

## Up in the Sky! It's a Bird... It's a Plane... It's Superman?

by Mora Prestinary

**No!** It's super drone! Intended for better and for worse, unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) have taken over the skies. (For purposes of this article, the word "drone" means any flying craft for hobbyists, commercial, and governmental use, not military purposes.)

Exact drone sales figures are difficult to acquire.: <http://dronelife.com/2015/01/24/drone-sales-figures-2014-hard-navigate/>. Deloitte estimates that this year about 300,000 nonmilitary UAVs will be sold worldwide (resulting in more than 1 million in consumers' hands), with projected revenues of \$200-\$400 million. (Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, *Drones: High-Profile and Niche*, 2015.) The Washington Post reports: "We're not talking here about the lethal, multi-million dollar military aircraft that are changing the nature of warfare. We're talking about small, consumer-friendly devices that sell today to hobbyists and others for less than \$300." Equipped with cameras and controlled with smart phones, they appeal to both hobbyists and commercial users.'

Already a myriad of laws and regulations have been enacted re UAS: In 2015, 45 states considered 168 bills related to drones: Conference of State Legislatures: <http://www.ncsl.org/research/transportation/current-unmanned-aircraft-state-law-landscape.aspx>

California [AB 856](#), Section 1708.8 of the Civil Code : prohibits entering the airspace of an individual in order to capture an image or recording of that individual engaging in a private, personal, or familial activity without permission. This legislation is a response to the use of UAS by the paparazzi.

[Public Law 112-95, 49 USC 40101](#)note.: Title III, Subtitle B – Unmanned Aircraft Systems Subtitle B—Unmanned Aircraft Systems SEC. 331.

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## Looking for Solutions to the Problem of Public ...

by Elizabeth Harmon

**P**ublic micturition is a widespread problem affecting not just American metropolitan areas, in particular Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and New York City but urban areas in countries such as Egypt, England, France, Germany, Holland, and India – to name a few. Public *micturition*, also known as public urination, is not usually regarded as a criminal act in California and it wasn't that long ago (2006) that a California court actually ruled that such an act could be considered a public nuisance. California Penal Code section 640 does not, in fact, ban a person from relieving themselves in public, except on public transportation or a related facility. Yet, this is not to say you can't be arrested for being caught in the act because you can, which could carry a fine of up to \$250.00 and community service up to 48 hours in 30 days. Other cities in both the United States and elsewhere have laws and penalties in place for public micturition.



In Hoboken, large numbers of carousers converge on the city each weekend and dozens are given citations and fines of up to a \$1000.00. Chicago also hands out fines of up to \$1000.00 to curtail the problem - the city has brought in almost 6 million dollars in fines. Los Angeles County considers public micturition a misdemeanor that carries a fine of \$1000.00 and/or six months in jail. On the other hand, the New York City Council put in place legislation that reduces public urination to a low-level offense and a possible fine of \$25.00.

San Francisco already has \$500.00 fines but to curtail their ongoing problems they have taken new approaches. The consequences of public urination are not just the obvious stains, strong odor, and rodents but the urine also corrodes metal and paint plus is destructive to concrete and brick. Last year a lamppost, eroded by human and animal urine, toppled and barely missed a passing motorist. As a result the public utilities commission is sending workers to inspect 25,000 lampposts around the city. Solar-powered portable toilets are also brought to different areas several

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*Up in the Sky**(Continued from page 1)*

FAA Registered Nearly 300,000 Unmanned Aircraft Owners: @FAANews <https://www.faa.gov/uas/>

**The Good News:**

The benefits are almost endless.. Use of UAS assist in agriculture, the entertainment field, monitoring security and police functions, checking on the environment, track sharks, search and rescue, disaster recovery, oil and gas pipelines, inspect power lines and wind turbines, and Amazon is considering their use to deliver products to homes.

**The Bad News:**

According to the FAA in 2014, there were 238 sightings by pilots near airports. Today that number is upwards of 650. A small drone swallowed by a jet engine can cause catastrophic failure. Privacy is another issue, they are invading our public and private air space. Thus the need for privacy laws to protect the safety and security of our air space.

The aircraft's basic elements include a frame, propellers, a small motor and battery, electronic sensors, Global Positioning System (GPS), and a camera. Some UAVs are operated by controllers, but others can be guided by the operator's smartphone or tablet.

<https://www.fas.org/sqp/crs/misc/R44192.pdf> (Congressional Research Service).

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/13-companies-pushing-the-drone-revolution-2014-06-25>

**The Other News:**

Responses to drone invasion of public and private air space:

"Police set to use eagles to foil terrorist drone attacks"

(Daily Mail, 2/25/16).

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3436572/Police-set-use-EAGLES-foil-terrorist-drone-attacks-Scotland-Yard-confirms-birds-prey-used-intercept-aircraft-video-showed-one-plucked-sky.html>

"Metropolitan Police plan to train eagles to attack drones that pose a threat to London. Top cops are considering using them to attack drones that could be used to bring drugs into prisons or drop terrorist bombs . Scotland Yard could soon be employing a new type of "flying squad" in its battle against terrorists and other criminals... eagles! Police chiefs are contemplating training the birds of prey to attack drones which pose a threat to the capital. It follows successful trials in the Netherlands where eagles pounced on a small drone and snatched it from the skies."

"Eagles Trained to Intercept Drones in Denmark"

(Discovery News, 2/1/16)

<http://news.discovery.com/animals/eagles-trained-to-intercept-drones-in-denmark-160201.htm>

The Dutch National Police taught the birds of prey to catch the remote-controlled tech mid-air and bring it back to the ground in the hopes of enforcing new drone laws which forbid the drones from snooping where they shouldn't be.

In the USA: White House gets drone defense wake-up call:

"The quadcopter drone that crashed onto the White House grounds overnight has highlighted the growing security threat posed by small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), experts warn." <http://www.foxnews.com/tech/2015/01/27/why-white-house-quadcopter-is-drone-defense-wake-up-call.html>



The skies overhead are more crowded than ever. Next time you look up to the heavens, brother drone may be watching!

**Material in the Library:**

"Regulating Drones". *Administrative & Regulatory Law News*, Winter 2016. Floor A KF5401.A15A1

Unmanned Aircraft in the National Airspace: critical issues, technology and the law. Floor 4, KF2406.U56 2015.



**Looking for Solutions***(Continued from page 1)*

days a week plus the city has taken an idea from Hamburg, Germany and began painting walls in problem areas with a urine-resistant paint. Labeled *Ultra-Dry*, the paint causes the urine to spray back on the offender. Signs are posted to warn people of the repercussions of using the wall to relieve themselves.

In Holland, after a multimillion euro restoration on the Royal Palace in Amsterdam was finished and the construction fence was removed, people started relieving themselves against the new sandstone exterior façade and the arches of the arcade. This required a daily spray to clean up the damage, which resulted in salt crystals to form that caused further damage. There is already a fine of 140 euro (about \$150.00) in place but measures to curtail the problem will be added that include lights with motion sensors and if necessary installation of “urlifts” – urinals that are below ground during the day but will rise out of the ground at night. If this isn’t enough then heavy construction options will be tried.

As mentioned above, Hamburg, Germany’s St. Pauli nightclub district, which attracts around 20 million visitors a year, was one of the first to try the super-hydrophobic paint manufactured by a Florida company, *Ultra-Tech*, which is also used in shipbuilding. Though the paint is expensive, the St. Pauli Interest Community claims it is worth it compared to the cost of daily cleaning, the smell, and the collateral damage. Besides splashing on the shoes and clothes of the culprit, the paint prevents the urine from penetrating the wall. Other major cities in Great Britain and Europe, like London and Paris, are also using or planning to use the resistant paint in areas where public micturition is common.

**Looking at the Web***by Mora Prestinary***Current California drone bills:**

AB 14 [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160AB14](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB14)  
 AB 1662 [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160AB1662](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB1662)  
 AB 1680 [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160AB1680](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB1680)  
 SB 809 [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB809](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB809)  
 SB 811 [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB811](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB811)

**Vetoed:**

AB 1327: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201320140AB1327](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB1327)  
 SB 142: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB142](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB142)

Cesar Chavez Day, March 31: United Farm Workers <http://www.ufw.org/page.php?menu=research&inc=history/07.html>

National Chavez Center: <http://www.chavezfoundation.org/page.php?code=007001000000000>

Law Day 2016, Miranda: More Than Words : [www.lawday.org/](http://www.lawday.org/)

Miranda v. Arizona 384 U.S. 436: <https://www.princeton.edu/~ereading/Miranda.pdf>

Daylight Saving Time Begins, Sunday, March 13: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/calendar/index.php?eID=2277>

National Anthem Day, March 3: <http://www.politico.com/story/2010/03/star-spangled-banner-becomes-official-us-anthem-march-3-1931-033775>



**Law Day** this year marks the fiftieth anniversary of *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436: <https://www.princeton.edu/~ereading/Miranda.pdf>. "It is the name of the formal warning that is required to be given by police in the United States to criminal suspects in police custody before they are interrogated". We've all heard it in films and television shows, now Law Day, 2016: **Miranda More Than Words**, explores the criminal justice rights, the procedures involved, and the constitutional aspects. See ABA's website [Law Day 2016](#).

Our Spring book display, which goes up in March, will feature material from this library regarding Miranda.

## ask a librarian

by Lu Nguyen

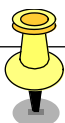
Q

I have filed a petition for a legal separation and would like to change it to divorce. Where can I find information about how to do this?

A

This Library has a set of books titled California Practice Guide – Family Law by William P. Hogoboom, published by the Rutter Group. (Floor 3, KFC115.H6)

In the Index (in volume 3), look under the topic "Amendment of Pleadings," then under the subtopic "Legal separation petition amended to dissolution." It will point you to the section of the book where the procedure to amend a petition of legal separation to a divorce is explained.



## From Circulation Desk: by Patti Walter

Just a reminder to all library patrons who check out CD/DVD/Tape/Video Sets to be aware that most of our sets have multiple pieces to them. Our library charges \$1 per -day-late fine amount for each piece in the set. Fine charges stop accruing when a \$90 fine is reached.

Patrons are also responsible for replacement charges for missing pieces of sets. The library is often unable to replace just one piece in a set, meaning the entire set must be repurchased. Unfortunately, this means we have to charge patrons accordingly.



## Database Focus



Covers all Federal and State case law; all state statutes and regulations; searchable State Attorney General Opinions for selected states; IRS Revenue Rulings (1954 to current); law journals; full-text treatises in the following subject areas: Bankruptcy, Business, Construction, Consumer Finance, Drunk Driving Defense, Elder Law, Employment Law, Employment Discrimination, Evidence, Family Law, Litigation, Insurance, Personal Injury, Product Liability, Real Estate, Remedies.

Results can be printed/emailed/downloaded to flash.

The photo on the first page is of the famous fountain "Manneken-Pis", the emblem of the city of Brussels, Belgium.

## The Library will be closed :

Thursday March 31    Cesar Chavez Day  
Monday May 30        Memorial Day

## Orange County Public Law Library

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