



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Aviation Safety
Flight Standards District Office

25249 Country Club Blvd
North Olmsted, OH 44070
440.686.2001
7-AGL-CLE-FSDO@faa.gov

May 22, 2025

Balloons Over Wadsworth
Mr. Christopher Smart
2921 E 950 N
Roanoke, IN 46783

Dear Mr. Smart:

Enclosed is your Certificate of Waiver for the 2025 Balloons Over Wadsworth event to be held from August 8, 2025, to August 10, 2025 at the Wadsworth Municipal Airport (3G3) in Wadsworth, Ohio.

Please note the standard and special provisions on the authorization, FAA Form 7711-1, holding you responsible for strict observance to the provisions of the balloon event.

Enclosed is a statement that you will accept the responsibilities of monitoring this event. This statement must be signed, returned, and received by this office prior to the balloon event.

The pilot/participant's statement of understanding must be signed by all flight crewmembers including the pilot-in-command of each balloon prior to participation in the balloon event under the waiver.

Upon completion of the balloon event, please return the completed participant statement. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. The office hours are 7:30 AM until 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

Sincerely,

SCOTT M CLARK Digitally signed by SCOTT M
CLARK
Date: 2025.05.21 15:37:48 -04'00'

Scott M. Clark
Principal Operations Inspector
Federal Aviation Administration

Enclosures: Certificate of Waiver and Statement



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2025 Balloons Over Wadsworth Additional Special Provisions

The provisions of this Certificate of Waiver will not be exercised for the 2025 Balloons Over Wadsworth event in Wadsworth, Ohio, unless Mr. Christopher Smart is present as the "responsible party" during the entire show and has determined that all pre-event responsibilities & requirements have been met.

ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

I fully understand the terms, conditions, and limitations of this Certificate of Waiver or Authorization and agree to serve as a representative of the Federal Aviation Administration to ensure that they are complied with. I further agree to notify the appropriate FAA personnel within 48 hours of any deviation of these terms, conditions, or limitations.

Signature: _____
Christopher Smart

Date: _____



**US Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration**

**APPLICATION FOR
CERTIFICATE OF WAIVER
OR AUTHORIZATION**

From Approved: O.M.B. No.2120-0027 01/31/2021

APPLICANTS - DO NOT USE THESE SPACES

Region Great Lakes GL-25	Date 5/22/2025
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Action
 Approved Disapproved – "Explain under "Remarks"

Signature of authorized FAA representative
SCOTT M CLARK Digitally signed by SCOTT M CLARK
 Date: 2025.05.21 14:50:58 -04'00'

INSTRUCTIONS

Submit this application in triplicate (3) to any FAA Flight Standards district office.

Applicants requesting a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization for an aviation event must complete all the applicable items on this form and attach a properly marked 7.5 series Topographic Quadrangle Map(s), published by the U.S. Geological Survey (scale 1:24,000), of the proposed operating area. The map(s) must include scale depictions of the flightlines, showlines, race courses, and the location of the air event control point, Police dispatch, ambulance, and fire

fighting equipment. The applicant may also wish to submit photographs and scale diagrams as supplemental material to assist in the FAA's evaluation of a particular site. Application for a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization must be submitted 45 days prior to the requested date of the event.

Applicants requesting a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization for activities other than an aviation event will complete items 1 through 10 only and the certification, item 17, on the reverse.

1. Name of organization Balloons Over Wadsworth	2. Name of responsible person Christopher T. Smart
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3. Permanent mailing address	House number and street or route number 2921 E 950 N	City Roanoke	State and ZIP code IN, 46783	Telephone No. 2602240251
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4. State whether the applicant or any of its principal officers/owners has an application for waiver pending at any other office of the FAA.
N/A

5. State whether the applicant or any of its principal officers/owners has ever had its application for waiver denied, or whether the FAA has ever withdrawn a waiver from the applicant or any of its principal officers/owners.
N/A

6. FAR section and number to be waived
14 CFR Part 91, 91.119 (b) and (c) Minimum Safe Altitudes

7. Detailed description of proposed operation (*Attach supplement if needed*)
Hot Air Balloon Event with flight operations from surface up to 7,000 AGL occurring within a 10 nautical mile radius of the primary launch field as identified in the 2025 Balloon Operations Manual at coordinates 41 Deg 00'07" N/81 Deg 45'18" W (LAT/LOG) in Wadsworth, OH. Final landings may occur beyond this distance, however no goals/targets, pilot choice for take-offs or mass ascensions will exceed these boundaries.

8. Area of operation (*Location, altitudes, etc.*)
The primary launch field at Wadsworth Municipal A/P will be the center point of a 10 nautical mile radius flying area from the surface to 7000' AGL

9a. Beginning (<i>Date and hour</i>) 08/08/2025 06:30	b. Ending (<i>Date and hour</i>) 08/10/2025 09:30
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10. Aircraft make and model (a)	Pilot's Name (b)	Certificate number and rating (c)	Home address (Street, City, State) (d)
See Attachment			

ITEMS 11 THROUGH 16 TO BE FILLED OUT FOR AIR SHOW/AIR RACE WAIVER REQUESTS ONLY.

11. The air event will be sponsored by:

Inspire Aviation

12. Permanent mailing address	House number and street or route number 840 Airport Drive	City Wadsworth	State and ZIP code OH 44281	Telephone No. 3303351257
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13. Policing (Describe provisions to be made for policing the event.)

The 2025 Balloon Operations Manual will provide provisions of crowd and traffic control which will be performed by the event officials or local law enforcement, as appropriate, in the area of operations and at all goals/targets.

14. Emergency facilities (Mark all that will be available at time and place of air event.)

Specify Physician Fire truck Other - _____
 Ambulance Crash wagon _____

15. Air Traffic control (Describe method of controlling traffic, including provision for arrival and departure of scheduled aircraft.)

A NOTAM will be required and placed by Lockheed Martin advising traffic of numerous balloons in the area at varying altitudes from Friday August 8 through August 10, 2025; during the 3 hours after sunrise and 3 hours before sunset. The event safety officer will be in contact with 3G3 personnel before each scheduled flight. Details of the flight and anticipated flight plan, including altitudes will be discussed at that time.

16. Schedule of Events (include arrival and departure of scheduled aircraft and other periods the airport maybe open.)

Hour (a)	Date (b)	Event (c)
06:30 – 09:30 19:00 – 20:34	Aug 8, 2025	Hot Air Balloon Activity
06:31 – 09:30 19:00 – 09:33	Aug 9, 2025	Hot Air Balloon Activity
06:32 – 09:30	Aug 10, 2025	Hot Air Balloon Activity

If sufficient space is not available, the entire schedule of events may be submitted on separate sheets, in the order and manner indicated above.

Please  The undersigned applicant accepts full responsibility for the strict observance of the terms of the Certificate
 Read of Waiver or Authorization, and understands that the authorization contained in such certificate will be strictly limited to the above described operation.

17. Certification - I CERTIFY that the foregoing statements are true.

Date 04/20/2025	Signature of Applicant 
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Remarks
 Hot Air Balloon Activity
 April 20, 2025
 Christopher T. Smart Commercial Pilot Certificate 3131276

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

CERTIFICATE OF WAIVER OR AUTHORIZATION

ISSUED TO

Christopher Smart 2025 Balloons Over Wadsworth

ADDRESS

2921 East 950 N, Roanoke, IN 46783

This certificate is issued for the operations specifically described hereinafter. No person shall conduct any operation pursuant to the authority of this certificate except in accordance with the standard and special provisions contained in this certificate, and such other requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations not specifically waived by this certificate.

OPERATIONS AUTHORIZED

Hot Air Balloon Event with flight operations from surface up to 7,000 AGL occurring within a 10 nautical mile radius of the primary launch field as identified in the 2025 Balloon Over Wadsworth Operations Manual at coordinates 41 Deg 00'07"N/81 Deg 45'18"W (LAT/LOG) in Wadsworth, OH. Final landings may occur beyond this distance, however no goals/targets, pilot choice for take-offs or mass ascensions will exceed these boundaries.

LIST OF WAIVED REGULATIONS BY SECTION AND TITLE

14 CFR Part 91:§91.119(b) & (c)
(Attachment A) List of Waived Regulations, (Attachment B) Special Provisions

STANDARD PROVISIONS

1. A copy of the application made for this certificate shall be attached to and become a part hereof.
2. This certificate shall be presented for inspection upon the request of any authorized representative of the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, or of any State or municipal official charged with the duty of enforcing local laws or regulations.
3. The holder of this certificate shall be responsible for the strict observance of the terms and provisions contained herein.
4. This certificate is nontransferable.

NOTE---This certificate constitutes a waiver of those Federal rules or regulations specifically referred to above. It does not constitute a waiver of any State law or local ordinance.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

"See Attached"

Special Provisions Nos. 1 to 24 inclusive, are set forth on the reverse side hereof.

This certificate is effective from 08/08/2025 - 0630EDT to 08/10/2025 - 1000EDT, inclusive, and is subject to cancellation at any time upon notice by the Administrator or his authorized representative.

BY DIRECTION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Great Lakes - GL25

(Region)

05/22/2025

(Date)

(Signature)

Sarah J. Nicholson
Manager, Cleveland FSDO

(Title)

2025 BALLOONS OVER WADSWORTH

ATTACHMENT A

LIST OF REGULATIONS WAIVED BY SECTION AND TITLE

Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR), section 91.119(b): Minimum Safe Altitudes over a Congested Area

14 CFR, section 91.119(b), is waived to allow balloon flight over any congested area of a city, town, or settlement, or over an open air assembly of persons at an altitude of 500 feet above the highest obstacle within a horizontal radius of 500 feet from the balloon.

NOTE: Launching a balloon anywhere in, into, or over a congested area, or an open air assembly of persons, shall require the pilot to be in a continuous normal rate of climb, until an altitude of 500 feet AGL is attained.

In addition, 14 CFR, section 91.119(b), is waived to allow flight at, but no closer than 75 feet to persons or spectators in the competition area(s).

14 CFR, section 91.119(c): Minimum Safe Altitudes over Other Than Congested Areas

14 CFR, section 91.119(c), is waived to allow flight over open water or sparsely populated areas no closer than 200 feet from any non-participating person, vessel, or structure.

2025 BALLOONS OVER WADSWORTH

ATTACHMENT B

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Failure to comply with any standard or special provision is a violation of the terms of this Certificate of Waiver (CoW) or Certificate of Authorization (CoA) and justification for cancellation of this Certificate and constitutes a violation of Title 49 of the United States Code Section(s) 44711(A) (2) (B) and/or 44711(A) (5) .

1. The FAA has the authority to cancel or delay any or all acts or events if the safety of persons or property on the ground or in the air, are in jeopardy or there is a violation of the terms of the CoW or CoA.

2. The responsible person Christopher Smart, the Balloonmeister, will ensure that notification is made to the LEIDOS Flight Service Station (AFSS) 1-877-487-6867 of the date, time, place, demonstration areas, altitudes, nature of the activity, and duration of the operation and request that a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM D or TFR) be issued.

a. Such notice shall be accomplished by providing the controlling flight service station(FSS) with a copy of the CoW, at least 48 hours before the event and no more than 72 hours before the event.

b. A NOTAM D is not required when a TFR NOTAM is issued in accordance with 14 CFR 91.145 for the entire aviation event. TFR verification is required.

3. The responsible person Christopher Smart, named in Item 2 on FAA Form 7711-2, must ensure that participants are thoroughly briefed on special field rules, the established demonstration area, flying display area, and aerobatic box (other defined areas within the waived/authorized airspace), manner and order of events, and special provisions of the CoW or CoA, before beginning the activities each day.

a. No person may participate in any event listed on the CoW unless that person has signed a statement acknowledging receipt of a briefing on the provisions of the CoW.

4. All civil aircraft and pilots participating in the aviation event shall provide the requested data to establish qualifications and airworthiness to the event organizer and if required be available for FAA inspection at the time and place agreed upon by Christopher Smart and the FAA IIC.

NOTE: CoW special provisions never supersede aircraft airworthiness operating limitations. Pilots should review their aircraft operating limitations prior to participating in an aviation event to ensure they are familiar and can comply with the requirements as specified.

5. For civil aircraft, only required flight crew members by type design, safety pilots as listed in FAA Order 8900.1, Volume 3, Chapter 6, or those persons required to participate in the demonstration (wing walkers, stunt persons, participants integral to the performance, and those conducting safety related functions) will be carried on any aircraft engaged in demonstrations authorized by this CoW. Additional crewmembers or essential personnel may not participate without specific approval by Christopher Smart, the Balloonmeister, and the IIC.

6. A control point shall be established where the certificate holder or responsible person shall direct the demonstration. Christopher Smart, shall be continuously available to the FAA IIC or designated representative and is the person designated as responsible for the overall safety of the event.
7. Adequate communication capability (electronic and visual) must be provided to maintain a safe operation, to control spectators, and to advise participants that the aerial demonstration has been halted or canceled.
8. A crowd line consisting of a physical barrier and/or adequate policing shall be provided to confine the spectators to designated areas. The spectator areas shall have well-defined lateral boundaries.
9. The demonstration shall be halted for any reason that is in the interest of safety. It shall also be halted when unauthorized aircraft enter the demonstration area, or when unauthorized persons or vessels enter the area underlying the flying display area.
 - a. Only the minimum number of essential personnel necessary to support operations will be authorized in the flying display areas.
 - b. The holder of the CoW or CoA, Christopher Smart, assumes responsibility for the security of areas where unauthorized personnel and aircraft are not authorized access and for compliance with the aviation event security plan.
 - c. The FAA IIC has the responsibility to make the holder of the CoW or CoA, Christopher Smart, aware of any identified safety concerns and if necessary has the authority for canceling or delaying any or all acts if it is deemed necessary in the interest of safety.
10. The following facilities shall be provided and readily available in accordance with the submitted Emergency Response Plan: Wadsworth Police, Fire and Rescue Services.
11. Flight demonstrations shall not be conducted unless the ceiling is at least 1,500 feet, and the visibility is at least 3 statute miles at the time of the demonstration.
12. No balloon may operate into Class B Airspace. All participants shall comply with any NOTAM or Temporary Flight Restriction.
13. The distance from target areas to spectators shall not be less than 200 feet.
14. Flight lower than 75 feet shall be halted when unauthorized persons or spectators enter the area or for any other reason in the interest of safety.
15. Persons or aircraft not appearing on the CoW application and subsequently added to the CoW or CoA may not participate without specific approval by the responsible person or Balloonmeister, Christopher Smart, and the IIC. Proof of appropriate qualifications for crewmember(s), and an airworthy aircraft is required before the performance can be conducted at that event site.
16. Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Demonstrations are not authorized under this CoW.
17. Rocket Demonstrations are not authorized under this CoW.
18. Parachute Demonstrations are not authorized under this CoW.

19. Section 91.155: Basic VFR Weather Minimums are not waived.

20. Pilots of all participating balloons will have on-board the aircraft an operable VHF radio capable of receiving and transmitting on common aviation VHF communication frequencies.

21. Section 91.119(b) and (c) are waived to the extent necessary to allow participating balloons to compete in the 2025 Balloons Over Wadsworth event under the terms and conditions set forth in the FAA approved procedures section of the Balloon Operations Manual.

22. The Balloon Operations Manual, 2025 Balloons Over Wadsworth Operations Manual, is incorporated into this CoW and becomes a special provision thereof. Any action contrary to the terms, controls, procedures, and conditions pertaining to safety set forth in the FAA approved procedures is grounds for cancellation of this CoW.

23. Mr. Christopher Smart shall ensure that each participating event crewmember has read and understands the FAA approved procedures section of the 2025 Balloons Over Wadsworth Operations Manual and the special provisions of this CoW.

24. Mr. Christopher Smart shall send the signed Pilot Briefing Sign-in sheets to the Cleveland Flight Standards District Office not more than 5 working days after the balloon event is completed.