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States' Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Laws: *Michigan*



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MI ST § 259.320

MI ST § 259.322

Current through November 11, 2022

MI ST § 259.320 Offenses Committed With Aid of Unmanned Aircraft System

(1) A person is guilty of an offense committed with the aid of an unmanned aircraft system if the unmanned aircraft system is under the person's control and the activity performed with the aid of the unmanned aircraft system would have given rise to criminal liability under the penal law of this state if it was performed directly by the person without the aid of an unmanned aircraft system.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), and except as provided in sections 21 and 221 and section 45a(1) of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.45a, solely flying an unmanned aircraft system through navigable airspace in accordance with federal law does not give rise to criminal liability under the penal law of this state.

MI ST § 259.322 Prohibited Conduct; Harassment; Violation of Orders; Invasion of Privacy; Sex Offenders

(1) A person shall not knowingly and intentionally operate an unmanned aircraft system to subject an individual to harassment. As used in this subsection, "harassment" means that term as defined in section 411h or 411i of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.411h and 750.411i.

(2) A person shall not knowingly and intentionally operate an unmanned aircraft system within a distance that, if the person were to do so personally rather than through remote operation of an unmanned aircraft, would be a violation of a restraining order or other judicial order.

(3) A person shall not knowingly and intentionally operate an unmanned aircraft system to violate section 539j of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.539j, or to otherwise capture photographs, video, or audio recordings of an individual in a manner that would invade the individual's reasonable expectation of privacy.

(4) An individual who is required to register as a sex offender under the sex offenders registration act, 1994 PA 295, MCL 28.721 to 28.736, shall not operate an unmanned aircraft system to knowingly and intentionally



follow, contact, or capture images of another individual, if the individual's sentence in a criminal case would prohibit the individual from following, contacting, or capturing the image of the other individual.

