

TOM STOUT

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

FAA Part 107-certified Remote Pilot in Command (RPIC) with more than 1,000 logged flight hours and over 580 hours in live sports broadcast operations utilizing. Lead sUAS operations for nationally televised NHRA on Fox broadcasts, supporting more than 90 live events since 2022. Experienced coordinating with broadcast directors, RF transmission crews, helicopter pilots, venue operations, and airspace management teams in fast-moving production environments. Strong background in aerial cinematography, sports storytelling, broadcast integration, FAA compliance, operational leadership, and aviation safety.

CORE QUALIFICATIONS

- Live Sports Broadcast UAS Operations
- FAA Part 107 Certified RPIC & Visual Observer
- Operations Over People & Moving Vehicles Waivers
- Broadcast RF & Fiber Integration
- Broadcast Truck Integration & Signal Conversion
- Airspace Coordination & FAA DroneZone / LAANC
- Live Event Risk Mitigation & Safety Management
- Drone Fleet Maintenance & Equipment Logging
- Pilot Team Management & Visual Observer
- Motorsports Cinematography & Tracking Shots
- Emergency Procedures & Operational Planning
- Non-Linear Editing Systems
- Travel-Ready for Domestic & International Assignments

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

NHRA on Fox / Drone Pilot (RPIC), Visual Observer & Broadcast Videographer | 2022–Present

- Lead UAS operations for nationally televised NHRA broadcasts throughout the United States.
- Supported more than 90 national remote production broadcast events since 2022 with over 580 hours of live broadcast flight experience.
- Coordinate aerial operations with broadcast directors, RF transmission teams, helicopter pilots, race officials, and venue operations.
- Coordinate operations with the Goodyear Blimp, Lucas Oil helicopter, track-operated drones, and league drone assets.

- Manage FAA airspace authorizations, LAANC approvals, DroneZone waivers, TFR coordination, and operational safety compliance.
- Develop detailed flight plans designed to avoid crowds while maximizing cinematic sports coverage.
- Serve as RPIC and Visual Observer in complex live sports production environments.
- Manage and train visual observers and supporting pilots for multi-asset event operations.
- Operate in more than 320 locations across 26 states in fast-paced production environments.
- Work with 3G Wireless and Game Creek Video for live RF transmission and broadcast integration.
- Utilize broadcast RF systems, fiber-connected signal converters, and production integration equipment for live television workflows.
- Manage drone maintenance schedules, firmware updates, operational readiness, and equipment logging.
- Received four Gold Telly Awards and four Silver Telly Awards for broadcast productions.

Airborne Images / Drone Operator & Photographer | 2001–Present

- Provide aerial cinematography, commercial photography, and drone services for clients throughout the United States.
- Operate DJI drone platforms for commercial marketing, motorsports, creative media, and promotional campaigns.
- Create detailed standard operating procedures, emergency response procedures, and aviation safety documentation.
- Built custom drone operations software systems for flight logging, maintenance tracking, equipment hours, and airspace management.

Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department / Sergeant | 1998–2024

- Supervised 40–50 officers during daily operations and critical incidents.
- Served as a certified instructor, forensic photographer, fatal crash investigator, and technical projects subject matter expert.
- Developed strong leadership, communication, safety management, and operational decision-making skills in high-pressure environments.

SELECT CLIENTS & VENUES

- NHRA on Fox
- NASCAR
- Las Vegas Motor Speedway
- Bristol Motor Speedway
- Charlotte Motor Speedway
- Sonoma Raceway
- Fox Sports
- CW Network

DRONE & BROADCAST EQUIPMENT EXPERIENCE

DJI Inspire 2 (including custom payloads), Mavic 4 Pro, Mavic 3 Pro/Cine/Classic, Air 3S, Avata 2 FPV, Mini 5 Pro, Mini 4 Pro, broadcast RF transmission systems, fiber-connected broadcast integration kits, signal conversion systems, and live television production workflows.

SOFTWARE & TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

Final Cut Pro, Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom, Adobe Express, Adobe Firefly, Sony Ci media management, Python, SQL, Microsoft 365, custom drone operations software development. Experienced with non-linear editing systems and live production media workflows.

CERTIFICATIONS & TRAINING

- FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Certificate
- FAA Waivers – Operations Over People & Operations Over Moving Vehicles
- Public Safety UAS Certifications – Tactical Indoor & Outdoor Operations
- Search & Rescue Drone Operations
- Zillow Certified Real Estate Photographer
- Valid U.S. Driver's License
- Valid U.S. Passport

DRONE SOFTWARE SYSTEMS DEVELOPED

- FlightPlan – Drone operations management platform for flight logs, maintenance intervals, equipment hours, and safety records
- Falcon12 – Drone detection and monitoring software
- AirSpace – AI-assisted FAA airspace waiver management platform

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Able to lift and transport broadcast equipment exceeding 50 lbs. Available for extensive domestic and international travel, including weekends, holidays, and long-term assignments.