

Incident / Investigation - Case #: 17002387 : Off. Narr

On 7/31/17 I was dispatched to Carlton Farms for a destruction of property. Upon arrival I made contact with complainant ; ██████████ stated that a person at a nearby residence flew a drone over their property which spooked their horses and caused them to break through a fence. The fence was damaged and at least two horses were injured. ██████████ felt that maybe the horses were injured by the drone props or the fence.

I asked ██████████ to show me the injured horses and damaged fence. The first horse named Buck had multiple cuts on the left side of his neck. The second horse named Jet had a deep cut on its back near the tail. ██████████ contacted a vet but was not on scene. Two wood fences were broken. Wooden boards were laying on the ground with exposed nails. Pictures were taken of the horses and fence.

██████████ stated that a witness observed the drone flying during the incident and it landed at ██████████ Manion Dr. I went to the witness's residence at ██████████ Greensprings Road but no one was at the residence.

I went to ██████████ Manion Dr to talk with the resident. Upon arrival I made contact with ██████████. ██████████ acknowledged operating his drone around 0530 hrs so he could take video of the sunrise. ██████████ said he started from his backyard and ascended to 350 feet. Then he flew over Carlton Farm to Greensprings Road and returned to his backyard. ██████████ opened video on his smartphone which reflected what he stated earlier. There was not a date or time stamp on the video. ██████████ owns a Phantom 3 drone.

I returned to the residence of the witness and was able to contact a ██████████. ██████████ stated that around 0500 hrs he woke up and took his dogs outside. He noticed that horses were outside the fence and noticed a police vehicle on Greensprings Road. While walking his dogs he heard a noise like a bee and observed a drone flying over the farm. The drone then landed near a residence with a barn, which is ██████████ Manion Dr. ██████████ stated that the drone was flying high in the area and not in an erratic manner. CAD shows that Car 89 opened a call for a road hazard at 0547 hrs for loose horses,

Because of the testimony of ██████████ and ██████████ I have determined that a crime has not been committed. ██████████ did fly his drone over the farm but his intention was not to frighten the horses. Injuries and damages will need to be handled in a civil court.

Body camera was used.

Case clear - unfounded[07/31/2017 13:12, HPINERO, 279]

Emailed report to FAA Richmond Flight Standards District Office. [08/03/2017 14:41, AMYH, 85, JCCP]