



April 21, 2020

Dear DJI Disaster Relief Program participant,

We're pleased that all 100 Mavic 2 Enterprise drones have been delivered to the 43 American public safety agencies participating in the DJI Disaster Relief Program, and we're excited to see that many recipients have already received positive coverage in local and national media. From Florida and Michigan to New Jersey and California, the public is learning how drones are helping keep them safe during this unprecedented crisis, and we've seen widespread support for this creative adoption of drone technology.

We want to address one area of concern that emerged over the weekend. The spokeswoman for the Republican National Committee [tweeted](#) links to an MSNBC story about the program and a 2017 New York Times [story](#) about DJI and commented, "US using Chinese drones to spy on and lecture Americans about a virus caused by communist China." This message was picked up in several other stories that ran on conservative websites. Whatever your political leanings, this may cause questions for your internal and external stakeholders. So here are the facts:

- As you know through your hands-on experience with DJI hardware and software, [you have control](#) over the photos, videos and flight logs you generate during your flights. This data is not transferred to DJI unless you deliberately choose to do so. We recently published [this online guide](#) to the privacy settings on DJI consumer and enterprise products, to help you understand how to manage the data you generate.
- The news story refers to a leaked 2017 draft memo written by an office of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, based on the word of a single unnamed source. Many of its claims are obviously false or easily disproven, and DJI has [repeatedly debunked it](#), while ICE has never publicly released the memo or validated its contents. DJI also engaged an [independent security research firm](#) which analyzed the data security of our products and confirmed that DJI customers control how their data is collected, stored and transmitted.
- DJI products designed for sensitive government uses have been independently reviewed and tested by U.S. cybersecurity consultants, U.S. federal agencies and the Idaho National Laboratory. Our drones [exceed the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's recommended risk mitigation strategies](#) for drone use in critical infrastructure. While the concerns about DJI are clearly motivated by political sentiment, [this post](#) on our corporate blog explains the facts behind them.

Obviously, you and other public safety agencies which received drones through the DJI Disaster Relief Program are not using drones to "spy on and lecture Americans." You are best equipped to explain how you are using drones in your communities, the privacy practices you employ, and how your agency has been helped by using drones. Presumably your agencies are not flying any missions which have any possible bearing on national security; instead, you are using drones in a transparent and responsible fashion, flying over areas with no geopolitical significance, in order to protect the health of your communities and yourselves. This is the undeniable truth of how your agencies are using DJI drones.



Despite the facts, these concerns will probably not go away quickly, because it is fueled by politics and sensationalism. We are always available to provide answers and materials to address concerns from your internal or external stakeholders, and we will continue to respond to any additional issues that may arise. But the most credible responses will come from you: Your existing drone programs have earned trust in your communities long before this pandemic, you have shown that you know how to use drones safely, securely and successfully, and you are demonstrating the benefits of drone technology to protect the public and yourselves every day.

Please let us know how we can further assist you.

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