

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 4, 2020

The Honorable William Barr  
Attorney General of the United States  
United States Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Jeffrey Rosen  
Deputy Attorney General of the United States  
United States Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Barr and Deputy Attorney General Rosen:

We write to express our grave concerns about potential national security threats posed by Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) produced by Chinese company Da Jiang Innovations (DJI), and distributed by DJI to American states, localities, and law enforcement agencies.

Several departments and agencies of the federal government have already banned or ceased to use DJI products. The Army banned their purchase and use in 2017. The Department of the Interior retired their DJI UAS fleet in 2019. The Fiscal Year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act banned their purchase and use across the entire United States military.

The reason for these bans has been national security, grounded in well-established assessments that DJI UAS (drones) may transmit sensitive information to China. A 2017 report from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (Los Angeles office) stated that DJI drones are “Likely providing U.S. critical infrastructure and law enforcement data to [the] Chinese government.” That same report states that “SIP Los Angeles further assesses with high confidence the company is selectively targeting government and privately owned entities within these sectors [infrastructure and law enforcement] to expand its ability to collect and exploit sensitive U.S. data.”<sup>1</sup>

The DJI website mentions the “45 police, fire and public safety organizations in 22 states” to which they have donated drones.<sup>2</sup> In Florida, DJI donated at least two drones to the Daytona Beach Police

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, Intelligence Bulletin, August 9, 2017. Available at <https://info.publicintelligence.net/ICE-DJI-China.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://enterprise-insights.dji.com/blog/us-covid-19-relief-program-update>

Department, under the guise of helping with the problems caused by the Chinese coronavirus pandemic. These “donations” are deeply troubling to us.

**We have the following questions:**

- **What authorities do you have to limit or end the use of DJI UAS in the United States?**
- **When will you begin taking action to use these authorities?**

Local police departments that have received these UAS from DJI, such as the Daytona Beach Police Department (which was contacted prior to sending this letter), have neither the technical expertise nor the cyber-forensic tools necessary to determine whether or not these UAS are transmitting sensitive data to the CCP regime. Furthermore, because these UAS may be connected to police computers, it seems possible that they may exfiltrate sensitive law-enforcement data to China. We hope that your swift action will keep this dangerous scenario from coming to pass.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

If you have questions regarding this request, please contact my chief of staff, [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,



Matt Gaetz  
Member of Congress