THE DRONE PILOT BRIEF · FIELD CHECKLIST

Part 108 prep: what a Part 107 crew can do now

Part 107 = today's FAA rule for commercial drones under 55 lb. Part 108 = a proposed FAA rule for flying beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS). It is not law; as of Oct. 20, 2026 it was listed as pending White House review.

Verified as of 22 Oct 2026 against the live article

NOT AN FAA DOCUMENT

Job / site: _____ Date: _____ Remote pilot in command: _____

BUILD THE HABITS NOW, UNDER PART 107

- [ ] **1. Write down how you fly.** Preflight, site survey, weather limits, airspace check, launch, in-flight calls, landing, postflight. Part 107 already requires a preflight check of the operating area and the aircraft (14 CFR 107.15 and 107.49).
- [ ] **2. Name the crew roles.** Who is remote pilot in command, who is visual observer on each job, and who makes the go/no-go call for the company.
- [ ] **3. Write a lost-link plan.** Return-to-home altitude for each site, obstacles on the way home, who calls whom, when you'd notify anyone else. Test the setting before each job.
- [ ] **4. Keep records you can find.** Logbooks, maintenance notes, battery cycles, training, incidents. One system, every flight. Can you pull last spring's flight log in five minutes?
- [ ] **5. Use the waiver path that exists today** (14 CFR 107.205): 107.31 visual line of sight; 107.39 flying over people; 107.33 visual observer rules; 107.35 more than one drone per pilot. New waiver applications go through the FAA's Aviation Safety Hub; airspace authorizations still go through FAADroneZone.
- [ ] **6. Answer the dock question honestly.** Our reading of 107.31 and 107.205: a dock with the drone flying out of sight and nobody watching needs a waiver for that operation. Check your waiver's exact conditions before telling a client yes.

HOLD OFF UNTIL THE FINAL RULE IS PUBLISHED

- [ ] **7. Don't spend ahead of the rule.** No aircraft or software sized to the proposal's limits, no dropping observers or waivers you rely on, no telling clients beyond-sight work "is legal now."

Part 108 changes nothing until a final rule is published and takes effect. Today you fly under Part 107, plus whatever waiver or authorization you actually hold.

thedronepilotbrief.com/part-108-prep-checklist-part-107-crews/ · Full article, context and updates at that address. Sources: FAA proposed rule, Federal Register, Aug. 7, 2025 (2025-14992); reginfo.gov review entry (rrid 1457213); FAA Part 107 waivers page; 14 CFR Part 107.

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