

Summary:

A Washington County man is accused of using a drone to stalk and harass six people, including five underage girls.

According to police, 44-year-old Michael B. of Canonsburg, allegedly used a drone to follow his victims, with the youngest being 12 years old. Brackman is accused of stalking his victims for one year.

Overview

A drone has been used to stalk and harass multiple people including minors, the drone was used to follow and record multiple victims. This happened on a daily basis however police report that they did not receive daily reports on the event and only after a call from a concerned and distressed neighbour did the police start tracking this string of incidents. In one case a handgun has been used to fire upon the drone, after this incident the victim was contacted thru physical means. And when in contact he would refer to visual recorded by his drone. Multiple minor's have been affected due to fear of being recorded by the drone.

Analysis and recommendation

This incident is peculiar as it involves stalking but using both the drone and physical means, in this case it can be seen that the drone is used to determine the patterns of life of the victim. After determining this the stalking using the drone does not stop but is supplemented with physical stalking. It also shows that even while stalking is a criminal offense few to no reports have been made until the police started investigating.

This leads to the recommendation of recording the drone uses in as many cases as possible and noting the date, time and location the drone started following, to build a case. It is also of high importance that law enforcement is notified as soon as possible so action can be taken swiftly to prevent more victims. Also it is not advisable to discharge a weapon at drones as this is illegal in most if not all regions.

Threat Actor Group

Harassment/Stalkers: For reference see Threat actor profile provided in previous assignment

References

<https://www.heraldstandard.com/local-news/2024/jun/13/canonsburg-man-accused-of-using-drone-to-stalk-teenage-girls/>

<https://dronexl.co/2024/06/13/drone-stalker-arrested-harassing-teenage-girls/>

<https://ktvz.com/cnn-regional/2024/06/14/man-accused-using-drone-to-stalk-underage-girls/>