

**MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH**  
MINNESOTA JUDICIAL CENTER  
25 REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD.  
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155

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**DATE:** June 5, 2026

**TO:** Representative Peggy Scott, Co-Chair, House Judiciary Finance and Civil Law  
Committee  
Representative Tina Liebling, Co-Chair, House Judiciary Finance and Civil Law  
Committee  
Representative Paul Novotny, Co-Chair, House Public Safety Finance and Policy  
Committee  
Representative Kelly Moller, Co-Chair, House Public Safety Finance and Policy  
Committee  
Senator Ron Latz, Chair, Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee  
Senator Warren Limmer, Lead, Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

**CC:** Legislative Reference Library

**RE:** Minn. Stat. § 626.19, subd. 12(d)  
Report to Legislature by the State Court Administrator

Minn. Stat. § 626.19 governs how law enforcement agencies use unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

Minn. Stat. § 626.19, subd. 11(c) requires that by January 15 of each year, a judge who has issued or denied approval of a warrant under Minn. Stat. § 626.19 that expired during the preceding year shall report to the state court administrator:

- (1) that a warrant or extension was applied for;
- (2) the type of warrant or extension applied for;
- (3) whether the warrant or extension was granted as applied for, modified, or denied;
- (4) the period of UAV use authorized by the warrant and the number and duration of any extensions of the warrant;
- (5) the offense specified in the warrant or application or extension of a warrant; and
- (6) the identity of the law enforcement agency making the application and the person authorizing the application

Minn. Stat. § 626.19, subd. 12(d) requires the State Court Administrator (SCAO) by June 15 of every year to file with the legislature and post on the supreme court's website a full and complete report

concerning the number of applications for warrants authorizing or approving use of UAVs or disclosure of information from the use of UAVs under this section and the number of warrants and extensions granted or denied under this section during the preceding calendar year. The report must include a summary and analysis of the data required to be filed with the state court administrator under paragraph (c).

Between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025, 6 UAV warrants were applied for.

<b>District</b>	<b>Total granted, denied, or modified</b>
4	1 granted, 1 denied
6	1 denied
7	1 granted, 1 denied
9	1 granted
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>3 granted, 3 denied</b>

<b>Offense</b>	<b>Total count of granted warrants that list a particular offense (warrants may list more than one offense)</b>
Narcotics	3
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>3</b>

<b>Order Duration</b>	<b>Total count of granted warrants</b>
Not reported to SCAO	3
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>3</b>

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Total count of granted warrants</b>
County Sheriff	1
Task Force	2
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>3</b>