

*Title:* Small Unmanned Aircraft Registration System (sUAS).

*Form Numbers:* None.

*Type of Review:* Renewal of an information collection.

*Background:* The Secretary of the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) affirmed that all unmanned aircraft are aircraft. As such, in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 44101(a) and as further prescribed in 14 CFR part 47, registration is required prior to operation. See 80 FR 63912, 63913 (October 22, 2015), except for those model aircraft operating exclusively in compliance with section 336 of Public Law 112–95. Aircraft registration is necessary to ensure personal accountability among all users of the national airspace system. Aircraft registration also allows the FAA and law enforcement agencies to address non-compliance by providing the means by which to identify an aircraft's owner and operator.

Subject to certain exceptions discussed below, aircraft must be registered prior to operation. See 49 U.S.C. 44101–44103. Upon registration, the Administrator must issue a certificate of registration to the aircraft owner. See 49 U.S.C. 44103

Registration, however, does not provide the authority to operate. Persons intending to operate a small unmanned aircraft exclusively as model aircraft must operate in compliance with section 336 of Public Law 112–95, and as discussed below, are not required to register. Persons intending to operate their small unmanned aircraft not exclusively in compliance with section 336 must operate in accordance with part 107 or part 91, in accordance with a waiver issued under part 107, in accordance with an exemption issued under 14 CFR part 11 (including those persons operating under an exemption issued pursuant to section 333 of Public Law 112–95), or in conjunction with the issuance of a special airworthiness certificate, and are required to register.

As a result of the May 19, 2017 ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (*Taylor v. Huerta*), the Small UAS Registration and Marking interim final rule was vacated

to the extent it applies to model aircraft. Model aircraft must meet the definition and operational requirements provided in section 336 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act. Owners who are operating exclusively in compliance with section 336 who wish to delete their registration and receive a refund of the registration fee may do so by requesting registration deletion from the FAA, which requires the FAA to collect their payment information.

*Respondents:* Approximately 1.6 million affected sUAS registrations and deregistrations annually. Additionally, the FAA estimates based on responses so far (700,000) that approximately 0.5% [3,500] of the owners who are registered and are operating in compliance with section 336 will delete their registrations.

*Frequency:* Information is collected on occasion.

*Estimated Average Burden per Response:* 5 minutes per response to register, 3 minutes per response de-register, and 2 minutes per response to delete registrations.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* About 135,000 hours for registration and deregistration, and about 117 hours for registration deletion.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 26, 2017.

**Barbara L. Hall,**

*FAA Information Collection Clearance Officer, Performance, Policy, and Records Management Branch, ASP-110.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

#### U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Board of Visitors Meeting

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Meeting notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration (MARAD) announces that the following U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (Academy) Board of Visitors (BOV) meeting will take place:

1. *Date:* November 6, 2017.

2. *Time:* 11:00–12:00 p.m.

3. *Location:* U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, NY; Crabtree Room in the library.

4. *Purpose of the Meeting:* The purpose of this meeting is to provide for an annual visit of the members to the Academy.

5. *Agenda Summary:*

a. Vote on the BOV charter

b. Briefing on the state of the Academy and the status of reaccreditation.

6. *Public Access to the Meeting:* This meeting is open to the public. Seating is on a first-come basis. Members of the public wishing to attend the meeting will need to show photo identification in order to gain access to the meeting location.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The BOV's Designated Federal Officer and Point of Contact Brian Blower; 202 366–2765; *Brian.Blower@dot.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Any member of the public is permitted to file a written statement with the Academy BOV. Written statements should be sent to the Designated Federal Officer at: Brian Blower; 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., W28–314, Washington, DC 20590 or via email at *Brian.Blower@Dot.gov*. (Please contact the Designated Federal Officer for information on submitting comments via fax.) Written statements must be received no later than three working days prior to the next meeting in order to provide time for member consideration. Only written statements will be considered by the BOV, no member of the public will be allowed to present questions from the floor or speak to any issue under consideration by the BOV.

(Authority: 46 U.S.C. 51312; 5 U.S.C. app. 552b; 41 CFR parts 102–3.140 through 102–3.165)

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: October 30, 2017.

**T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,**  
*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

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