

IS-2020-28 Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) economic advancement and potential increase for economic development in Oklahoma

James Grimsley

*Executive Director – Advanced Technology Initiatives, Choctaw Nation of
Oklahoma*

Oklahoma Transportation Commissioner – District 2

Disclaimer

My comments today are entirely my own and are my own opinions and perspective. My views do not necessarily reflect the views of the Oklahoma Transportation Commission or the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. Please attribute my comments to me personally, and not to any other organization.

Unmanned Aircraft Systems: Current Jurisdictional, Property, and Privacy Legal Issues Regarding the Commercial and Recreational Use of Drones (Appendices), U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), Sep 16, 2020

¹¹⁵ Testimony of James Grimsley to the Oklahoma House of Representatives on Drone Issues (Sept. 18, 2017), available at <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/my-written-statement-oklahoma-house-representatives-drone-grimsley/> (last visited Sept. 1, 2020). This commentator also said that “if we place every cubic inch of airspace above the surface under the strict control of the federal government, and eliminate the authority of private landowners and state governments to control private property at the lowest altitudes, then we may eviscerate federalism as we know it, but possibly more importantly, we may eviscerate property rights as we know them. We run the risk of fundamentally altering what it means to own, control, and possess property in the United States.” *Id.* See also James Grimsley, *Singer v. City of Newton: When a win is not completely a win . . .* (Sept. 30, 2017), available at <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/singer-vs-city-newton-when-win-completely-james-grimsley/> (last visited Sept. 1, 2020) (“[T]here has never been an intent of either Congress or the courts to recognize FAA authority over every cubic inch of airspace that exists in the nation.”).

Aviation is one of the most strictly-regulated industries that involves very complex jurisdictional boundaries and governmental roles. Many of those boundaries are now murky as a result of the availability low-altitude operations due to emerging technologies.

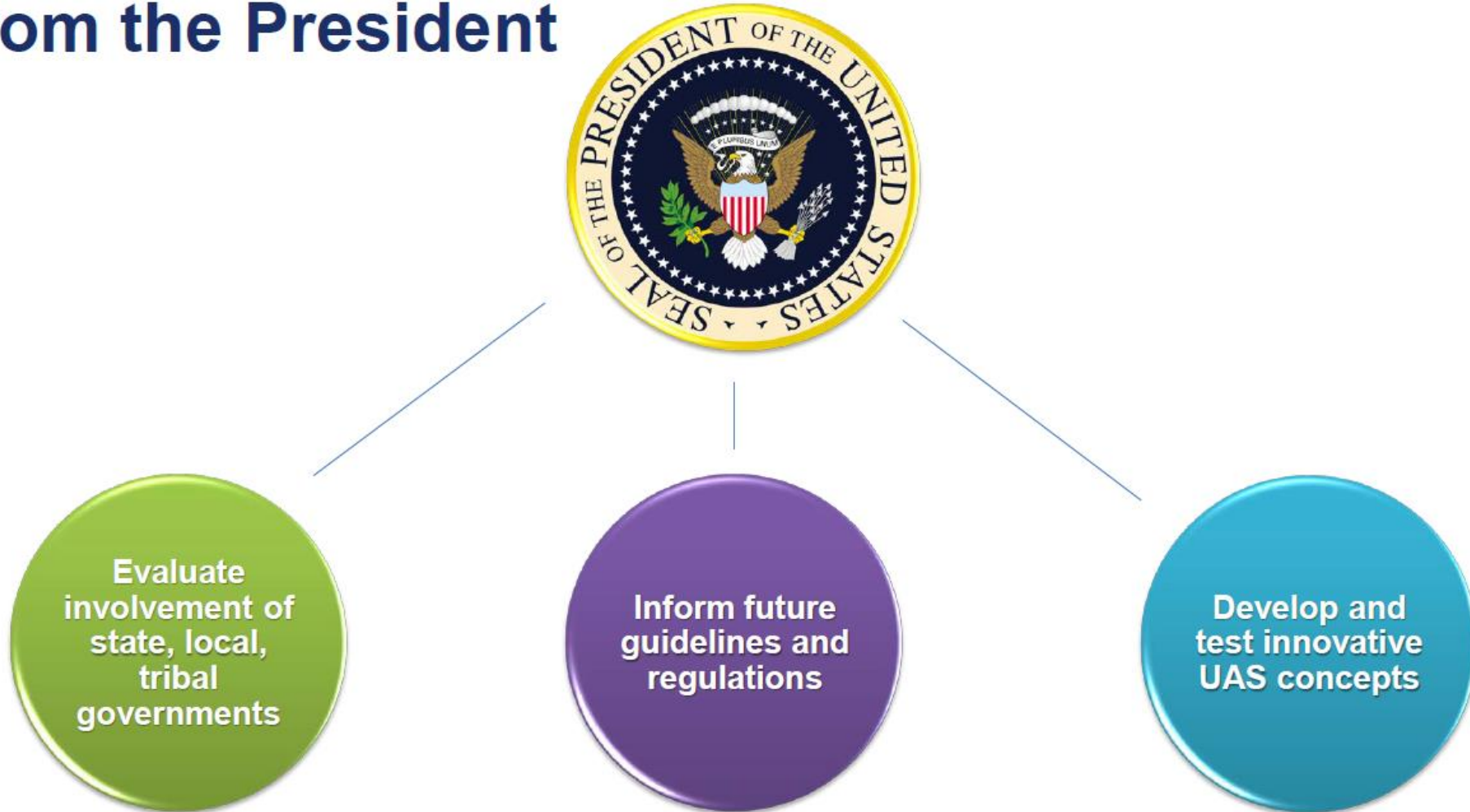


“I’ll tell you...one thing that no Cabinet has ever had is a Secretary of the Future, and there are no plans at all for my grandchildren and my great grandchildren.”

- Kurt Vonnegut



From the President



Choctaw Nation Selected to Participate in FAA Drone Program Known as UASIPP

by STACY HUTTO



Chief Gary Patton and representatives from the City of San Diego, California; Innovation and Entrepreneurship Investment Authority, Herndon, Virginia; Kansas Department of Transportation, Topeka, Kansas; Lee County Mosquito Control District, Ft. Myers, Florida; Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority, Memphis Tennessee; North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, North Carolina; North Dakota Department of Transportation, Bismarck, North Dakota, The City of Reno, Nevada, and the University of Alaska -Fairbanks, Fairbanks, Alaska learned they had been chosen for the initial Unmanned Aircraft Systems, or drones, Integration Pilot Program, or UASIPP, when U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao made the announcement on Wednesday, May 9.

Tribes:

- Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

States:

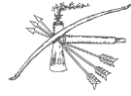
- North Carolina
- Virginia
- Kansas
- Alaska

Cities:

- Reno, Nevada
- San Diego, California

Airport Authorities:

- Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority



THE CHOCTAW NATION



Easter morning 1900: 5th Ave, New York City. Spot the automobile.



Source: US National Archives.

Easter morning 1913: 5th Ave, New York City. Spot the horse.



Source: George Grantham Bain Collection.

Credit: Vertical Flight Society

Question: Is Oklahoma doing everything it can to prepare for emerging aviation technologies?