would be offered as a regional asset to other communities and will be an example of how valuable a drone would be as an emergency response asset. I thank you for your consideration.

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