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MEMORANDUM

TO: Ocala City Council

FROM: Florida Highway Patrol

DATE: April 14, 2025

SUBJECT: Donation of 2 Skydio X2 Thermal Drones to Ocala Fire Rescue

The Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) is pleased to announce the donation of two Skydio X2 Thermal Drones to Ocala Fire Rescue, following the recent upgrade of our drone fleet. These drones are being provided at no cost to the city or the fire rescue agency and are intended to enhance emergency response capabilities in Ocala.

The Skydio X2 Thermal Drones are equipped with state-of-the-art thermal imaging technology, enabling first responders to locate individuals in challenging conditions, such as low light or smoke-filled environments. This advanced capability will be particularly valuable in search and rescue operations, firefighting efforts, and other emergency scenarios where quick and accurate aerial assessments are essential.

We believe these drones will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Ocala Fire Rescue's operations, providing critical support to emergency services rendered to both the citizens and visitors of Ocala. The Florida Highway Patrol is proud to support the ongoing safety and well-being of the Ocala community through this donation, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact these drones will have on local emergency response efforts.

Thank you for your attention to this important contribution, and we are happy to answer any questions or provide further details.

Sincerely,

Trooper Matthew Mays
UAV Pilot
Unmanned Aerial Systems
Field Training Officer
Florida Highway Patrol
Troop B Marion County
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