



## **PUBLIC ADVISORY**

### **TTCAA CAUTIONS CITIZENS TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM FLYING DRONES ABOVE 400 FEET**

The Trinidad and Tobago Civil Aviation Authority (TTCAA) cautions the public against flying Unmanned Aircraft Systems (drones) above the height restrictions stated in the Civil Aviation [(No.19) Unmanned Aircraft Systems] Regulations (TTCAR No.19), in all areas of Trinidad and Tobago.

This advisory follows a recent incident on 8 December 2024, where an aircraft encountered a drone flying at approximately 1067 meters (3500 feet) just to the south of Port of Spain. The aircraft, which was operating as a commercial flight, was on approach to the Piarco International Airport, when the drone passed within 6 meters (20 feet) of the aircraft's left wingtip. This incident is currently under investigation and has been reported to the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service.

Pursuant to section 28(1)(c) of TTCAR No.19 it is prohibited to operate a drone "so as to pose a risk of damage to other aircraft, persons or property". It is also prohibited to operate a category 1 drone above 30 metres/100 feet and a category 2, 3 or 4 drone above 120 metres/400 feet.

The TTCAA considers the operation of this drone in the vicinity of a manned commercial aircraft as reckless and a very serious threat to the safety of flight. Operators are therefore urged to adhere to the TTCAR No.19 to ensure the safety of the public and civil aviation operations.

Operators are also warned that the use of an unmanned aircraft system (drone) with the intent to disrupt or endanger civil aviation or any public or private property shall attract a fine of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00) and imprisonment for five (5) years (section 49 TTCAR No.19).

Inquiries on the operation of drones or reports related to this or any other incident may be submitted to the TTCAA by using the email address [drones@caa.gov.tt](mailto:drones@caa.gov.tt).