

Exemption No. 12719

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20591

In the matter of the petition of

MR. THOMAS J. WALTER

for an exemption from §§ 61.23
(a) and (c), 61.101(e)(4) and (5),
61.113(a), 61.315(a), 91.7(a),
91.119(c), 91.121, 91.151(a)(1),
91.405(a), 91.407(a)(1), 91.409(a)(1)
and (2), and 91.417(a) and (b)
of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations

Regulatory Docket No. FAA-2015-2510

RESCISSION OF EXEMPTION

On September 2, 2015, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued Mr. Thomas J. Walter Exemption No. 12719. That exemption from §§ 61.23(a) and (c), 61.101(e)(4) and (5), 61.113(a), 61.315(a), 91.7(a), 91.119(c), 91.121, 91.151(a)(1), 91.405(a), 91.407(a)(1), 91.409(a)(1) and (2), and 91.417(a) and (b) of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR), allows Mr. Thomas J. Walter to conduct aerial data collection with a small unmanned aircraft system (sUAS). After reviewing this exemption, the FAA is rescinding Exemption No. 12719.

On June 2, 2015, Mr. Walter submitted a petition for exemption to allow commercial operations of unmanned aircraft, on behalf of Drone Fleet & Aerospace Management, Inc. Mr. Walter was identified in the petition as the CEO of Drone Fleet & Aerospace Management, Inc., and as well as the point of contact; however, the email and mailing addresses provided for Mr. Simon Nielson. On September 2, 2015 the FAA granted the exemption to Mr. Walter and emailed its decision to Mr. Nielson at the email address provided in the contact information section of the petition. On September 2, 2015, Drone Fleet & Aerospace Management, Inc. notified the FAA, stating that Mr. Thomas Walter is not and has not been affiliated with Drone Fleet & Aerospace Management, Inc.

A review of Mr. Walter's petition shows that Mr. Walter submitted, verbatim, the petition submitted by Drone Fleet & Aerospace Management, Inc. on October 3, 2014,¹ including the point of contact information on Page 14. Mr. Walter substituted his name for Drone Fleet & Aerospace Management, Inc. in only a few places.

The FAA granted the exemption to Mr. Walter based on the record he submitted which included Drone Fleet & Aerospace Management, Inc.'s mailing address. The FAA learned after granting the exemption that Mr. Walter was not affiliated with Drone Fleet & Aerospace Management, Inc. or the petition. Accordingly, we have determined that the exemption was granted based on erroneous information provided by the petitioner, including an incorrect mailing address, providing sufficient basis to rescind Exemption No. 12719.

The FAA's Decision:

In consideration of the foregoing, I find that Exemption No. 12719 was issued based on erroneous information submitted by petitioner and was therefore granted in error. Therefore, pursuant to the authority contained in 49 U.S.C. §§ 106(f), 40113 and 44701, delegated to me by the Administrator, Exemption No. 12719 is rescinded effective immediately.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on October 20, 2015

/s/

John S. Duncan
Director, Flight Standards Services

¹ Docket No. FAA-2015-2510. The FAA granted Exemption No. 12719 to Mr. Walter on September 2, 2015.