

<u>NEWS RELEASE</u> FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: <u>press@smalluavcoalition.org</u>

## Small UAV Coalition Supports National Drone Safety Awareness Week

Commitment to Safety at the Core of Coalition's Mission to Expedite Ubiquitous Commercial UAS Operations

**WASHINGTON, DC – November 4, 2019 –** The <u>Small UAV Coalition</u> is pleased to support the first National Drone Safety Awareness Week. Operational safety in the national airspace is paramount. The Coalition continues to support efforts to develop and implement a regulatory framework that will enable routine, advanced commercial unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) operations nationwide. The Coalition also supports efforts to raise awareness about safe commercial drone operations.

The Coalition's advocacy is rooted in safety as it supports the development of a risk-based regulatory framework for the UAS industry. In the near term, the forthcoming notice of proposed rulemaking for remote identification will enhance not only safety, but also security and privacy. The Coalition championed legislative changes that enable the FAA to apply these standards as broadly as it deems necessary to promote the highest levels of safety and has encouraged regulators to expedite the rule. Recently, the Coalition also made <u>recommendations</u> to support early, voluntary equipage before the regulation is in place.

The Coalition has also prioritized the continued development of an unmanned traffic management (UTM) system and many of its members have long partnered with both NASA and the FAA to expedite implementation. UTM is a critical unifying tool that will provide the safety, security, and accountability necessary to achieve full UAS integration into the national airspace. Further, the Coalition supports strong education and training for UAS operators, including the development of an aeronautical knowledge test that can be administered to recreational operators online.

The Small UAV Coalition continues to work closely with lawmakers and regulators to expedite regulations that will accelerate safe ubiquitous commercial UAS operations and will deliver on the promise of UAS technology to deliver innumerable economic and societal benefits.

For more information on the Small UAV Coalition, please visit <u>www.smalluavcoalition.org</u>, contact <u>press@smalluavcoalition.org</u>, or follow <u>@smallUAVs</u> on Twitter.