

To all model aircraft clubs with flying sites within 30 nautical miles of Washington, DC.

The FAA has provided the AMA with clear guidance that all unmanned aircraft operations including model aircraft are prohibited in the Washington, DC Special Flight Rules Area (SFRA).

This is based on 14 CFR 93 (aviation regulations) and 49 USC 40103 (Federal law).

Persons operating aircraft within the SFRA are subject to civil penalties and or criminal charges.

Now that we have said that, the AMA District 4 Government Relations Committee is now working on the issue.

Any further operations may compromise our efforts to work with the FAA. The issue is not as simple as it looks since the Washington, DC SFRA has been designated as "National Defense Airspace", but the FAA has been working on our behalf to obtain the required authorizations.

We will be meeting with the FAA next week to determine several things:

- When can we expect the authorizations?
- What will the clubs need to do to get the authorizations?
- What limitations if any will be imposed?

Please do not contact the FAA on your own, the District 4 Government Relations Committee will keep you informed and multiple calls to the FAA may only add confusion. If you have issues or comments, please contact any member of the District 4 Government Relations Committee instead.

Remember these points:

- We have every reason to believe that this is a temporary situation
- The FAA has already been working on our behalf with the other federal agencies that have to concur with the authorizations.
- Operating a model aircraft within the SFRA could result in your arrest.
- If you are one of us who holds an FAA issued Airman's certificate, the FAA could take certificate action.
- We will keep you informed.

We will be providing an update as soon after the meeting next week as possible.