

**Reframing Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena: From National Security to Local Public
Safety Crisis**

Keith L. Taylor, Sr.

Center for Public Safety and Justice, University of Virginia

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Faculty Advisor: Professor Bryon Gustafson

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Abstract

This research addresses the “domain awareness gap” (VanHerck, 2023) regarding Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) within local law enforcement. Historically treated as a classified national security or intelligence issue, UAP represent an immediate occupational hazard and public safety crisis for first responders who lack specialized UAP incident response policies, training, and equipment. This gap is further exacerbated by the existence of compartmentalized federal data repositories, such as the unacknowledged Special Access Program (uSAP) “Immaculate Constellation,” which purposely diverts high-fidelity sensor data away from the broader national security and public safety community (Brown, 2024). Utilizing a mixed-methods approach, this paper examines quantitative sensor data from the “Nightcrawler Eye on the Sky” initiative, historical case analysis (e.g., the 1979 Marshall County Incident), and a comparison of Federal Aviation Administration pilot Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) incident reports near airports with a secondary data analysis of a UAP institutional readiness survey of the 253 largest American state and local police agencies. This analysis reveals a critical lack of protocols, with none of the surveyed responding agencies possessing UAP-specific policies. Additionally, this analysis incorporates the recent disclosures of UAP whistleblower Matthew Brown—a former Department of State and Department of Defense official—concerning the scientific investigation of “unknown unknowns” and the strategic collection of multimodal UAP data (Shellenberger, 2024). By utilizing standardized officer UAP incident response training, equipment, and policies, this paper argues that local agencies must be equipped to mitigate officer risks, preserve evidence, and integrate into a national standardized reporting framework. The research demonstrates that leadership, constitutional clarity, and stewardship of scientific data are essential to closing the current low-altitude airspace blind spot.

Reframing Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP): From National Security to Local Public Safety Crisis

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) have traditionally been viewed through the lens of national security and foreign adversary detection (Office of the Director of National Intelligence [ODNI], 2021). However, this perspective overlooks the reality that local law enforcement acts as the “de facto hub of domain awareness” (VanHerck, 2023) for low-altitude airspace. Per the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) FY23 Section 1673(d)(8), UAP are defined as airborne, transmedium, or submerged objects that are not immediately identifiable and display behaviors suggesting they may be related (All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office [AARO], 2024). The DoD considers these as sources of “anomalous detections” that exceed known performance envelopes and require a shift from identifying “known unknowns” to quantifying “unknown unknowns”—phenomena that lack any conventional reference point in human technology or atmospheric physics (Brown, 2026). This paper defines UAP as an immediate occupational hazard for first responders, emphasizing risks such as mid-air collisions, radiation exposure, and adverse physiological effects. Former U.S. Naval Pilot Ryan Graves (Graves, 2024) notes that unidentified objects in defended airspace represent a “domain awareness gap” that poses a clear and present danger to pilots and personnel. The central question guiding this research is: How can local law enforcement agencies close the domain awareness gap to mitigate safety risks, preserve evidence, and integrate into a national reporting framework?

Literature Review

The literature review examines the historical, current, and foundational literature regarding UAP as a public safety issue. Historical cases, such as the 1979 Marshall County,

Minnesota incident, establish a baseline for the physical injuries and vehicle damage that UAP can cause (Clark, 1998). In this case, Deputy Sheriff Val Johnson collided with a brightly lit object, resulting in physical damage to his patrol car and causing him to suffer temporary blindness similar to welder's burns. Modern cases, like Officer Robert Klein's 2022 Fairfield County, Connecticut UAP incident, demonstrate recurring hazards where an orb-like object emitted plasma-like light that temporarily blinded the officer (NewsNation, 2024). According to the Major Cities Chiefs Association's 2024 UAP Reference Guide, these incidents are part of a broader trend; an analysis of 98,000 reports over 20 years reveals that the majority of sightings originate in the western U.S., with a smaller hotspot in the northeastern United States.

The physiological and psychological impacts of these encounters have gained significant analytical traction. A 2025 literature review by the Unhidden Foundation highlights that UAP exposure frequently results in acute physical trauma, driven primarily by electromagnetic radiation (EMR) field effects in the radio frequency (RF) and microwave bands (Unhidden Foundation, 2025). Citing the 2009 Advanced Aerospace Weapon System Applications Program (AAWSAP) report for the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), the literature confirms that human exposure to anomalous vehicles within close proximity has resulted in thermal injuries, neurological effects, and sensory disruption, as shown in a case study (Defense Intelligence Agency, 2009) in Appendix E. The DIA research identifies mechanisms of injury related to electromagnetic radiation field effects, including heating and burn injuries (ionizing and non-ionizing), and neurological effects across the central, autonomic, and peripheral nervous systems. Clinical signs reported following near-field (meters) exposure include:

- Almost immediate erythema (heat and redness) of exposed skin.

- Varying degrees of fever, pain, headaches, and paresthesia.
- Malaise, diarrhea, and loss of hair (alopecia).
- Cardiac palpitations and insomnia.
- Photophobia (extreme sensitivity to light) and bloodshot eyes with soft tissue swelling.
- Evidence of “RF hearing,” where persons can “hear” radio frequencies through the cochlear microphonic or thermoelastic expansion of intracranial spaces.

The biophysical characteristics of these injuries are well-understood, involving Specific Absorption Rates (SAR) where tissues like the brain and peripheral nerves absorb significantly more energy than fat and bone. The Schuessler Catalog of UFO-Related Human Physiological Effects further corroborates these occupational hazards, documenting high frequencies of temporary paralysis, perceived time loss, and burns among witnesses (Schuessler, 1996; Unhidden Foundation, 2025).

Government and Institutional Recognition

The 2021 Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) Preliminary Assessment concluded that most reported UAP represent physical objects, as they were registered across multiple sensors including radar, infrared, electro-optical, and visual observation. UAP incidents are categorized into five explanatory bins: airborne clutter, natural atmospheric phenomena, USG/industry developmental programs, foreign adversary systems, and “other.” The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2023 established the Department of Defense’s All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) (James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, 2022), mandating that military and civilian government personnel have a means to report incidents and adverse physiological effects associated with UAP exposure.

Current federal legislation efforts include the bipartisan “Safe Airspace for Americans Act” (H.R. 6967) (Safe Airspace for Americans Act, 2024), introduced in 2024 to protect civilian pilots who report UAP sightings to the FAA. Starting in 2023 and unsuccessfully reintroduced in 2024 and 2025, the Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Disclosure Act (UAPDA) (Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Disclosure Act, 2025) is a legislative proposal aimed at ensuring government transparency regarding UAP. It seeks to establish a framework for the timely declassification of government records related to UAPs, which would end an eighty-year official denial of UAP and help to restore public trust (Schumer, 2023). The act is part of a growing bipartisan Congressional effort to address public interest in and oversight needs of UAPs and any non-human intelligence within public or private control.

A significant development in institutional transparency occurred on November 13, 2024, during a House Oversight Committee hearing on UAPs. At this hearing, journalist Michael Shellenberger testified regarding the existence of a secretive, unacknowledged Special Access Program (uSAP) codenamed “Immaculate Constellation.” The program, reportedly established in 2017, serves as a central repository for high-fidelity, multi-sensor UAP data collected by the Department of Defense, including Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) imagery, satellite data, and radar. The report associated with this program was authored by whistleblower Matthew Brown, a former official at the Department of State and the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (USDI). Brown alleges that “Immaculate Constellation” diverts high-quality evidence away from the public record to maintain a parallel reality of technological advantage and secrecy. The report describes specific encounters, including “white-hot orbs” flying in cube formations and massive equilateral triangle UAPs, one of which was documented by color imagery as it materialized above a fleet of Russian naval vessels in the Pacific Ocean (Brown, 2024). This movement

toward transparency reached the executive level on February 19, 2026, when President Donald Trump issued a formal directive to the Secretary of War to begin releasing government files relating to UFOs and unexplained aerial phenomena (Trump, 2026b). This directive was confirmed during a speech at a Turning Point Action event on the same day, where the President noted that the process was “well underway” and that many “very interesting documents” had been found (Trump, 2026a).

State-Level Legislative Efforts

Current legislative efforts, including Vermont H.654 to create a state UAP task force (An act relating to Vermont Airspace Safety, 2026) and Connecticut’s Raised Bill No. 5422 (February Session, 2026) (An Act Concerning a Study of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, 2026) represent critical steps towards state-level research requiring advocacy efforts as shown in Appendix F. Whereas the Connecticut legislation would mandate the University of Connecticut to study the feasibility of a state center for UAP, the New Jersey governor signed legislative bill S4432 into law in January 2026 establishing a UAP research center and providing \$2.5 million dollars in annual funding to support UAP research. By exercising state-level sovereignty through the creation of UAP task forces and research centers, states like Vermont, Connecticut, and New Jersey are effectively ending the era of “official denial” at the local level by the federal government and ensuring that the physical risks posed by UAPs—as seen in historical cases like the Val Johnson incident—are addressed with the urgency of a public safety hazard rather than the ambiguity of a national security secret. These efforts toward state-level support will result in the ability of pilots and public safety professionals alike to report UAP incidents to accountable government entities without fear of professional retribution.

Additionally, the 2024 UAP Reference Guide from the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) demonstrates institutional recognition of UAP as a reportable flight safety concern. To address these evolving concerns, recent analytical work by twin electrical engineers John and Gerald Tedesco represents a paradigm shift toward evidence-based UAP field research. Studies detailing coordinated multimodal sensing frameworks—combining radar, multispectral, and thermal data—provide a reproducible model for law enforcement to measure and report UAP activity objectively (Knuth et al., 2025).

The Role of Academia

The role of academia to educate the public about the reality of UAP has never been more important, as modern scientific efforts and modern technology like cellular phones have been consistently detecting some UAP, such as orb-like entities (Knuth et al., 2025).

Whistleblower Matthew Brown argues that academic and scientific institutions have been historically subverted by false scientific narratives designed to prevent the public from inquiring into the true nature of these phenomena (Brown, 2024). Appendix G contains a proposed syllabus created by the author entitled “Homeland Security and UAP: Policy, Protocols and Planning,” a course designed for both students of and professionals in the criminal justice and emergency management sectors. It seeks to bridge the “domain awareness gap” by integrating rigorous legal analysis, technical field methodologies, and historical case analysis into a standardized operational framework (Taylor, 2026).

Data and Methods

This paper utilizes a mixed-methods approach combining quantitative field data, historical case analysis, and policy review. Multimodal field data consisting of sensor data

(radar, thermal FLIR, and optical) from the Tedesco brothers' "Nightcrawler Eye on the Sky" initiative in Suffolk County, NY (Tedesco et al., 2025) integrates millimeter-wave Doppler radar (specifically a 3 cm X-band radar), HD FLIR thermal imaging, and hyperspectral detection in a mobile platform environment. Four of their 2025 structured field excursions resulting in photographs of UAPs are shown in Appendix A. This technical framework establishes object velocity, trajectory profiles, and unique audio frequency spectral signatures, while thermal imagers detect unexpected heat signatures in the long-wave infrared spectrum, particularly valuable in low-visibility conditions (Tedesco et al., 2025). The methodology also draws upon the "Immaculate Constellation" report's categorizations of UAP morphology, including metallic orbs, massive discs using cloud concealment, and fast-moving objects transiting over sensitive facilities (Brown, 2024). The Galileo Project (Loeb, 2024) and AARO (AARO, 2024) apply an "exclusion hypothesis" to differentiate known objects like conventional aircraft, satellites, and biomass from unknown phenomena by defining each of their unique characteristics. Because the research area at Robert Moses State Park is located near major flight corridors (handling approximately 2,400 daily flights), Flight Tracker software displaying ADS-B (Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast) map data and NOTAMs (Notice to Air Missions) are used to exclude conventional air traffic (Tedesco et al., 2025).

Additionally, an unpublished preliminary inquiry was conducted by the author in June 2023 of police agency UAP incident response institutional readiness as shown in Appendix B and C of 253 United States police agencies to determine existing specialized UAP incident response policies. This was compared with 2,428 FAA unmanned aerial systems (UAS) pilot incident reports (2024–2026) (Federal Aviation Administration, n.d.) in jurisdictions where

surveyed law enforcement agencies either reported no documented UAP procedures or did not respond to the survey as shown in Appendix D.

The Five Pillars of UAP Public Safety

The five core areas of leadership, constitutional law, community dialogue, emergency preparedness and stewardship are integral to address the identified public safety issue that UAP represent:

Leadership: Normalizing the Anomalous

Leadership is required to break the eighty-year-old "stigma" that prevents officers from reporting UAP public safety hazards. To effectively address this stigma, law enforcement leadership must demonstrate proactive character attributes that allow them to recognize individual and group motivational factors, which are essential for analyzing leadership effectiveness in high-stakes, unconventional environments. Shifting deeply entrenched mindsets requires leaders who are willing to defy the odds and actively change cop culture (Gross, 2023). Successful culture change requires a leader to identify critical ethical opportunities and challenges while addressing contemporary ethical issues that arise when new, high-strangeness operational hazards are introduced to the workforce. Public safety leaders must recognize that the "intentional darkness" of federal programs like "Immaculate Constellation" represents a leadership failure that places first responders at risk by depriving them of critical safety data (Corbell & Knapp, 2025). By exploring the importance of focus, leaders can ensure that the safety of their personnel remains the primary priority, even when faced with institutional

secrecy. Matthew Brown's interviews on the "Weaponized" podcast highlight how this compartmentalization blinds service members and law enforcement to environmental hazards, creating a "two-faced god" of data that serves elite interests rather than public safety (Corbell & Knapp, 2025). To address this complex security issue, public safety leaders must use established management concepts to frame and interpret the problem effectively. Law enforcement leadership must assess the organizational need for change and implement innovative means to adapt public safety protocols. This assessment would involve evaluating decision-making strategies and processes to identify the best way towards achieving public safety innovation, ensuring the department remains agile in the face of ever-changing airspace security policies. By issuing procedures stating that UAP are a "flight safety concern," leaders can lead change through effective decision-making and empower officers to document these incidents properly. This cultural shift requires transformational leadership to redefine reporting as a standard duty rather than a taboo.

Recent executive actions have underscored the necessity of this shift. On April 17, 2026, during a speech at a rally in Phoenix, President Trump addressed the bureaucratic delays within the "War Department," specifically referencing the expiration of an April 14 deadline to deliver 46 UAP videos to the Congressional Task Force (Trump, 2026c). By signaling direct executive intervention to ensure these releases move forward, the President provided a model for overcoming the "intentional darkness" of compartmentalized programs (Trump, 2026c). This level of leadership requires the integration of personal, organizational, and leadership goals to ensure that policy changes are sustainable and well-understood by all stakeholders. Encountering UAP is not a psychological failing, but an unexpected occupational hazard requiring institutional support and objective medical evaluation (Unhidden Foundation, 2025). Leaders must navigate

these complex conditions by maintaining sociocultural awareness and sensitivity when designing new incident response initiatives. This includes diagnosing common team problems, such as the fear of professional ridicule within the ranks, and identifying phenomena like "toxic positivity" that might dismiss or invalidate genuine officer concerns regarding their safety. Leaders must move beyond mere identification and actively diagnose common team problems by analyzing leader-team dynamics to ensure that "toxic positivity" does not mask the very real occupational risks associated with UAP encounters.

Building upon this, fostering highly effective and productive teams requires establishing environments built on psychological safety, clear decision-making, and goal-setting (Duhigg, 2016). Effective team management should also include the identification of personality dimensions that impact leadership, allowing executives to tailor their management strategies to the specific needs of their personnel. Additionally, navigating these uncharted waters requires an exploration of the ethical dimensions of public safety leadership, ensuring that the physical health and safety of officers remain the primary focus.

Finally, leaders must effectively communicate with different audiences to build a shared understanding of these new public safety priorities and strategies. By developing proactive strategies to develop and strengthen core leadership skills, agencies can better navigate the complex conditions leaders face as they design and implement these public safety services. By defining and communicating the importance of transparency, accountability, and equity regarding UAP encounters, agencies can forge lasting, collaborative relationships with the public they serve. Ultimately, integrating these concepts of planning, leadership, and change will allow public safety agencies to critically analyze their organizational needs, evaluate the value of the

data collected from anomalous incidents, and develop vital industry and organizational awareness skills. These skills should be reflected throughout the systematic evaluation of data needs and value, allowing executives to critically analyze organizational needs and opportunities for growth when navigating these uncharted, challenging operational waters.

Constitutional Law: Jurisdiction, Evidence, and Public Employment Liability

The intersection of UAP and local law enforcement creates unprecedented constitutional and legal challenges, primarily involving the potential conflict between local crime scene authority and federal national security interests. This tension is fundamentally defined by the interplay between the Tenth Amendment and the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution. As established in Harr, Hess, Orthmann, and Kingsbury (2017), the Tenth Amendment reserves the "police power"- the authority to oversee public safety and health- to the individual states. Conversely, the Supremacy Clause (Art. VI, cl. 2) mandates that federal law and treaties are the "Supreme Law of the Land," potentially preempting local authority in matters of national defense or aerospace security (Harr et al., 2017). There is a pressing need to examine the legal limits of federal evidence seizure under the Tenth Amendment, as well as the necessity for clear "chain of custody" protocols to protect local agencies from liability exposure. The constitutional question remains whether local police have the inherent authority to retain evidence and preserve an incident scene in the event of a UAP crash, or if federal or private UAP recovery teams working under the federal direction can automatically preempt local jurisdiction and seize materials under a theory of federal preemption (Harr et al., 2017).

Federal Preemption and the Tenth Amendment Border

Under the Doctrine of Preemption, which is derived from the Supremacy Clause, federal law

can displace state law in three ways: express preemption, field preemption, or conflict preemption (Harr et al., 2017). In the context of UAP encounters, the federal government may argue for field preemption, asserting that the regulation of anomalous aerospace objects is so pervasive- linked to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 or the National Security Act of 1947- that it leaves no room for state supplementation (Harr et al., 2017). However, the Tenth Amendment serves as a critical check on this "commandeering" of local resources. In *Printz v. United States* (1997), the Supreme Court ruled that the federal government cannot compel local law enforcement to administer federal regulatory programs. Therefore, while federal agents may have the authority to seize a UAP craft, they cannot legally force local officers to secure a perimeter or suppress information without a formal statutory basis or a signed inter-agency agreement. When local police respond to a UAP crash, they are operating under their primary duty to protect the public from immediate hazards (fire, traffic, or injury). If a federal agency attempts to seize the scene, a "conflict preemption" analysis must be applied: can the local agency fulfill its state-mandated duty to investigate a potential local crime or hazard while complying with federal orders of secrecy? Without clear protocols, local agencies risk violating state transparency laws (e.g., FOIA or "Sunshine Laws") if they acquiesce to federal demands for silence without a valid judicial order or federal non-disclosure agreement (NDA) that withstands constitutional scrutiny (Harr et al., 2017).

Evidence Integrity and Chain of Custody Protocols

The necessity for clear "chain of custody" protocols is not merely an administrative hurdle; it is a constitutional requirement to protect local agencies from liability exposure (Harr et al., 2017). In any standard criminal or civil investigation, the chain of custody ensures that evidence is authentic and has not been tampered with from the point of collection to its appearance in

court (Harr et al., 2017). When federal "recovery teams" or private contractors acting under federal color of law seize UAP-related materials from a local scene, they often do so with a "black box" approach that ignores local evidentiary standards (Harr et al., 2017). If a local officer is the first responder to a UAP site and recovers debris, that officer has a legal obligation to maintain the integrity of that evidence (Harr et al., 2017). If federal agents take that evidence without providing a formal "Return on Search Warrant" or a signed transfer of custody form, the local agency faces the risk of spoliation of evidence claims (Harr et al., 2017). Spoliation occurs when evidence is lost or destroyed, leading to a legal presumption that the evidence would have been unfavorable to the party that lost it. If a citizen is injured by a UAP and sues the municipality for negligence, and the municipality cannot produce the "evidence" because they handed it to an unidentified federal team without documentation, the city may be held liable for millions in damages due to their failure to preserve the scene (Harr et al., 2017).

Public Employment Law and the Municipal Duty of Care

Beyond jurisdictional disputes, agencies must consider the constitutional and statutory rights of their personnel through the lens of public employment law. Law enforcement executives must proactively assess legal liabilities to protect their departments from litigation (Vaughn, Cooper, & del Carmen, 2001). This proactive assessment is particularly critical regarding the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause, which has been interpreted to include a "state-created danger" doctrine (Vaughn et al., 2001). If an agency sends an officer into a UAP incident scene without adequate warning or equipment, and that officer suffers harm, the municipality may be found to have violated the officer's constitutional right to bodily integrity (Vaughn et al., 2001). When police chiefs and administrators fail to provide adequate protocols, training, or personal protective equipment (PPE) for known occupational hazards—such as the electromagnetic

radiation associated with UAP encounters- they expose their municipalities to severe legal jeopardy. Historically, the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) has documented the physiological risks of anomalous field effects, including erythema (skin reddening), neurological damage, and radiation sickness (Defense Intelligence Agency, 2010). Ignoring these documented risks violates the fundamental "duty of care" that a public employer owes to its employees under the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) and various state-level labor laws (French, 2009).

The Right to a Safe Working Environment

Lessons learned from reviews of employment lawsuits filed against local governments emphasize the importance of safeguarding the legal rights of public sector employees (French, 2009). Officers have a right to a safe working environment; ignoring the documented physiological risks of UAP encounters is not merely a tactical oversight but a violation of this fundamental duty (French, 2009). Under the Monell Doctrine (*Monell v. Department of Social Services of the City of New York*, 1978), a municipality can be held liable under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 if a "policy or custom" of the city causes a constitutional violation. If the "custom" of a police department is to ignore UAP safety warnings or to discourage officers from reporting injuries for fear of ridicule, the department is creating a pattern of "deliberate indifference" that is ripe for class-action litigation (Vaughn et al., 2001). Furthermore, the UAP Disclosure Act and subsequent federal transparency initiatives in 2024 and 2025 have begun to establish a new framework for "domain awareness." If a local agency fails to align its internal safety guidelines with these emerging federal standards, it can no longer claim ignorance of the hazard (Vaughn et al., 2001). Law enforcement executives must recognize that "anomalous" does not mean "non-existent." Failing to provide radiation dosimeters or specialized PPE for officers responding to

high-energy incident scenes is legally equivalent to sending an officer into a chemical spill without a respirator (Vaughn et al., 2001).

Mitigation through Formal Reporting and Training

By establishing formal UAP reporting mechanisms and safety guidelines, agencies not only bridge the domain awareness gap but also ensure compliance with evolving employment laws, thereby protecting the municipality from costly legal disputes and failing their personnel.

According to Vaughn et al. (2001), the "failure to train" is one of the most successful avenues for plaintiffs in police liability lawsuits. Appendix G, a proposed syllabus for a fifteen-week course in UAP studies titled "Homeland Security and UAP: Policy, Protocols and Planning," provides a robust examination of training issues that include:

- **Jurisdictional deconfliction:** Officers must be trained on how to assert the Tenth Amendment police power to secure a scene until federal credentials and transfer-of-custody documents are verified.
- **Chain of Custody Integrity:** Implementing "UAP Incident Evidence Bags" that require dual-signature transfers between local and federal agents to prevent spoliation claims.
- **Medical Baseline Testing:** Requiring officers to undergo medical and mental health screenings following an encounter to document any physiological changes, thereby mitigating workers' compensation disputes and fulfilling the duty of care.

This proposed legal framework requires local agencies treat UAP encounters as a predictable municipal risk rather than a fringe anomaly. The conflict between the Supremacy Clause and the Tenth Amendment will likely be settled in the courts, but in the interim, the liability for officer

safety and evidence preservation rests squarely on the shoulders of local administrators (Harr et al., 2017). Adhering to the constitutional principles outlined in Harr et al. (2017) and proactively managing employment law risks is the only path to safeguarding both the public and the municipality from the fallout of these unprecedented events.

Community Dialogue: Managing Ontological Shock and Fostering Trust

Agencies must maintain public trust and prevent panic during UAP incidents, which can range from anomalous sightings to close-range physical encounters (Tyler, 2006). As the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) and international bodies move toward greater transparency regarding Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP), the burden of managing the socio-psychological fallout often falls upon local first responders and municipal leaders (Wendt, 2020). To prevent a breakdown in social cohesion, agencies must move beyond the "stigma and denial" era and adopt a framework grounded in procedural justice and psychological resilience.

Addressing this unique challenge requires a fundamental shift from traditional, reactive communication to contemporary, proactive approaches in police-community relations (President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, 2015). The stigma and fear surrounding UAP can cause severe secondary trauma for witnesses; thus, fostering a fact-based, non-judgmental community dialogue is critical to mitigating the psychological impacts, such as post-traumatic stress or non-pathological obsessive thinking, that frequently follow these encounters (Unhidden Foundation, 2025). Agencies must adopt the tenets of procedural justice, which emphasize the quality of the treatment and the fairness of the decision-making process (Tyler, 2006). When the public perceives that law enforcement is handling UAP incidents with neutrality and transparency, the potential for mass panic can be significantly mitigated.

The term "ontological shock" refers to the profound psychological disorientation

experienced when a person's fundamental understanding of reality is challenged or shattered (Wendt & Duvall, 2008). In the context of UAPs, this occurs when individuals or communities are confronted with evidence of technologies or entities that defy the known laws of physics or biological paradigms. For decades, the societal response was characterized by "official denial," which acted as a protective mechanism for the state's perceived monopoly on security (Wendt, 2020). When an individual witnesses a high-strangeness event, the resulting cognitive dissonance can lead to acute stress, isolation, and a loss of faith in institutional protective structures. If an agency dismisses these reports as hallucinations or misidentifications without investigation, it exacerbates the witness's trauma. Therefore, proactive communication is about "epistemological humility," where agencies acknowledge the limits of current scientific understanding while providing a supportive environment for reporting (NASA, 2023).

Trust is the currency of effective governance, particularly in law enforcement. The history of UAP investigation, specifically during the mid-20th century under projects like Blue Book, was defined by a "strategic ambiguity" that many citizens perceived as a cover-up. This legacy has created a deficit of trust that persists into the current day. The stigma and fear surrounding UAP can cause severe secondary trauma for witnesses; Secondary trauma in this context does not merely stem from the encounter itself, but from the systemic invalidation that follows. When a witness observes a phenomenon that contradicts their fundamental understanding of physical reality, they experience a primary cognitive rupture (Unhidden Foundation, 2025). However, the subsequent social ridicule or institutional dismissal acts as a "second injury," often more damaging than the initial event. Research suggests that non-pathological obsessive thinking often arises as a compensatory mechanism—the brain's attempt to resolve an "unsolvable" data set (Unhidden Foundation, 2025). Thus, fostering a fact-based,

non-judgmental community dialogue is critical to mitigating the psychological impacts, such as post-traumatic stress or non-pathological obsessive thinking, that frequently follow these encounters (Unhidden Foundation, 2025). By normalizing these experiences through fact-based dialogue, communities can transform a potentially isolating trauma into a shared exploratory process, thereby reducing the burden on mental health infrastructures.

To effectively maintain community calm, public safety leaders must move beyond superficial public relations and commit to ensuring meaningful police-community engagement (Policing Project, n.d.). Meaningful engagement requires a shift from passive observation to active, structured data collection. This transition is essentially an application of the first pillar of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing (2015): Building Trust and Legitimacy. In the context of UAP, this involves the pre-emptive development of reporting protocols and public information officer (PIO) scripts that acknowledge the reality of anomalous sightings without necessarily confirming their origin. By adopting a "guardian" rather than a "warrior" mindset, agencies position themselves as facilitators of safety and information rather than gatekeepers of classified secrets. For instance, training dispatchers to handle UAP-related 911 calls professionally treats this volume as a critical "statistical signal" of public safety needs rather than a nuisance; this allows agencies to map geographic and temporal clusters of activity. If multiple credible witnesses report an anomaly in the same flight corridor, it transitions from a "fringe" anecdote to a measurable safety concern. This methodology ensures that the public views the police as a competent protector of the local airspace.

Crucially, how agencies name and frame these difficult issues dictates how the public will respond (Matthews, n.d.). The transition from "UFO" to "UAP" is a strategic effort to reset the psychological associations of the observer. Framing UAPs strictly as an occupational hazard and

airspace safety issue- rather than a taboo or fringe topic- helps dismantle the implicit biases and stereotype threats that historically prevent witnesses and officers from coming forward. (Matthews, n.d.). Stereotype threat occurs when individuals fear that their behavior will confirm a negative stereotype that witnesses of anomalies are "unreliable" or "unstable." For a commercial pilot or a patrol officer, the stakes are professional survival. By framing the issue as an occupational hazard, leadership provides a "safe harbor" for reporting, placing the phenomenon within the same category as severe weather or technical malfunctions. (Matthews, n.d.).

Additionally, managing the "ontological shock" associated with UAPs requires both leadership and front-line personnel to develop deep emotional agility (David & Klotz, n.d.). For first responders, this shock is often compounded by their role as "fixers" of reality; when they encounter something they cannot fix, contain, or explain, the result is a profound loss of agency. Navigating the complex emotions triggered by these events- such as profound witness fear, or officer anger and frustration over a lack of institutional support- is essential in the aftermath of a localized UAP crisis. Emotional agility allows leaders to acknowledge these "difficult" emotions without being controlled by them, utilizing these feelings as data points to identify where the organization's support structures are failing (David & Klotz, n.d.). For example, an officer's anger may actually be a "signal" that the department has failed to provide the necessary diagnostic tools or legal protections required to handle an anomalous encounter. By utilizing public dialogue and deliberation from a foundational communication perspective (Escobar, O., n.d.), agencies can build essential accountability and public legitimacy (Wahl & White, n.d.). Deliberative communication involves a "two-way street" where the agency and the community co-create the framework for understanding (Escobar, O., n.d.). In the context of the

80-year lack of communication, the "legitimacy gap" is massive. Transparency in uncertainty is paramount; agencies must be willing to state what they do not know, which builds more trust than a false sense of certainty. This includes establishing community advisory boards to review reporting protocols and building bridges between local police, regional aviation authorities, and civilian scientific organizations. Ultimately, establishing transparent communication frameworks helps build robust coalitions across community boundaries, ensuring the public feels heard, respected, and protected during unprecedented events. These coalitions can act as a social "shock absorber," distributing the weight of ontological change across various institutions so that no single system is overwhelmed by the shifting paradigm.

Emergency Preparedness: The Hazardous Materials and All-Hazards Approach

This paper proposes treating UAP encounters like CBRNE/HazMat incidents using "Time, Distance, and Shielding" protocols within the framework of joint operations and incident command for unplanned complex events. To effectively manage these novel incidents, agencies must utilize established frameworks like the National Response Framework (NRF), the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and the Incident Command System (ICS) (Fagel, 2014). The NIMS framework provides a consistent nationwide template to enable Federal, State, tribal, and local governments, as well as non-governmental organizations, to work together to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity (FEMA, 2017). Within the context of UAP, the utilization of a standardized ICS structure allows for the seamless integration of technical specialists such as physicists, aerospace engineers, and radiological experts to operate seamlessly within the Operations or Planning Sections at a UAP incident without disrupting the command hierarchy. This adaptability is

crucial when dealing with phenomena that defy conventional classification, as it ensures that the Unified Command can make informed decisions based on real-time data from disparate sources. During facility and community risk assessments, it is critical to focus on all hazards; thus, a comprehensive evaluation must go beyond traditional threats like natural disasters or industrial accidents to include the potential operational impact of anomalous technology. Integrating UAP as a recognized occupational threat ensures that preparedness phases are truly comprehensive by including low risk/high impact potentials. By acknowledging these events as a tangible variable in the community's risk profile, public safety executives can allocate needed resources for specialized training and detection technology.

The "Six Observables" serve as a hazard identification checklist for first responders to protect themselves from unknown radiation or field effects. These observables—anti-gravity lift, sudden and instantaneous acceleration, hypersonic velocities without signatures, low observability, trans-medium travel, and biological effects—provide a diagnostic rubric for identifying a potential encounter. The sixth observable, biological effects, is of particular concern for first responders who may unknowingly enter a "hot zone" or proximity field (Farah, 2025). Medical data indicate that close-range UAP exposure can result in localized burns, temporary paralysis, and other symptoms indicative of non-ionizing electromagnetic radiation (NIEMR) or microwave heating (Defense Intelligence Agency, 2009; Unhidden Foundation, 2025). Because of these risks, there must be a particular emphasis placed on continuity of operations and occupational health and safety (Fagel, 2014). These physiological effects mimic the injuries sustained in high-energy laboratory accidents or exposures to directed energy systems. Specifically, witnesses have reported neurological impairment and dermatological markers consistent with exposure to the radiofrequency (RF) spectrum (Unhidden Foundation,

2025). When a patrol officer or emergency medical technician (EMT) arrives at a scene involving a landed or low-hovering craft, the absence of a visible hazard (like smoke or fire) can lead to a dangerous sense of complacency. Consequently, the triage and medical management of these individuals must follow established protocols for radiological and electromagnetic injury, ensuring that responders do not become secondary casualties by entering the immediate area without instrumentation.

Because of these risks, there must be a particular emphasis placed on continuity of operations and occupational health and safety (Fagel, 2014). In any incident where a public safety officer is incapacitated by an anomalous field effect, the organizational capacity to maintain essential services is challenged. First responders must utilize "Time, Distance, and Shielding" protocols, and agencies must manage the resources brought to bear in a disaster to ensure personnel are equipped with the correct protective gear. This involves not only the physical protection of the individual but also the protection of sensitive electronic equipment, such as radio repeaters and vehicle ignition systems, which are frequently reported to fail in the presence of UAP. Consequently, personal protective equipment (PPE)- such as UVC eye protection, electromagnetic interference (EMI) fabrics, and portable Geiger counters—must be integrated into first responder safety protocols to mitigate exposure to ionizing and non-ionizing radiation (Tedesco et al., 2025). The procurement of these items should not be viewed as an outlier expense but as a necessary component of a modern all-hazards toolkit. For instance, the deployment of wearable spectrometers and radiation dosimeters allows for the immediate mapping of an exclusion zone, effectively turning every first responder into a mobile sensor platform. This data-driven approach allows the Incident Commander to establish an "Initial Isolation Zone" based on empirical readings rather than visual estimation.

The immediate post-impact behavior of individuals and organizations must be carefully described and analyzed, as these unpredictable human behaviors directly impact the effectiveness of the Incident Command System. In the wake of a close-range UAP encounter, witnesses often experience significant psychological distress, ranging from cognitive dissonance to acute stress disorder. If law enforcement officers respond with skepticism or ridicule, they risk destroying the "Public Trust and Legitimacy" that is central to the 21st-century policing model (President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, 2015). The perception of the police as a legitimate authority depends on the fairness and respect shown during the "contact" phase of an investigation. Treating a UAP witness with professional neutrality and acknowledging the potential physical hazards of their encounter is not merely good investigative practice; it is a requirement for maintaining social order during a high-strangeness event. Unprecedented anomalous encounters will test crisis management capabilities and highlight unique disaster subcultures within local communities (Boin, et al., 2017). A disaster subculture often develops in areas prone to specific types of recurring emergencies, where residents develop their own informal response mechanisms and narratives (Wenger, 1978). If a local agency's response to a physical encounter is perceived as secretive or dismissive, it can validate fear, suspicion, and distrust of authority and lead to civil unrest or a refusal to comply with safety orders (such as evacuations from a radiologically contaminated area). Therefore, proactive communication strategies must be applied to bridge the gap between official response and community expectations, ensuring that the police/community dialogue remains transparent and grounded in public safety rather than classification. Thus, public safety leaders must proactively summarize how to manage and deal with the emotional toll taken on stakeholders, particularly first responders who face these unknown hazards on the front lines.

The "stigma" associated with UAP often prevents officers from reporting physical symptoms or psychological trauma, fearing it will affect their fitness-for-duty status (Cowen, 2026). This silence is an organizational hazard that can lead to long-term health complications and operational failures (Unhidden Foundation, 2025). Leadership must foster an environment where "anomalous injury" is treated with the same clinical seriousness as a needle-stick exposure or a chemical splash. By normalizing the reporting of these incidents through a health-and-safety lens, agencies can collect the longitudinal medical data necessary to refine their PPE requirements and response tactics. The implications of how public safety agencies respond to these unique disasters and emergencies will inevitably produce political, social, organizational, and systemic change. A single well-documented encounter that results in significant responder injury will likely trigger a massive shift in federal and local policy, necessitating new legislative frameworks for "Anomalous Incident Management." Public safety agencies that have already integrated these possibilities into their All-Hazards planning will be better positioned to lead these changes rather than being overwhelmed by them. This proactive posture reflects the "Guardian" mindset, where the agency's primary duty is the protection of its members and the public from all threats, both domestic and unidentified (Stoughton, 2015).

Developing and exercising these response strategies requires consulting established literature on public leadership under pressure and emergency planning (Boin et al., 2017; Fagel, 2014). Leadership in a crisis is defined by "Meaning Making"—the ability of a leader to provide a clear, credible explanation of what is happening and what is being done to resolve it (Boin et al., 2017). For a law enforcement leader, this means having the courage to speak about UAP not as a "sci-fi" concept, but as a legitimate operational challenge involving electromagnetic hazards and airspace safety. By grounding the response in NIMS/ICS and through principles of

community trust, agencies can transform a potentially chaotic event into a managed incident that reinforces, rather than diminishes, the legitimacy of the public safety institution.

Stewardship: Data Integrity, Resource Management, and Human Resource Capacity

Agencies can act as stewards of scientific data by capturing high-fidelity UAP data from officers acting as human “sensors.” The conceptualization of law enforcement officers as human “sensors” is predicated on the necessity for high-fidelity data in environments where technical instrumentation may be absent or supplementary. In the context of UAP, the accuracy of a report is often the only available evidence for initial analysis. Knuth et al. (2025) argue that the scientific study of these phenomena requires a shift from anecdotal accounts to structured, data-centric observations. By training officers to document specific observables—such as flight characteristics, multispectral appearances, and biological effects—agencies can ensure that the data captured is of sufficient quality for later analysis by scientific organizations and federal authorities. This local stewardship provides a necessary counter-balance to uSAPs like “Immaculate Constellation,” ensuring that data remains accessible for public safety analysis rather than being lost in a “black box” of executive branch secrecy.

Effective stewardship in this domain also requires a commitment to data integrity through the preservation of electronic and digital evidence. When officers utilize high-tech sensing equipment, such as thermal imaging or digital night vision, the resulting files must be treated with the same chain-of-custody rigor as physical evidence in a criminal investigation. This ensures that the data remains untainted for peer review or official government inquiry, aligning local law enforcement efforts with national standards to be set by the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) and the Department of Defense. Matthew Brown emphasizes that

high-fidelity data—such as color satellite images of football field-sized saucers—exists but is currently used for strategic deterrence rather than public knowledge (Corbell & Knapp, 2025).

Stewardship also involves justifying funds for specialized equipment, such as thermal imaging, portable radar, and multispectral detectors, by framing them as multipurpose tools for both UAP incidents and other types of atypical police work, including public safety responses to terrorism incidents involving chemical, biological, radioactive, nuclear, or explosive materials (CBRNE). Fagel (2014) emphasizes that resource management in modern public safety must prioritize flexibility. A thermal imaging camera, for instance, is not merely a tool for UAP detection; it is an essential asset for search and rescue (SAR) operations, fire perimeter mapping, and the detection of heat signatures in active shooter or tactical environments. Integrating these tools into a CBRNE response plan provides a robust justification for funding, as portable radar and multispectral detectors are vital for establishing exclusion zones and monitoring the perimeter of a hazardous material release.

By framing UAP detection equipment as “dual-use” technology, administrators can leverage Homeland Security Grant Programs (HSGP) and other federal funding streams that prioritize preparedness for atypical incidents and terrorism. This strategic alignment ensures that the agency is equipped for low-frequency, high-impact events while maintaining the capability to investigate anomalous phenomena. Recent state-level legislative initiatives, such as New Jersey’s A5712, provide a secondary budgetary pathway by establishing state-funded research centers with grants reaching up to \$2.5 million to address low-altitude airspace safety.

To successfully acquire this equipment, administrators must utilize evidence-based strategies to determine the most effective resources to allocate for both normal and complex

operations. Lum and Koper (2017) advocate for the use of the Evidence-Based Policing Matrix, which allows leaders to assess the effectiveness of various resources across different contexts. This involves the systematic review of past incidents to determine which technological interventions yield the highest return on investment for public safety. For example, if data indicates that thermal imaging significantly reduces “time-to-find” in missing persons cases, the “stewardship” of funds toward that technology is empirically justified, even if the primary secondary use is UAP monitoring. Evidence-based strategies also require a “translation” of research into operational policy, meaning that deployment must be governed by protocols that maximize utility and reduce “equipment shelf-life.” By applying these concepts to assess public safety organizations’ assets, leaders can develop a comprehensive plan to allocate resources appropriately. This requires a deep understanding of public sector budgeting and the process of preparing a detailed zero-based budget to calculate the actual cost of new operational resources, vehicle integrations, and maintenance (Mikesell, 2023).

Unlike traditional budgeting, ZBB requires that every program and expenditure be justified from “zero” for each new budget cycle. Mikesell (2023) notes that this method is particularly effective for introducing new operational resources, such as vehicle-integrated sensing arrays. When preparing a ZBB, the budget must account for the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO), which includes initial acquisition of hardware (e.g., X-band radar, scintillation detectors), vehicle integration, training and certification, and recurring maintenance and calibration. By utilizing ZBB, leaders can demonstrate to oversight bodies and the public that the actual cost of new resources is balanced against the measurable public value they provide. This level of fiscal transparency is a cornerstone of stewardship, ensuring organizations remain resilient and technologically capable in an increasingly complex threat landscape.

Additionally, the stewardship of public assets is inextricably linked to managing human resources. The expansion of the “officer as a sensor” model requires a robust Human Resources (HR) strategy focused on specialized training and personnel wellness. Integrating data fusion software into mobile laboratory setups allows for on-site analysis, real-time decision-making, and objective verification of an otherwise subjective event (Tedesco et al., 2025).

However, deploying advanced technology is useless without adequately preparing the workforce. To bridge the “domain awareness gap,” agencies must transition from passive observation to active, standardized reporting by reframing UAP encounters from peripheral anomalies to immediate occupational hazards. Developing comprehensive training programs for personnel who will encounter these phenomena is vital. Training protocols must incorporate the “Six Observables” to provide officers with a technical diagnostic checklist for threat assessment (Farah, 2025).

Furthermore, HR departments must address the physiological risks associated with close-proximity encounters, training personnel in the principles of Time, Distance, and Shielding to mitigate risks such as radiation burns or electromagnetic field (EMF) exposure (Fagel, 2014). This training must also encompass the management of “ontological shock,” providing officers and dispatchers with the psychological tools and “no-ridicule” policies necessary to maintain professional continuity during “Black Swan” events. Leaders must analyze the value of recruiting and retaining talented employees, recognizing that long-term employee impact and retention are heavily influenced by how well the agency supports its officers during unprecedented or highly stigmatized encounters (Berman, Bowman, West, & Van Wart, 2019).

By integrating these competencies, law enforcement executives ensure that personnel are not only technically capable but are also medically and psychologically protected; and by

combining robust human resource management with transparent public budgeting systems, agencies ensure they are protecting both their personnel and taxpayer investments (Berman, Bowman, West, & Van Wart, 2019; Lee, Johnson, & Joyce, 2021).

Conclusions

This paper concludes that local law enforcement faces a critical safety gap regarding UAP that requires markedly improved institutional and officer situational awareness. Through multimodal detection protocols, agencies can transition from anecdotal, subjective reports devoid of scientific data to measurable evidence that can be aggregated into a manageable national standardized reporting framework. The revelations regarding programs like “Immaculate Constellation” prove that high-fidelity sensor data is quantifiable; the challenge is ensuring its integration into the local public safety infrastructure (Brown, 2024; Shellenberger, 2024). Recommendations include implementing standardized operating procedures based on already established hazardous materials unit response models; recognizing the severe physiological and neurological risks of radio frequency / electromagnetic radiation exposure; and adopting multimodal sensor technologies as standard officer incident response equipment. Future development should focus on scalable mobile detection systems, medical referral pathways for affected personnel, and cross-sector data collaboration. Importantly, the state and local law enforcement communities must remain vigilant against disinformation campaigns that target whistleblowers and attempt to obscure the true nature of UAP incursions into domestic airspace (Corbell & Knapp, 2026).

Bridging the Domain Awareness Gap

The analysis presented herein demonstrates that the “domain awareness gap” is not merely a classified intelligence concern, but an immediate public safety crisis occurring in low-altitude airspace where local law enforcement serves as the “de facto hub” of observation. To address this, agencies must move beyond the historical “stigma” and treat UAP encounters as high-risk occupational hazards.

1. Strategic Leadership and Constitutional Clarity

Closing this gap requires transformational leadership to redefine UAP reporting as a standard duty rather than a professional taboo. By framing these incidents as “flight safety concerns,” leaders can normalize the reporting process and protect their personnel from professional ridicule. Additionally, establishing clear constitutional protocols regarding evidence seizure and “chain of custody” is essential to protect local jurisdictions from liability and to ensure that scientific data remains available for public and forensic analysis.

2. Emergency Preparedness and Community Resilience

Adopting an All-Hazards approach is critically important. Agencies should integrate the “HazMat” response model—prioritizing Time, Distance, and Shielding—to protect first responders from documented biophysical risks such as electromagnetic radiation (EMR) and other forms of physical harm. Managing the “ontological shock” within the communities officers are responsible for is equally critical; proactive dialogue and professional dispatcher training can mitigate public panic and transform 911 call volume into a valuable “statistical signal” for incident tracking.

3. Stewardship of Scientific Data

Public safety agencies must act as stewards of high-fidelity data. By investing in multipurpose tools like thermal imaging, portable radar, and multispectral detectors, leaders can justify expenditures as essential for both UAP incidents and broader CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives) responses. This dual-use justification ensures that the agency is equipped for low-frequency, high-impact events while maintaining the capability to investigate anomalous phenomena.

Final Recommendation: Adoption of the Standardized Training Framework

To operationalize these findings, it is strongly recommended that public safety institutions adopt the proposed “Homeland Security and UAP: Policy, Protocols and Planning” curriculum. This fifteen-week course provides the necessary bridge between research and field application by:

1. Integrating the “Six Observables” as a diagnostic tool for threat assessment.
2. Training officers in multimodal sensor fusion to move toward objective, evidence-based reporting.
3. Establishing forensic best practices for managing “technologies of unknown origin.”

Ultimately, the safety of the public and the well-being of the first responder community depend on the transition from “official denial” to scientific transparency. Implementing these standardized policies and training programs will ensure that the next generation of homeland security professionals is equipped to lead with rigor in an increasingly complex and anomalous environment.

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Appendix A

Table 1

Summary of Tedesco brothers' selected field excursions (July–August 2025)

Excursion	Location	Date	Result
1	Robert Moses State Park	July 5, 2025	Non-visible luminous object over water, optical and thermal confirmation
2	Robert Moses State Park	July 19, 2025	Stationary non-visible luminous object over water, disappeared abruptly
3	Camp Hero State Park	July 26, 2025	Non-visible luminous object hovering low altitude, multiple anomalies recorded
4	Robert Moses State Park	August 2, 2025	Triangular non-visible luminous formation detected and tracked

Structured Field Excursions. Four structured field excursions were carried out at multiple locations in Suffolk County, New York. Each deployment followed strict protocols for environmental logging, sensor calibration, and post-event data analysis.



Figure 1

Non-visible luminous object detected over water, Robert Moses State Park

- **Excursion One – July 5, 2025, Robert Moses State Park**

Figures 1 and 2 are screenshots of videos showing a non-visible luminous object detected simultaneously on optical and thermal imaging devices. The object was tracked and recorded hovering at low altitude, moving inland from over water before disappearing without a discernible trajectory.



Figure 2

Non-visible luminous object moving inland from the water, Robert Moses State Park

- **Excursion Two – July 19, 2025, Robert Moses State Park**

Figure 3 is a screenshot of a video showing a non-visible luminous object detected and recorded on a night vision optical imaging device. The object appeared stationary for approximately ten to fifteen minutes, hovered at low altitude over water, and then quickly disappeared without a discernible trajectory.



Figure 3

Non-visible luminous object detected over water, Robert Moses State Park

- **Excursion Three – July 26, 2025, Camp Hero State Park**

Figure 4 is a screenshot of a video of a non-visible luminous object recorded on optical imaging. The object hovered at low altitude before disappearing without a discernible trajectory. Additionally, Figure 5 is a screenshot of a video showing several non-visible spherical anomalies appearing in sequence. Radar logs indicated unpredictable movements, while optical imaging captured various geometric formations.



Figure 4

Non-visible luminous object recorded by night vision optical imaging, Camp Hero State Park

- **Excursion Four – August 2, 2025, Robert Moses State Park**

Figure 6 is a screenshot of a video of a non-visible luminous object detected and recorded on optical imaging. The object appeared momentarily, hovered at low altitude over water, and then quickly disappeared without a discernible trajectory. Additionally, three non-visible luminous objects were tracked and recorded in a triangular geometric configuration as shown in Figure 7 showing a screenshot of a video recording of the night vision optical imaging.



Figure 5

Non-visible luminous objects recorded by night vision optical imaging forming a geometric shape of a five-pointed star, Camp Hero State Park



Figure 6

Non-visible luminous object detected over water, Robert Moses State Park



Figure 7

Closeup view of three non-visible luminous objects over water in a triangular geometric configuration, Robert Moses State Park

Appendix B

June 2023 UAP Incident Response Survey Sent to 253 Largest American State and Local Police Agencies

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a retired law enforcement professional researching law enforcement response to Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) incidents and wanted to find out if your Department has any formal policies or protocols in place for its officers/troopers to comply with when responding to 1) UAP sightings; 2) UAP contacts; or 3) UAP abductions, whether civilians or uniformed officers. Additionally, please let me know if any existing UAP incident response policies/protocols are confidential and cannot be shared with the general public. If this is not the correct unit to request this information thank you in advance for directing me to the correct agency department/unit.

Thank you,

Dr. Keith Taylor

Appendix C

June 2023 UAP Incident Response Survey Responses from 253 Largest American State and Local Police Agencies

Table C1

Summary of Findings From the June 2023 UAP Incident Response Survey

State/ District of Columbia	State/District population	Most populous	2nd most populous	3rd most populous	4th most populous	5th most populous	Capital (if not otherwise listed)													
State Police Answer Status	Name	Population	Answer Status	Name	Population	Answer Status	Name	Population	Answer Status	Name	Population	Answer Status								
Alabama	4,887,871	No Response	Huntsville	215,066	No Response	Montgomery	200,663	No Response	Birmingham	197,575	No Policies	Mobile	187,041	No Response	Tuscaloosa	99,600	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Alaska	737,638	No Response	Anchorage	293,538	No Response	Juneau	32,197	No Response	Fairbanks	31,516	No Response	Wasilla	10,529	No Response	Sitka	8,647	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Arizona	7,171,646	No Policies	Phoenix	1,660,272	No Response	Tucson	545,975	No Response	Mesa	508,958	No Response	Chandler	257,165	No Response	Scottsdale	255,310	No Policies	N/A	N/A	
Arkansas	3,013,852	No Response	Little Rock	202,591	No Response	Fayetteville	93,949	No Response	Fort Smith	89,142	No Response	Jonesboro	84,161	No Response	Fresno	78,576	No Policies	N/A	N/A	
California	39,557,045	No Response	Los Angeles	3,997,984	No Response	San Diego	1,425,976	No Response	San Jose	1,030,119	No Response	San Francisco	884,198	No Response	Fresno	530,093	No Policies	Sacramento	508,529	No Policies
Colorado	5,695,564	No Response	Denver	719,238	No Policies	Colorado Springs	483,829	No Response	Aurora	374,114	No Policies	Fort Collins	167,830	No Policies	Lakewood	156,798	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Connecticut	3,625,944	No Response	Bridgeport	148,654	No Response	Stamford	135,470	No Response	New Haven	134,023	No Response	Hartford	121,054	No Response	Waterbury	114,403	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Delaware	967,171	No Response	Wilmington	70,635	No Response	Dover	38,079	No Response	Newark	53,673	No Response	Middletown	22,582	No Response	Smyrna	11,380	No Response	N/A	N/A	
District of Columbia	702,455	No Response	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Florida	21,538,187	No Response	Jacksonville	949,611	No Response	Miami	467,963	No Response	Tampa	384,959	No Response	Orlando	307,573	No Response	St. Petersburg	258,308	No Response	Tallahassee	196,169	No Response
Georgia	10,711,908	No Response	Atlanta	498,715	No Response	Columbus	206,922	No Response	Augusta	202,081	No Response	Macon	157,346	No Policies	Savannah	147,780	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Hawaii	1,420,491	N/A	Honolulu	347,397	No Response	East Honolulu	49,914	No Response	Hawaii City	47,698	No Response	Hilo	43,263	No Response	Maui	164,221	No Policies	Maui	N/A	N/A
Idaho	1,754,208	No Response	Boise	228,790	No Policies	Meridian	106,894	No Response	Nampa	96,262	No Response	Idaho Falls	83,398	No Response	Caldwell	56,541	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Illinois	12,741,080	No Response	Chicago	2,705,994	No Response	Aurora	198,187	No Response	Naperville	148,304	No Response	Joliet	148,099	No Policies	Rockford	146,526	No Policies	Springfield	114,694	No Policies
Indiana	6,891,878	No Response	Indianapolis	867,125	No Response	Fort Wayne	267,633	No Response	Evansville	117,963	No Response	South Bend	103,290	No Response	Carmel	99,329	No Policies	N/A	N/A	
Iowa	3,156,145	No Response	Des Moines	216,853	No Response	Cedar Rapids	133,174	No Response	Davenport	102,085	No Response	Sioux City	82,396	No Response	Iowa City	76,290	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Kansas	2,911,505	No Response	Wichita	389,225	No Response	Overland Park	197,219	No Response	Kansas City	152,958	No Response	Olathe	139,605	No Policies	Topeka	125,904	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Kentucky	4,468,402	No Response	Louisville	620,578	No Response	Lexington	323,780	No Policies	Bowling Green	89,401	No Response	Owensboro	59,869	No Response	Zwington	40,366	No Response	Frankfort	27,679	No Policies
Louisiana	4,659,918	No Response	New Orleans	399,187	No Response	Baton Rouge	221,399	No Response	Shreveport	185,002	No Response	Lafayette	126,143	No Policies	Lake Charles	78,001	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Maine	1,338,404	No Response	Portland	66,417	No Response	Lewiston	35,944	No Response	Bangor	31,997	No Policies	South Portland	25,606	No Response	Auburn	23,196	No Response	Augusta	18,681	No Policies
Maryland	6,042,718	No Policies	Baltimore	594,282	No Response	Columbia	104,156	No Response	Germanstown	93,347	No Response	Silver Spring	83,267	No Policies	Waldorf	78,904	No Response	Annapolis	39,174	No Policies
Massachusetts	6,902,149	No Response	Boston	699,927	No Response	Worcester	185,877	No Response	Springfield	155,032	No Response	Cambridge	118,977	No Response	Lowell	111,670	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Michigan	9,995,915	No Policies	Detroit	677,662	No Response	Grand Rapids	200,217	No Response	Warren	134,587	No Policies	Sterling Heights	132,964	No Policies	Ann Arbor	121,890	No Response	Lansing	118,427	No Policies
Minnesota	5,611,179	No Response	Minneapolis	427,728	No Response	Saint Paul	312,818	No Response	Rochester	117,902	No Policies	Duluth	85,884	No Response	Bloomington	85,578	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Mississippi	2,986,530	No Policies	Jackson	164,422	No Response	Gulfport	71,870	No Response	Southaven	54,944	No Response	Biloxi	45,968	No Response	Hattiesburg	45,951	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Missouri	6,126,452	No Policies	Kansas City	507,528	No Response	Saint Louis	302,838	No Policies	Springfield	168,122	No Response	Columbia	123,380	No Response	Independence	116,925	No Response	Jefferson City	42,838	No Response
Montana	1,082,365	No Response	Billings	116,627	No Response	Missoula	74,428	No Response	Great Falls	68,701	No Response	Bozeman	48,532	No Response	Butte	34,284	No Response	Helena	32,315	No Response
Nebraska	1,929,268	No Policies	Omaha	448,262	No Response	Lincoln	287,401	No Response	Bellevue	53,627	No Policies	Grand Island	51,478	No Response	Neenah	13,761	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Nevada	3,034,392	No Response	Las Vegas	649,876	No Response	Henderson	317,189	No Response	Reno	259,746	No Response	North Las Vegas	246,133	No Policies	Paradise	219,178	No Response	Carson City	55,414	No Response
New Hampshire	1,356,658	No Policies	Manchester	112,525	No Policies	Nashua	89,246	No Response	Concord	43,412	No Response	Dover	31,771	No Response	Rochester	31,366	No Response	N/A	N/A	
New Jersey	8,908,520	No Response	Newark	282,090	No Response	Jersey City	265,549	No Policies	Paterson	145,627	No Response	Elizabeth	128,885	No Response	Edison	100,008	No Response	Trenton	83,974	No Response
New Mexico	2,095,428	No Policies	Albuquerque	560,218	No Response	Las Cruces	102,026	No Response	Rio Rancho	98,023	No Policies	Santa Fe	94,528	No Response	Roswell	47,635	No Response	N/A	N/A	
New York	19,542,209	No Response	New York City	8,879,928	No Response	Buffalo	278,349	No Response	Yonkers	211,569	No Policies	Rochester	211,328	No Response	Syracuse	142,749	No Response	Albany	97,279	No Response
North Carolina	10,383,620	No Policies	Charlotte	882,367	No Policies	Raleigh	478,958	No Response	Greensboro	296,329	No Response	Durham	278,547	No Response	Winston-Salem	248,232	No Response	N/A	N/A	
North Dakota	760,077	No Response	Fargo	124,844	No Policies	Bismarck	73,112	No Response	Grand Forks	65,848	No Response	Minot	47,340	No Response	West Fargo	36,566	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Ohio	11,680,442	No Policies	Columbus	895,477	No Policies	Cleveland	382,817	No Policies	Cincinnati	802,605	No Policies	Toledo	273,782	No Response	Akron	198,006	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Oklahoma	1,943,079	No Response	Oklahoma City	649,021	No Response	Tulsa	400,669	No Response	Norman	123,471	No Response	Gresham Arrow	109,127	No Response	Edmond	93,127	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Oregon	4,190,713	No Response	Portland	661,189	No Response	Salem	173,442	No Response	Eugene	171,245	No Response	Medford	110,158	No Response	Hillsboro	108,389	No Policies	N/A	N/A	
Pennsylvania	12,807,060	No Response	Philadelphia	1,587,828	No Response	Pittsburgh	301,048	No Response	Allentown	126,238	No Response	Erie	96,471	No Policies	Reading	88,495	No Response	Harrisburg	49,229	No Response
Rhode Island	1,057,315	No Response	Providence	179,335	No Response	Cranston	81,274	No Response	Warwick	80,847	No Policies	Pawtucket	71,847	No Response	East Providence	47,476	No Response	N/A	N/A	
South Carolina	5,124,712	No Policies	Charleston	150,277	No Response	Columbia	136,632	No Response	North Charleston	114,852	No Response	Mount Pleasant	90,801	No Response	Rock Hill	74,372	No Response	N/A	N/A	
South Dakota	882,235	No Response	Souix Falls	181,883	No Policies	Rapid City	75,443	No Policies	Aberdeen	26,262	No Response	Brookings	24,509	No Response	Watertown	22,955	No Response	Pierre	13,980	No Response
Tennessee	6,700,010	No Response	Nashville	681,938	No Response	Memphis	650,618	No Response	Knoxville	187,500	No Response	Chattanooga	180,557	No Response	Clarksville	165,648	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Texas	28,701,845	No Response	Houston	2,325,502	No Policies	San Antonio	1,532,233	No Policies	Dallas	1,356,785	No Policies	Austin	993,649	No Response	Fort Worth	902,938	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Utah	3,161,105	No Policies	Salt Lake City	200,591	No Response	West Valley City	136,401	No Response	Provo	118,178	No Response	West Jordan	116,046	No Response	Orem	97,521	No Policies	N/A	N/A	
Vermont	626,299	No Response	Burlington	44,743	No Response	South Burlington	20,292	No Response	Colchester	17,524	No Response	Rutland	15,807	No Response	Bennington	15,333	No Response	Montpelier	8,074	No Response
Virginia	8,517,685	No Response	Virginia Beach	450,189	No Response	Norfolk	244,076	No Response	Chesapeake	242,634	No Response	Richmond	228,783	No Response	Arlington	224,006	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Washington	7,535,591	No Response	Seattle	754,567	No Policies	Spokane	219,190	No Policies	Tacoma	216,279	No Policies	Vancouver	183,012	No Response	Bellevue	147,599	No Policies	Olympia	52,555	No Response
West Virginia	1,805,832	No Response	Charleston	47,215	No Response	Huntington	46,048	No Response	Morgantown	30,955	No Response	Parkersburg	29,675	No Response	Wheeling	26,771	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Wisconsin	5,813,568	No Policies	Milwaukee	597,275	No Response	Madison	258,054	No Response	Green Bay	108,827	No Response	Kenosha	150,164	No Policies	Racine	77,432	No Response	N/A	N/A	
Wyoming	617,237	No Response	Cheyenne	63,957	No Response	Casper	57,461	No Response	Laramie	32,479	No Response	Gillette	31,903	No Response	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	327,672,629		39,286,423		13,025,937		9,144,611		7,376,585		6,214,834		1,459,011		76,426,321					

Note. This table summarizes June 2023 UAP incident response survey responses from the 253 largest American state and local police agencies. Among state police agencies, 13 of 49 reported no policies. Among local police agencies, 53 of 204 reported no policies. The District of Columbia law enforcement agency did not respond.

Appendix D

Top 20 Jurisdictions Affected (No UAP Procedures / No Response)

Based on 2,428 FAA UAS sighting reports (2024–2026) in jurisdictions with no documented UAP procedures / no response.

Rank	State	Jurisdiction	UAS Incidents	UAP Policy Status
1	Illinois	Chicago	235	No Response
2	New York	New York City	188	No Response
3	Georgia	Atlanta	121	No Response
4	Texas	Houston	115	No Policies
5	Florida	Orlando	89	No Response
6	Florida	Miami	82	No Response
7	Colorado	Denver	76	No Policies
8	California	Los Angeles	75	No Response
9	Nevada	Las Vegas	66	No Response
10	North Carolina	Charlotte	60	No Policies

Rank	State	Jurisdiction	UAS Incidents	UAP Policy Status
11	Arizona	Phoenix	57	No Response
12	Massachusetts	Boston	57	No Response
13	Maryland	Baltimore	50	No Response
14	California	San Diego	49	No Response
15	Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	44	No Response
16	Texas	Dallas	40	No Policies
17	Michigan	Detroit	37	No Response
18	New Jersey	Newark	36	No Response
19	California	San Jose	36	No Response
20	Oregon	Portland	36	No Response

Summary of Findings

- In total, 2,428 UAS incident reports occurred in 149 unique jurisdictions that were identified as having no known UAP response procedures. 478 of these incidents occurred in jurisdictions where police agencies' survey response was no UAP policies.
- **Policy Gaps:** While many law enforcement agencies within these jurisdictions were notified following an incident, the UAP survey data indicates a widespread lack of

formal, documented procedures for handling these specific types of incidents at the local level.

- **Geographic Distribution:** The lack of procedures is consistent across the most populous cities in various states, spanning from the East Coast (Boston, Philadelphia) to the West Coast (San Diego, Portland) and the South (Houston, Orlando).

Appendix E

UAPMed First Responders UAP Response Recommendations Study Case Studies 9 and 10

Case Study 9: Police Response to the 1976 Elmwood, Wisconsin UAP Incident

Introduction

The 1976 Elmwood, Wisconsin UAP incident involving police officer George Wheeler remains one of the more compelling cases due to its direct involvement of a law enforcement officer and subsequent investigations.

Event Description

In April 1976, George Wheeler, a police officer in Elmwood, Wisconsin, reported an encounter with a UAP. Wheeler described the object as a bright, fiery object that he initially mistook for a plane about to crash. He proceeded to chase the object in his patrol car, even experiencing engine trouble during the pursuit.

Police Response

1. **Immediate Investigation:** After his encounter, Wheeler immediately reported the incident to the Dunn County Sheriff's Department. His patrol car reportedly showed signs of being exposed to high heat, including a warped spotlight and antennae.
2. **Physical Symptoms:** After the encounter, Wheeler experienced physical symptoms like redness in his face, as though he had suffered a burn, further indicating possible exposure to intense heat or radiation.

3. **Corroborating Witnesses:** George Wheeler was not the only one to report the sighting. Several Elmwood residents also reported seeing a bright object in the sky around the same time.
4. **Media Engagement:** Given the profound nature of the event and its credible witness, a police officer, it drew significant media attention. Wheeler provided details of his encounter with various media outlets.
5. **Official Stance:** While Wheeler was convinced of the extraordinary nature of his encounter, the official stance remained non-committal. The incident was recorded, but no formal explanation was provided.

Subsequent Developments and Revelations

1. **Impact on Officer Wheeler:** The incident profoundly impacted Wheeler. He maintained his stance on what he witnessed, despite facing skepticism and ridicule from some quarters. His death shortly after the incident due to an unexplained illness reflects the potential dangers posed to first responders by exposure to UAP. Medical literature suggests that such acute physiological degradation following UAP contact closely aligns with the pathophysiological tissue damage and immune dysregulation caused by close-proximity radio frequency (RF) emissions (Defense Intelligence Agency, 2009; Unhidden Foundation, 2025).

Conclusion

The Elmwood, Wisconsin UAP incident underscores the dangers faced by law enforcement officers when they encounter UAP. Officer Wheeler's credibility as a witness, combined with physical evidence and corroborating testimonies, makes this a compelling UAP incident.

Case Study 10: Police Response to the 1979 Marshall County, Minnesota UAP Incident

Introduction

The 1979 Marshall County, Minnesota incident is a well-documented UAP incident, primarily due to the involvement of a law enforcement officer and the physical evidence left behind.

Event Description

In the early hours of August 27, 1979, Deputy Sheriff Val Johnson of the Marshall County Sheriff's Department had a close encounter with a mysterious, brightly lit object while on patrol near Stephen, Minnesota. The event resulted in damage to his patrol car and personal injuries, including temporary blindness and burn-like marks.

Police Response

1. **Immediate Aftermath:** After the encounter, Johnson radioed the dispatcher to report the incident, noting that his car had collided with something, but he was not sure what. Given the unusual nature of his report, officers were immediately dispatched to his location.
2. **Physical Evidence:** Johnson's patrol car exhibited several anomalies:

- The windshield was shattered, though the pattern of damage was atypical for standard impact.
 - One of the car's headlights was damaged.
 - The car's electric clock and Johnson's wristwatch both stopped for 14 minutes.
 - An antenna on the car was bent at a strange angle.
3. **Medical Examination:** Johnson was taken to a local hospital. Apart from his eyes being irritated, akin to welder's burns, he was in good health. However, he had no clear memory of the few moments leading up to the incident. The physiological symptoms Johnson exhibited, specifically the temporary blindness/eye irritation (corneal abrasion/photophobia), localized burns, and the fourteen minutes of unaccounted time, are among the most frequently reported medical phenomena associated with UAP encounters. According to the Schuessler Catalog of UFO-Related Human Physiological Effects, temporary blindness and perceived time loss are heavily documented symptoms of proximity to anomalous vehicles (Schuessler, 1996; Unhidden Foundation, 2025). Medical reviews hypothesize these injuries are consistent with intense bursts of non-ionizing electromagnetic radiation (NIEMR) or microwave heating, which can affect tissues with high water content, such as the eyes and skin, and trigger neurological disruptions resembling transient epileptic amnesia (Unhidden Foundation, 2025).
4. **Investigation and Documentation:** Given the bizarre nature of the incident, the Marshall County Sheriff's Department thoroughly investigated the scene. The damaged patrol car became a point of interest, drawing attention from both local residents and the media.

5. **Engagement with External Agencies:** Given the scope of the incident, external organizations, including the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS), got involved. The car was examined, photographs were taken, and various tests were conducted to ascertain the cause of the damage.

Subsequent Developments and Revelations

1. **Public and Media Attention:** News of the incident spread, and it quickly garnered significant media attention. Officer Johnson was interviewed multiple times, with his genuine and straightforward demeanor lending credibility to his account.
2. **Professional Opinions:** The police vehicle's damage puzzled experts. While some believed it could result from a collision with an animal or another vehicle, the nature and pattern of the damage, combined with Johnson's account, did not align with such explanations.

Conclusion

The 1979 Marshall County, Minnesota incident underscores the potential injuries faced by law enforcement when confronted by UAP.

Appendix F

Dr. Keith Taylor's Letter of Support for Raised Bill No. 5422

March 12, 2026

To: Joint Standing Committees on Public Safety, Environment, Military Affairs, and

Appropriations

From: Keith Louis Taylor, Sr., Ed.D.

Re: Support for Raised Bill No. 5422 – An Act Concerning a Study of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

To the Distinguished Members of the General Assembly:

As a career public safety executive, former NYPD Emergency Service Unit supervisor, and current Adjunct Assistant Professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, I am writing on behalf of the Disclosure Foundation to express my strong support for Raised Bill No. 5422. This legislation, which mandates the University of Connecticut to study the feasibility of a state center for Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP), is a critical step toward ensuring operational safety and domain awareness for Connecticut's first responders and citizens.

Expertise and Public Safety Context

Throughout my career, I have managed high-risk emergency operations, including WMD/HazMat response and multi-agency terrorist investigations. My current academic work and curriculum development, such as the Homeland Security and UAP seminar at the college, focuses on the "domain awareness gap" in low-altitude airspace. UAP represent a documented

occupational safety crisis for first responders, involving risks of mid-air collisions, electromagnetic interference, and physiological hazards.

The Importance of State-Level UAP Research

Legislative action on UAP is gaining momentum across the region. New Jersey has established the nation's first state-funded UAP research center, and Vermont is considering similar measures to address airspace safety. Raised Bill No. 5422 ensures Connecticut remains at the forefront of this issue by:

- **Integrating Technical Expertise:** Utilizing frameworks like the “Six Observables” to differentiate known technology from anomalous phenomena.
- **Enhancing Interagency Collaboration:** Formalizing data-sharing between UConn, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and the Office of Military Affairs.
- **Standardizing Response:** Moving toward evidence-based pedagogical strategies and forensic chain-of-custody protocols for incidents of unknown origin.

Conclusion

UAP are no longer a matter of speculation but a practical challenge for public safety and municipal continuity. By passing this bill, Connecticut will provide its state agencies with the resources necessary to mitigate operational risks and maintain safety in an increasingly complex airspace.

I strongly urge the committees to report favorably on this bill. I am available to provide further testimony or expertise as needed.

Sincerely,

Keith Louis Taylor, Sr., Ed.D.

Appendix G

Proposed syllabus for a fifteen-week course in UAP Studies

Homeland Security and UAP: Policy, Protocols and Planning

The contemporary landscape of domestic security is experiencing a profound paradigm shift, necessitated by the emergence of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) as a legitimate concern for both public safety and national security domain awareness. Historically, the subject of UAP was restricted to the domains of military intelligence and national defense, often shrouded in a culture of secrecy and institutional stigma. However, recent legislative actions and a growing body of field data have reframed these occurrences as immediate occupational hazards for local public safety professionals and critical infrastructure protection. This curriculum, entitled 'Homeland Security and UAP: Policy, Protocols and Planning', is designed for both students of and professionals in the criminal justice and emergency management sectors. It seeks to bridge the "domain awareness gap" by integrating rigorous legal analysis, technical field methodologies, and historical case analysis into a standardized operational framework.

The necessity of this course is underscored by the 2023, 2024, and 2025 Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Disclosure Acts, which establish a federal mandate for transparency and records centralization at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).¹ Furthermore, state-level initiatives such as Connecticut's Raised Bill No. 5422, Vermont's H.654 and New Jersey's A5712 demonstrate a localized urgency to create Task Forces and state-funded research centers to address low-altitude airspace safety.^{2,3,4,5} By examining the technical signatures defined as the "Six Observables" and the multimodal sensor methodologies employed by researchers like mechanical engineers John and Gerald Tedesco, students will develop the

understanding of managing UAP incidents with similar processes used for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high-yield Explosives (CBRNE) or hazardous materials (HazMat) events.

Course Information and Departmental Standards

Component	Description
Course Title	Homeland Security and UAP: Policy, Protocols and Planning
Course Code	ABC123
Credits	3.0
Delivery Mode	On-Campus / Lecture
Instruction Type	Lecture / Advanced Seminar
Department	Criminal Justice Studies
Instructor	Keith Taylor, Ed.D, Adjunct Assistant Professor

Catalog Course Description

This course provides an exhaustive analysis of the policies, protocols, and planning strategies required to address emerging domestic security threats, specifically focusing on Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) as an occupational safety crisis. Students will evaluate the "domain awareness gap" in low-altitude airspace and the operational risks UAP incidents pose to first responders, including mid-air collisions and radiation exposure. The curriculum incorporates the legal frameworks of the UAP Disclosure Acts (2023-2025) and state task force legislation (VT H.654, NJ A5712, CT 5422) to understand the evolving jurisdiction over "technologies of unknown origin" and "non-human intelligence".⁶ Through the study of 18 historical police-UAP encounters and the recommendations of the UAPMED white paper, students will design standardized incident reporting processes, forensic evidence collection protocols, and strategic communication plans to mitigate "ontological shock" in the community.⁷

Course Learning Outcomes

1. **Analyze Legislative Mandates:** Critically evaluate the federal and state legal frameworks governing the disclosure and investigation of UAP records and recovered technologies.
2. **Evaluate Domain Awareness:** Determine the impact of the "domain awareness gap" on public safety, focusing on the vulnerabilities of low-altitude airspace and critical infrastructure.
3. **Synthesize Operational Safety:** Construct "HazMat" style safety protocols for first responders, utilizing the principles of Time, Distance, and Shielding to mitigate physiological risks.
4. **Identify Anomalous Performance:** Apply the "Six Observables" framework to differentiate between known human-made objects and phenomena exceeding current technological

performance envelopes.

5. **Develop Forensic Protocols:** Design standardized procedures for evidence collection and preservation of "technologies of unknown origin" while maintaining the legal chain of custody.
6. **Assess Historical Baselines:** Compare recurring patterns in 18 historical case studies to identify common electronic malfunctions and health effects associated with UAP encounters.
7. **Critique Interagency Models:** Evaluate the coordination efforts of AARO, State Fusion Centers, and academic hubs in facilitating standardized reporting and data analysis.
8. **Construct Communication Strategies:** Develop public information policies aimed at maintaining transparency and preventing panic during anomalous events.

Week 1: Re-framing the Domain – From National Security to Public Safety

The introductory module establishes the strategic imperative for law enforcement involvement in the study of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena. Historically, UAP were treated as a peripheral concern of national security, often ignored by local agencies who believed they lacked the jurisdiction or technical capacity to respond. However, the current reality suggests that local police are the "de facto hub of domain awareness" for the low-altitude airspace where many incursions occur. This week explores how the shifting paradigm of public safety requires the closure of the "domain awareness gap," framing UAP not as a scientific curiosity but as an active crisis that leaves communities and infrastructure vulnerable. The analysis will focus on why traditional paradigms must adapt to account for unconventional aerial and domain-specific incidents that were previously unclassified.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
10 min	Welcome and introduction: The Strategic Imperative for Law Enforcement	Facilitator introduces the concept of the "Domain Awareness Gap" as a public safety crisis.
15 min	Group introductory discussion: Relevancy in 2025	Analyzing the context of the New Jersey drone incursions and their impact on local governance.

25 min	Key concept introduction: The Hub of Domain Awareness	Discussion question: How does the role of local police as "human sensors" provide essential data for national security?
15 min	Application of didactic concept: Identifying the Blind Spot	Stakeholder activity: Assessing the perspectives of a local police chief vs. an FAA air traffic controller.
20 min	Introduction to the "Six Observables"	Defining traits like instantaneous acceleration and trans-medium travel.
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 2: The Federal Legal Landscape.

Week 2: Federal Legal Frameworks – The UAP Disclosure Acts (2023-2025)

This week delves into the legislative architecture of the Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Disclosure Act (UAPDA) of 2023 and the Transparency Acts of 2024 and 2025. The 2023 Act, introduced as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act, established a presumption of immediate disclosure for all federal UAP records. A critical insight of this legislation is the recognition that the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) has been inadequate in achieving timely disclosure, necessitating an independent Review Board with the authority to oversee declassification. Students will analyze the definitions of "Non-Human Intelligence" (NHI) and "Technologies of Unknown Origin," as well as the mandate for a centralized records collection at the National Archives. The session will further evaluate the 2024 and 2025 Acts, which require agency heads to declassify records within 270 days, highlighting the transition toward an enforceable and accountable process.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
10 min	Review of UAPDA 2023 Findings	Analysis of Section 02: Why legislation is necessary to restore oversight over "hidden" records.
25 min	Key concept introduction: Legal Definitions	Detailed review of "NHI," "Technologies of Unknown Origin," and "Legacy

		Programs."
10 min	Application of didactic concept: The Power of Eminent Domain	Discussion question: What are the constitutional implications of the government seizing private-sector UAP materials?
15 min	Comparison of the 2024 and 2025 Transparency Acts	Table exercise: Comparing reporting timelines and agency responsibilities.
25 min	Case Analysis: The National Archives Collection	Guiding Question: How does centralized records management facilitate scientific and technological research?
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 3: State Policy and Coordination

Week 3: State Policy and Jurisdictional Coordination – Connecticut, Vermont and New Jersey

As federal disclosure efforts navigate bureaucratic challenges, several states have taken a proactive lead in establishing their own UAP policy frameworks. Connecticut's 5422 examines the need to create a UAP task force while Vermont's H.654 proposes the creation of a State Airspace Safety and UAP Task Force, which coordinates work jointly through the Department of Public Safety and the Agency of Transportation. This state-led mechanism is designed to evaluate reports of anomalous objects—including SUV-sized "drones" and balloons—that cannot be readily identified by standard means. Simultaneously, New Jersey's A5712 bill marks a historic shift by establishing the nation's first state-funded Center for the Study of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, supported by a \$2.5 million grant program. This week examines the second-order implications of these state actions, including the formalization of ties between law enforcement and academic researchers like the Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies (SCU).

Time	Description of Content	Activity
15 min	Introduction to Vermont H.654 and Connecticut 5422	Facilitator breaks down the 10-member task force structure and its administrative home in Public Safety.
20 min	Key concept introduction:	Analyzing New Jersey

	State-Funded Research	A5712: The connection between UAP study and Air Traffic Control workforce support.
20 min	Application of didactic concept: Academic Integration	Group activity: Designing a research partnership between a university and a State Fusion Center.
20 min	Legislative Analysis: The "Leadership Void"	Discussion question: Why are states like CT, NJ and VT acting independently of federal directives?
10 min	Reporting Protocols in VT H.654	Review of the Dec 15 annual reporting requirement and the use of SCU as principal scientific analyst.
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 4: The Six Observables

Week 4: Guest Lecture – Lue Elizondo: The Six Observables and Technical Signatures

Guest lecturer Luis "Lue" Elizondo, former program manager of the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP), provides the technical foundation for identifying anomalous objects in the field. Elizondo's work narrowed the focus of investigation to what can be "observed, collected by sensors, and reported," specifically excluding speculation on origin to ensure scientific credibility. His "Six Observables" framework serves as the definitive checklist for first responders to identify craft that exceed the performance envelopes of known human technology. This session explores traits such as anti-gravity lift, which allows objects to hover without visible propulsion, and trans-medium travel, observed as seamless movement from space to atmosphere to water. Students will learn to use these observables as a diagnostic tool for threat assessment and incident reporting.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
10 min	Introduction of Lue Elizondo and AATIP	Review of the transition from AAWSAP to AATIP and the push for Special Access Program status.
45 min	Lecture: The Six Observables of UAP	Detailed breakdown of acceleration, lift, cloaking, and trans-medium signatures.

15 min	Technical Analysis: Low Observability and Sensor Data	Discussion question: How do cloaking capabilities create a "domain awareness gap" for standard radar?
20 min	Application: The "Tic Tac" Case Study	Using the observables to analyze the 2004 flight data off the coast of California.
10 min	Q&A: Physiological and Consciousness Effects	Addressing the "Slide 9" effects mentioned by Elizondo regarding unknown forces on human observers.
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 5: Occupational Hazards

Week 5: Occupational Hazards and the HazMat Protocol Model

A central thesis of the Homeland Security approach to UAP is the reframing of incidents as an occupational hazard. Historical data indicates that close proximity to UAP can result in significant physical injury, including radiation burns and temporary blindness. The 1979 Marshall County collision involving Deputy Sheriff Val Johnson serves as a primary example, where the officer suffered ocular irritation akin to "welder's burns" and his vehicle sustained unusual pattern damage. This week introduces the "HazMat" model for response, emphasizing "Time, Distance, and Shielding" to protect personnel. We explore how UAP incidents often involve powerful electrical fields and electromagnetic interference (EMI) that disable patrol vehicles and interrupt public safety communications, necessitating specialized equipment such as portable Geiger counters and scintillation detectors.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
10 min	Introduction to UAP as an Occupational Hazard	Case study introduction: The Val Johnson incident and pattern damage forensics.
20 min	Key concept introduction: The HazMat Approach	Facilitator presents the "Time, Distance, and Shielding" protocol for anomalous encounters.

20 min	Physiological Risks: Radiation and Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Exposure	Review of the 2010 Defense Intelligence Agency DIRD on "Anomalous Field Effects on Human Biological Tissues,"
20 min	Technical Analysis: Vehicle and Communication Failure	Discussion: What protocols are needed when patrol engines shut off near an object?
15 min	Application: Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	Demonstration of UVC eye protection and EMI- shielding equipment for responders.
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 6: Historical Case Studies

Week 6: Historical Case Studies I – The Police Response Baseline (1947-1969)

To understand current policy needs, it is vital to analyze the historical baseline of law enforcement response to UAP. This week focuses on Case Studies 1 through 6 from the UAPMED white paper, ranging from the 1947 Roswell incident to the 1967 Ashland incident. These cases illustrate the recurring pattern of local authorities being the first to receive reports of "flying disks" or "unusual debris," followed by a rapid escalation to military involvement. The 1959 Redmond incident and the 1964 Socorro landing case are particularly significant for their physical evidence—including scorched vegetation and indentation marks—which were documented by credible police witnesses. Analysis will focus on how "official explanations" (e.g., weather balloons or the planet Venus) have historically impacted public trust and the career longevity of reporting officers.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
20 min	Analysis of Roswell 1947 and Redmond 1959	Comparing the role of Sheriff Wilcox (Roswell) with Officer Dickerson (Redmond) in reporting anomalies.
25 min	Key concept: The Socorro 1964 Physical Evidence	Breakdown of Officer Lonnie Zamora's encounter and the collaborative investigation with the Army

		and FBI.
20 min	Case Studies 4 and 5: Exeter 1965 and Portage County 1966	Analysis of the 86-mile cross-jurisdictional pursuit and the failure of Air Force "Venus" explanations.
15 min	Psychological Impacts: The Ashland 1967 Incident	Discussion of Officer Schirmer's "time loss" and the Condon Committee's "hallucination" conclusion.
15 min	Conclusion: The Stigma Barrier	Workshop: How does official ridicule hinder contemporary hazard reporting?
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 7: Multimodal Field Detection

Week 7: Guest Lecture – The Tedesco Brothers: Multimodal Field Detection and Sensor Fusion

The transition from anecdotal testimony to data-rich evidence is led by the investigative efforts of John and Gerald Tedesco, founders of the nonprofit "Nightcrawler Eye on the Sky" initiative. This module examines their methodology, which utilizes an array of advanced sensors—including X-band radar, thermal FLIR, and multispectral optical systems—to monitor UAP activity. Their work demonstrates that human visible acuity constitutes less than one percent of the electromagnetic spectrum, meaning most anomalous objects remain invisible without specialized instrumentation. This week, students will review data from the Tedescos' multiple field excursions at Robert Moses State Park, where multiple luminous objects were tracked moving inland from water. The focus is on the "Exclusion Hypothesis," a systematic process for differentiating known human-made objects from true anomalies.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
10 min	Introduction of the Tedesco Brothers	Background on their Nightcrawler mobile RV lab, a model for the DOD's GREMLIN system.
45 min	Lecture: Integrating Multimodal Sensors for	Technical overview of millimeter-wave Doppler

	Field Detection	radar and audio frequency signatures.
15 min	The Exclusion Hypothesis in Practice	Demonstration of using ADS-B map data and Flight Tracker software to rule out aircraft.
20 min	Application: Analyzing 2025 Excursion Data	Lab session: Students review thermal "Rainbow Palette" thermograms to identify atmospheric inversions.
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 8: Aviation Safety

Week 8: Aviation Safety and Low-Altitude Airspace Management

Unidentified objects in defended airspace represent a critical "domain awareness gap" that poses a clear danger to both military and civilian pilots. This week explores the intersection of UAP incidents and aviation safety, utilizing data from the National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena (NARCAP). Students will evaluate how UAP maneuvering erratically at high speeds challenges pilot judgment and flight skills, often leading to temporary failures of communication and navigation systems. The analysis will focus on the FAA's current lack of an internal mechanism for pilots to report UAPs, often directing them instead to civilian groups like NUFORC. We will also examine how airport flight corridors create confounding variables for observers, such as circular holding patterns and specific glide slopes that can mimic anomalous hovering.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
15 min	The Domain Awareness Gap in Aviation	Analysis of Ryan Graves' testimony regarding UAP as a "flight safety concern."
15 min	Key concept: Confounding Variables in Flight Corridors	Identifying aircraft lighting patterns (navigation, anti-collision, taxi) that confuse observers.

15 min	Application: Thermal Signature Analysis	Table exercise: Distinguishing between a Boeing 737's exhaust stream and a structural anomaly on FLIR.
20 min	Institutional Barriers: The FAA and Pilot Stigma	Discussion: The implications of the "Safe Airspace for Americans Act" for civilian aircrew.
20 min	Case Study: The 1959 Redmond Incident and Tower Communications	Analyzing tower interference logs as a safety indicator.
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 9: Legacy Programs

Week 9: Guest Lecture – Richard Lang: Strategic Investigations and Legacy Programs

Richard Lang, a former lead for Bigelow Aerospace Advanced Space Studies (BAASS) and the MUFON STAR Team, provides a unique perspective on the operational rubrics of "legacy programs" as defined in the 2023 UAP Disclosure Act. This week focuses on the 12 technical areas of research established under the original AAWSAP contract, including advanced lift, propulsion, and materials. Lang's experience managing a national team of investigators highlights the challenges of researching technologies of unknown origin while supporting a secure, Top Secret framework.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
10 min	Introduction of Richard Lang	History of the \$22 million AAWSAP program and the role of Bigelow Aerospace.
30 min	Lecture: Investigating Technologies of Unknown Origin	Breakdown of the designated investigative techniques utilized to investigate incidents of high strangeness.
45 min	The MUFON STAR Team Methodology	Comparing civilian field investigation protocols with

		government standards.
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 10: Forensic Chain of Custody Issues

Week 10: Guest Lecture – Sean Grosvenor: Forensic Chain of Custody for Anomalous Materials

Sean Grosvenor, a retired forensic specialist and team member of the Disclosure Foundation, introduces the protocols necessary for managing physical evidence from UAP incidents. This module emphasizes the conflict between local police crime scene authority and federal national security interests. Grosvenor outlines the "best practices" for documenting criminal activity related to aerial trespassing and establishing a chain of custody for evidence that may contain biological hazards or radiation. Students will learn to address unique evidence preservation issues, such as the collection of materials that exhibit "technologies of unknown origin" or those that resist "prosaic attribution". The focus is on ensuring that evidence remains viable for both legal proceedings and scientific inquiry.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
10 min	Introduction of Sean Grosvenor	Background on forensic expertise and its application to SCU.
40 min	Lecture: Forensics of the Unknown – Protecting the Evidence Chain	Technical review of collecting witness testimony, physical debris, and electronic sensor data.
15 min	Constitutional Law:	Discussion: What are the

	Jurisdiction and Evidence Seizure	limits of federal recovery teams when local police are the primary responders?
10 min	Application: Scene Survey for Radiological Hazards	Demonstration: Using sensors to establish a perimeter around an incursion site.
10 min	Conclusion: Forensic Best Practices	Workshop: Completing a chain of custody form for an "unidentified metallic fragment."
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 11: Managing Ontological Shock

Week 11: Historical Case Studies II – Mass Sightings and Communication Challenges (1973-2000)

This week examines Case Studies 8 through 14, focusing on the era of large-scale triangular sightings and mass public reports. The 1973 LAPD incident and the 2000 Southern Illinois "St. Clair Triangle" highlight the chronological manner in which events unfold across multiple jurisdictions. The St. Clair case is particularly noteworthy because several police officers from different departments provided corroborating sketches of a massive, silent, triangular object. Conversely, the 1997 "Phoenix Lights" incident serves as a cautionary tale of "political trivialization," where the Arizona Governor's attempt to lower public panic with humor backfired, leading to a loss of public trust in institutional leadership. Analysis will focus on how 911 call volume serves as a "statistical signal" of activity and the need for professional dispatcher training during such events.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
20 min	Analysis of the St. Clair Triangle (2000)	Tracking the object's path through multiple jurisdictions and corroborating drawings.
25 min	The Phoenix Lights (1997) and Ontological Shock	Discussion question: How did the Governor's response

		impact community relations?
20 min	The Trumbull County (1994) and Fyffe (1989) Events	Analyzing sightings by Chief Garmany and Sgt. Meloro, including car electrical failure.
15 min	Application: Tracking Call Volume as a Sensor	Workshop: Using 911 logs to map an object's trajectory in real-time.
10 min	Conclusion: Maintaining Public Calm	Drafting a "no-ridicule" policy for dispatchers responding to mass sightings.
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 12: Managing Ontological Shock

Week 12: Community Dialogue and Managing "Ontological Shock"

The revelation of non-human intelligence (NHI) or technologies of unknown origin represents a "Black Swan" event—a high-impact occurrence that is difficult to predict and which fundamentally alters societal reality. This week focuses on the concept of "ontological shock" and the responsibility of public safety agencies to manage the narrative. If a mass sighting occurs, the public looks to the police first for safety, response, and resolution. Students will examine how to communicate transparency without inciting fear, and the vital role of local leaders in assuring the community that municipal services (e.g., water, electricity) will continue uninterrupted. We explore the "Community Dialogue" competency, where agencies must balance their duty to inform the public with the need to prevent mass hysteria or panic.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
15 min	Defining Ontological Shock and Black Swan Events	Group discussion: How would confirmation of NHI affect the global financial and social order?.
15 min	Key concept: The Narrative Manager Role	Facilitator presents the "Transparency Without Panic" framework for PIOs.
20 min	Application: Municipal Continuity Planning	Simulation: Responding to public concerns about safety

		during a high-interest UAP event.
20 min	Case Study: Governor "Mikie" Sherrill and Leadership Confidence	Analysis of leadership as a stabilizer during stressful times for humanity.
15 min	Conclusion: Ethical Public Information	Debate: When should a local agency withhold information for public safety?
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 13: Modern Incursions and Global Trends

Week 13: Modern Incursions and Global Trends (2004-2025)

The final section of historical analysis covers Case Studies 15 through 18, focusing on the 21st century "waves" of incursions. The 2004 Tinley Park sightings and the 2008 Stephenville event are analyzed for their involvement of credible pilot and law enforcement witnesses. We pay special attention to the 2019-2020 Nebraska drone incursions and the 2024-2025 New Jersey incidents, where SUV-sized, silent hovercraft surveilled power plants and military bases. These cases reveal a shift in UAP behavior toward the surveillance of critical infrastructure, a trend that is currently replicating throughout Western Europe. Analysis will focus on the frustration of local mayors seeking answers from a split or unresponsive federal government and the resulting drive for state-funded research initiatives like New Jersey's A5712.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
20 min	The Nebraska (2019) and New Jersey (2025) Drone Waves	Analyzing the surveillance of power plants and the failure of commercial jamming technology.
20 min	Case Study 18: The Las Vegas Backyard Entity (2023)	Reviewing LVMPD body camera redactions and the challenges of investigative transparency.
20 min	The Stephenville 2008	Examining the discrepancy

	Radar Data	between military denials and transponder-free radar tapes.
15 min	Application: Developing Regional Regional Tracking Protocols	Group activity: Designing a regional data-sharing network for coastal states.
10 min	Global Outlook: Trends in Western Europe	Analysis: Is California the next probable target for SUV-sized incursion waves?.
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 14: Whole-of-Government Approach to UAP Incident Response

Week 14: The Whole-of-Government Approach – AARO, NASA, and International Reporting

The integration of local law enforcement into the federal framework is the focus of this week.

We examine the mission of the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO), established in 2022 to synchronize efforts across the DOD and other federal agencies to detect, identify, and attribute objects of interest. Current AARO Director Jon Kosloski proposes a structured role for state and local officers, including standardized reporting forms compatible with federal databases. We also evaluate NASA’s UAP Independent Study Team recommendations, which emphasize the use of the scientific method and the leveraging of aviation safety reporting systems. Students will compare the US model with international reporting systems like Canada’s Sky Project and France’s GEIPAN program, which has investigated over 3,000 cases using a scientific approach.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
15 min	The Role of AARO in Synchronizing Intelligence	Review of the FY23 NDAA mandate for interagency coordination.
15 min	NASA’s Scientific Framework for UAP	Analysis: How can NASA’s expertise in data collection improve domestic domain awareness?.

15 min	Application: Standardized Reporting Mechanisms	Workshop: Completing the AARO US Government employee reporting form.
20 min	International Comparative Analysis: Sky Canada and GEIPAN	Analysis: Which international model is most applicable to the US "Fusion Center" network?
20 min	Conclusion: The Federal-Local Connection	Discussion: How do AARO's "Gremlin" and the Tedescos' "Nightcrawler" systems overlap?
5 min	Conclusion and Wrap Up	Preview of Week 15: Strategic Planning Capstone and Policy

Week 15: Strategic Planning Capstone and Future Policy Directions

The course concludes with a synthesis of technical, legal, and operational knowledge to construct a comprehensive UAP incident response plan. We review core competencies as they apply to the UAP challenge, and students will propose policies for specialized unit training, secure data storage, and medical screening for exposed individuals. The future outlook considers the transformation of national research capacity through state research hubs and the impact of cultural disclosure milestones (e.g., upcoming major films and documentaries) on public policy. The final session serves as a "call to action" for the next generation of homeland security professionals to lead with professionalism and rigor in the age of disclosure.

Time	Description of Content	Activity
15 min	Capstone Synthesis: Review of core competencies	Group analysis: Applying "Stewardship" to the management of scientific field data.
15 min	Future Outlook: A Network of State Research Centers	Discussing the replication of the New Jersey A5712 model across 50 states.
45 min	Final Project Presentations	Students present their 5-year disaster plans for anomalous

		aerial incursions.
10 min	Course Wrap-Up: Leadership in the Face of the Unknown	Final discussion: The ethical duty to normalize reporting and protect officers.
5 min	Closing Statements and Evaluations	Review of final exam requirements and semester milestones.

Forensic and Field Evidence Reference Tables

To support the forensic and detection modules, the following tables provide structured data for field application.

Forensic Evidence Checklist for UAP Encounter Sites

Category	Indicator	Forensic Implication
Physical Imprints	Symmetric indentations; landing gear patterns.	Indicates structural weight and propulsion orientation (e.g., Socorro 1964).
Vegetative Effects	Charred bushes; burned or crushed vegetation.	Suggests heat or concentrated propulsion fields at ground level.
Thermal Artifacts	"Milky and bubbly" ice formation in warm weather.	Indicates rapid localized cooling or energy exchange (e.g., Vashon Island 1968).
Electronic Failure	Engine shutdown; quartz clock stoppage.	Suggests powerful EMF or localized time dilation effects (e.g., Marshall

		County 1979).
Acoustic Signatures	"Hissing" or "Buzzing" sounds; silent movement. ¹	Differentiates from known rotor/jet propulsion which relies on air displacement.

Technical Detection Equipment for First Responders

Equipment Type	Function	Rationale for Policing
Millimeter-Wave Radar	Establishes object velocity, trajectory, and spectral signatures.	Necessary for real-time tracking of non-transponder aircraft.
Thermal Imaging (FLIR)	Detects long-wave infrared heat signatures; works in zero-light.	Identifies objects invisible to the naked eye; detects propulsion heat.
Multispectral Sensors	Captures data across UVA/B/C and hyperspectral ranges.	Cross-verifies objects that emit light outside the human visible spectrum.
Portable Geiger Counter	Measures ionizing radiation	Critical for officer safety

	levels at crash or landing sites.	and immediate medical triage.
ADS-B Flight Tracker	Displays real-time map data of all transponder-equipped aircraft.	The primary tool for the "Exclusion Hypothesis" to rule out known traffic.

Policy Recommendations for First Responder Agencies

The integration of UAP incidents into domestic security policies requires a multi-faceted approach. Based on the white paper recommendations and the MCCA reference guide, the following protocols are essential for institutional readiness:

1. **Standardized Reporting:** Agencies must develop a uniform process for documenting sightings to ensure data consistency across local, state, and federal levels. This includes tracking radio interference and vehicle malfunctions as secondary effects.
2. **Specialized Training:** Responders should be trained in the "Six Observables" and the technical status of existing UAP research to ensure they can provide accurate witness accounts without fear of professional stigma.
3. **Medical and Psychological Support:** Protocols must include medical screening for injuries (e.g., radiation, ocular irritation) and psychological support for those experiencing "ontological shock" or encounter-related trauma.
4. **Interagency Data Sharing:** Agencies should utilize State Fusion Centers and established federal channels like AARO to share data and insights, fostering a "whole-of-government"

awareness.

5. Evidence Stewardship: Preservation of all physical evidence must occur in dedicated facilities to prevent contamination, ensuring that "technologies of unknown origin" are handled according to forensic best practices.

College Grading and Policy Addendum

The Center for Criminal Justice Studies requires strict adherence to institutional standards for this advanced seminar.

Grading System

Final grades will be calculated based on the following:

- Weekly In-Class Exercises (15%): Critical thinking quizzes based on legislative readings.
- Case Study Analysis (20%): A comparative paper on two historical encounters.
- Guest Lecture Review (15%): Synthesizing the technical data from Elizondo, Tedesco, Grosvenor, and Lang.
- Strategic Planning Project (30%): Development of a UAP response protocol for a major city.
- Participation (20%): Active engagement in stakeholder activities and simulations.

Minimum Percentage	Grade	GPA	Interpretation

93.0	A	4.00	Excellent
83.0	B	3.00	Good
73.0	C	2.00	Satisfactory
60.0	D	1.00	Minimum Passing
0	F	0.00	Failure

Attendance and Academic Integrity

Attendance is mandatory, as much of the course material involves sensitive, on-campus lectures. Absences exceeding 5% of class time may result in the inability to receive religious accommodations or make up missed assignments. Academic dishonesty, including the unauthorized use of AI-generated data (e.g., using ChatGPT to answer assignment questions), is strictly prohibited and will result in a failing grade and referral to the Dean of Students.

Conclusion: The Professional Duty of the Homeland Security Practitioner

The integration of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena into the Homeland Security curriculum is not a pursuit of the extraordinary, but rather a commitment to the fundamental duty of securing the public trust. As this course has demonstrated, the presence of anomalous objects in low-altitude airspace represents a quantifiable domain awareness gap that impacts aviation safety, critical infrastructure protection, and the physical well-being of first responders. By moving

beyond the stigma of the past and adopting a technical, legal, and forensic framework, law enforcement agencies can transition from being passive observers to being proactive stewards of national security data.

The legislative progress from the 2023 Disclosure Act to the state-funded initiatives in Connecticut, New Jersey and Vermont indicates that the age of institutional secrecy is giving way to a requirement for scientific transparency. Professionals in this field must be prepared to handle the "ontological shock" of the community with transparency and calm, ensuring that municipal services remain resilient in the face of "Black Swan" events. Ultimately, the "Six Observables" and the multimodal sensor suites pioneered by the Tedesco brothers are not just tools for the curious—they are the new requirements for professional policing in a world where the unidentified can no longer be ignored. This course equips students with the technical and policy acumen to lead in this new reality, ensuring that the safety of the public and the integrity of our borders are maintained, regardless of the origin of the phenomena they encounter.