MOBILITY, TRANSPORT & SAFETY
Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

Babst Calland
Attorneys at Law
Where Trust and Value Meet

Babst Calland's Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) practice consists of a cross-sector team that supports developers and consumers of UAS technologies and other UAS industry stakeholders with their regulatory compliance, intellectual property, data acquisition, privacy and security, corporate/finance and business strategy needs. Our team leverages its deep knowledge of the regulatory, technical and business landscape relating to UAS to provide clients with comprehensive legal and business enterprise advice as well as regulatory and compliance counseling. In addition, our team works closely with other Babst Calland practices that focus their work on industries specifically affected by UAS, including the oil and gas, pipeline safety, environmental, public sector, transportation safety and construction industries.

We pride ourselves to be creative problem-solvers, and partner with our clients to help them achieve strategic business objectives efficiently. Where the evolving regulatory landscape requires specialized FAA authorization for certain UAS operations, we foster communication and collaboration between our clients and the FAA regulators and assist our clients in making a safety case sufficient to secure necessary approvals.

Representative matters and experience include:

- Working collaboratively with client, the FAA, and technical consultants to secure Part 107 waivers for beyond visual line of site (BVLOS) and nighttime UAS operations, as well as UAS operations over people, including in urban and emergency scenarios.
- Counseling clients through the Section 333 exemption process to get permission for UAS operations outside the scope of Part 107; currently assisting client in securing a Section 333 exemption authorizing client to operate a UAS weighing over 55 pounds for research and testing purposes.
- Led multi-stakeholder teams in the development of comprehensive UAS policies for several university clients engaged in UAS research and development, and interested in using UAS for educational, athletic training, marketing, campus safety, and other purposes.
- Assisting client in developing UAS operator manual and standard operating and maintenance procedures for use with UAS operations.
- Counseling clients with respect to data acquisition, data privacy, and data security matters arising from clients' UAS operations, and developing appropriate policies related to same.
- Assisting UAS emerging growth clients in building strategic industry partnerships with prospective customers, vendors, development partners, and investors.
- Representing UAS clients in connection with their corporate legal needs, including financing and commercial transactions.
- Drafting and reviewing independent contractor agreements related to outsourced UAS operations for vendors and purchasers of the services.
- Counseling UAS software developer in connection with intellectual property matters, including patent prosecution and pre-litigation support and counseling.

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