



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MEDIA RELEASE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY Sheriff-Coroner

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Media Release: January 16TH, 2026 Unmanned Aerial System Annual Report

As part of our commitment to the community, we are releasing this annual report regarding the usage of the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Team.

The UAS Team consists of 14 members of the Sheriff's Office who are certified under Code of Federal Regulations Title 14 part 107 to fly drones in a professional capacity.

In 2025 the UAS was deployed 52 times. Those deployments included search and rescue operations, suspect searches, crime scene documentation, water rescues, high risk incidents and search warrant services.

Below are the dates, locations, and circumstances for each public deployment in 2025:

DATE	LOCATION	MISSION TYPE	OUTCOME
1/13/2025	11600 Blk Love Creek Rd, Ben Lomond	Crime Scene Documentation	Mission Complete
1/16/2025	5200 Blk Soquel Ave, Santa Cruz	Crime Scene Documentation	Mission Complete
1/20/2025	0 Blk, Foothill Dr, Watsonville	Search Warrant	Warrant Served
1/24/2025	700 Blk, Amesti Rd, Watsonville	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
1/24/2025	30 th & Brommer, Santa Cruz	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
1/25/2025	2200 Blk Delaware, Santa Cruz	AOD SCPD for Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
2/7/2025	SR-1 & Swanton Rd, Davenport	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Located
2/25/2025	1400 Blk Coast Rd, Davenport	Water Rescue	Subject Not Located

2/26/2025	0 Blk Sudden St, Watsonville	AOD WPD for Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
2/26/2025	1400 Blk Coast Rd, Davenport	Missing Person Search	Subject Not Located
2/28/2025	200 Blk Keystone Way, Santa Cruz	AOD SCPD for Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
3/1/2025	1500 Blk Park Ave, Capitola	Water Rescue	Subject Located
4/16/2025	5900 Blk Soquel Ave, Santa Cruz	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
5/17/2025	0 Blk Hecker Pass Rd, Watsonville	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Apprehended
5/20/2025	Capitola Rd & Wharf Rd, Capitola	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Apprehended
5/21/2025	East Lake & Carlton Rd, Watsonville	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Apprehended
5/22/2025	2000 Blk 41 st Ave, Capitola	AOD CPD for Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
5/25/2025	Scott Creek Beach, Davenport	AOD CHP for Scene Documentation	Mission Complete
6/10/2025	38 th Ave & East Cliff, Santa Cruz	Water Rescue	Unfounded
6/21/2025	4000 Blk Cordelia Ln, Soquel	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
6/23/2025	500 Blk Tie Gulch Rd, Aptos	Felony Suspect Search	Unfounded
6/27/2025	0 Blk Paseo Dr, Watsonville	Search Warrant Service	Mission Complete
7/1/2025	8000 Blk Hermosa Ave, Ben Lomond	Search Warrant Service	Mission Complete
7/23/2025	3100 Blk Erin Ln, Santa Cruz	Search Warrant Service	Mission Complete
7/24/2025	100 Blk Grimmer Rd, Watsonville	Missing Person Search	Subject Not Located
7/25/2025	100 Blk Grimmer Rd, Watsonville	Missing Person Search	Subject Not Located
7/26/2025	100 Blk Grimmer Rd, Watsonville	Missing Person Search	Subject Not Located
7/27/2025	100 Blk Grimmer Rd, Watsonville	Missing Person Search / Scene Documentation	Subject Located
7/27/2025	Wharf to Wharf Race	Security for Community Event	Mission Complete
8/1/2025	Rockview Ct, Santa Cruz	Water Rescue	Unfounded
8/9/2025	Panther Beach, Davenport	Water Rescue / Scene Documentation	Subject Located

8/10/2025	Panther Beach, Davenport	Scene Documentation	Mission Complete
8/12/2025	400 Blk Gold Ave, Felton	Search Warrant Service	Mission Complete
8/22/2025	1200 Blk Buena Vista Dr, Watsonville	AOD CHP for Scene Documentation	Mission Complete
9/5/2025	Seacliff Beach, Aptos	Water Rescue	Subject Located
9/11/2025	100 Blk Hughes Rd, Watsonville	Search Warrant Service	Mission Completed
9/14/2025	300 Blk Thompson Rd, Watsonville	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
9/29/2025	Canfield & San Lorenzo, Santa Cruz	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Apprehended
10/15/2025	400 Blk E. Lake, Watsonville	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
10/17/2025	7300 Blk SR-9, Ben Lomond	AOD State Parks for Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
10/20/2025	1100 Blk Greenbank, Ben Lomond	Search Warrant Service	Mission Complete
10/23/2025	200 Blk E. Beach, Watsonville	AOD WPD for Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Apprehended
11/9/2025	1400 Blk Glen Canyon, Santa Cruz	Missing Person Search	Subject Located
11/10/2025	200 Blk Mesa Verde, Watsonville	Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
11/10/2025	400 Blk Beach Dr, Aptos	Missing Person Search	Subject Not Located
11/16/2025	Davenport Beach, Davenport	Missing Person Search	Subject Not Located
11/18/2025	1400 Blk Felton Quarry Rd, Felton	Missing Person Search	Subject Not Located
11/19/2025	400 Blk Beach Dr, Aptos	Missing Person Search	Subject Not Located
11/20/2025	Moore Ranch & Smith Grade, Bonny Doon	Missing Person Search	Subject Not Located
11/25/2025	2300 Blk East Lake, Watsonville	AOD for Felony Suspect Search	Suspect Not Located
12/16/2025	500 Blk Rodriguez St, Watsonville	AOD WPD for Search Warrant Service	Mission Completed
12/27/2025	4400 Blk SR-1, Davenport	Scene Documentation	Mission Completed

PREPARED BY:
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 Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office

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