

American Working Dog Patrol Standards

Patrol Certification

- Any or all testing may be conducted at night or during daylight hours.
- The police dog must demonstrate control during the control phase before being allowed to test any further.
- The dog team will be certified in the areas that he proves to be proficient.
- The agility of the dog will be evaluated during all phases of the test.
- The dog team will be evaluated in the following areas.
 - Obedience/ Control
 - Evidence search
 - Area search
 - Building search
 - Vehicle stops
 - Criminal apprehension

Obedience / Control:

- The dog must demonstrate control before being allowed to test further.
- Testing May be conducted on fields, asphalt, concrete, etc. At the discretion on the evaluators and the availability. All dogs will be tested under the same conditions. This test will be conducted off-lead.
- The dog team must accomplish the following in any order. However, the order shall remain the same for each dog. At the direction of the evaluator, each dog team will heel his dog approximately 300 paces including: fast and slow pacing, a minimum of one left, one right, and one about-turn, and a minimum of two (2) halts.
- The dog will be placed in a sit or down at the discretion of the handler and told to stay. The handler will then leave the sight of the dog for approximately two minutes. During this phase there will be some type of disturbance (man running, gun fire, trash can noise, ect.) left to the evaluators discretion. The dog will then be called to the handler by voice.
- The dog will be placed in a sit or down at the discretion of the handler and told to stay. Handler will then leave his dog, walk approximately one hundred (100) feet, turn, and call his dog to him by hand. The handler will halt his dog approximately half-way on command, (down, sit or stand) then call the dog to him verbally.
- Dog will be placed in a sit or down at the discretion of the handler and told to stay. Handler will walk away approximately one hundred (100) feet, wait a minimum of one minute, turn, and verbally call his dog to him.

NOTE: THE DOG TEAM WILL NOT BE PENALIZED FOR THE WAY HE HEELS, SITS, DOWNS, ETC. (HE WILL BE EVALUATED ONLY TO THE POINT OF BASIC CONTROL THAT HE AND HIS HANDLER DEMONSTRATE.)

Area Search:

- The area search may consist of the following types of terrain:
 - woods
 - fenced vehicle compound
 - business park/school complex
- The area search may be conducted on or off-lead, at the handler's discretion.
- The dog will be tested on his ability to locate a subject in an open environment.

- The subject will be hidden for fifteen (15) minutes before each team is tested.
- The test will have a fifteen (15) minute time limit.
- The dog must make a clear indication to the evaluators as to the location of the subject.
- If the dog and handler pass the hidden subject during the search this is considered to be a automatic failure.

Building Search:

- The building search will be conducted off-lead.
- The dog will be tested on his ability to locate a subject (s) in an enclosed structure.
- The building shall be a minimum of fifteen hundred(1500) square feet up to five thousand (5000) square feet.
- The subject will be hidden for fifteen (15) minutes before each team is tested.
- The test will have a fifteen (15) minute time limit.
- The dog must make a clear indication to the evaluators as to the location of the subject.
- If the dog and handler pass the hidden subject during the search this is considered to be automatic failure

Evidence Search:

- This test will be conducted in approximately a one half (1/2) acre area with one article hidden
- The dog will be tested on his ability to locate and indicate the article to his handler.
- The area may consist of woods, weeds, high grass, underbrush, etc.
- There will be a ten (10) minute limit for the dog to go out and locate the article.
- The article will age for thirty (30) minutes before the first team is tested.
- The article will be scented by breath, hand, etc for approximately one minute.
- Articles will consist of the following:
 - Metal Gun
 - Wrench
 - Hat
 - Wallet/Pocketbook
 - Knife
 - Bank bag
 - Screwdrivers
 - Tire Iron
- The dog must indicate to the handler the article in order to be certified in this area.
- Handlers may enter the area to be searched however the dog must make the actual find obvious to the evaluators
- Each dog team will be tested with a new article and in a different search area.

Criminal Apprehension:

All suspects participating in the criminal apprehension testing will be required to WEAR FULL BODY PROTECTION/Hidden Sleeves or Tactical Suits. To be as realistic as possible.

The criminal apprehension phase of certification will consist of the following in any order:

- Recall Phase:
 - The suspect will step out of concealment a minimum of one hundred (100) feet away from the team. The suspect will begin to run at a brisk pace away from the dog team. The dog will be instructed to apprehend. The suspect will then stop, turn, and surrender. The dog at this time must be recalled without apprehension. **-OR-**

The suspect will step out of concealment a minimum of one hundred (100) feet away from the team. The suspect will begin to run at a brisk pace away from the dog team. The dog will be instructed to apprehend. The handler will be told to recall his dog, however, the suspect will continue to run away. The recall will be conducted approximately half way between the handler and the suspect. The dog may not have any physical contact with the suspect.

NOTE: PHYSICAL CONTACT BY THE DOG WITH THE SUSPECT DURING EITHER OF THE ABOVE EXERCISES WILL RESULT IN FAILURE OF THIS PORTION OF THE CRIMINAL APPREHENSION CERTIFICATION.

Vehicle Stops:

- The vehicle stops will consist of three separate stops.
 - Dog stays in vehicle. For evaluation purposes (k9 alertness)
 - Dog is called to handler from vehicle, no bite
 - Handler is assaulted while dog is in vehicle.
- This phase may be conducted in any order.
- Evaluators will decide what will occur on each stop (i.e.; Conversation or assault).
- After each stop the dog will remain in the vehicle for a minimum of thirty seconds awaiting evaluators instructions.
- The dog team must successfully complete the three vehicle stops to achieve certification.
- Upon the assault portion of this phase, the dog and handler will be evaluated under the guidelines of the criminal apprehension certification.

NOTE: EACH HANDLER WILL HAVE HIS LEASH WITH HIM AT ALL TIMES.

Concealment Phase:

- The suspect will step out of concealment a minimum distance of one hundred (100) feet away from the team. The suspect will then begin running away from the team. The handler will send the dog to apprehend the suspect, and at the evaluators signal, the handler will command the dog to release. Then sit, down, heel, and/or to stay. The handler will approach the suspect, handcuff, and escort the suspect to the evaluators. The team will fail this portion if the certification if any of the following occur.
 - The dog re-bites after being called off.
 - The dog fails to release.
 - The handler makes physical contact with the dog, except to leash the dog.
 - The dog bites the suspect during the escort.

NOTE: THE DOG WILL BE ON/OFF LEASH DURING THE ESCORT. HOWEVER, THE HANDLER MUST MAINTAIN PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH THE SUSPECT UNTIL REACHING THE EVALUATORS.

- The suspect will step out of concealment a minimum distance of one hundred (100) feet away from the team. He will fire one and no more than two shots from a gun. Handler and dog must seek available cover and return fire (a minimum of two rounds) The dog will not be sent to apprehend. The team will fail this portion of the certification if any of these following occurs.
 - The dog blatantly pulls the handler from cover/concealment.
 - The dog apprehends the suspect.
 - The k9 bites the handler.
 - If it appears to the evaluators that the handler cannot control the k9.

Attack on Handler Phase:

- The handler will approach the suspect and have his dog sit or down and stay. The handler and suspect will then conduct a handshake and conversation for approximately thirty (30) seconds. The suspect may then, at the discretion of the evaluators, assault the handler. The k9 must perform an apprehension, and then release when commanded to do so. The handler must then escort the suspect to the evaluators. The team will fail this portion of the certification if any of these following occurs.
- The dog re-bites after being called off.
- The dog fails to apprehend.
- The dog fails to release.
- The handler makes physical contact with the dog, other than leashing.
- The dog makes an unprovoked apprehension of the suspect.
- The dog bites the suspect during the escort.

If no assault is made during any of the exercise (above), the handler will be instructed to return to his dog, secure him, and walk away from the suspect.

- To receive certification in the criminal apprehension portion, the team must satisfactorily perform the four phases.
- The release of the actual apprehension (bite) will be at the discretion of the evaluators. once the evaluator has given instruction for the release, the handler will have a total of five seconds to accomplish the release. The five second period will begin after the handler's first verbal command. Any dog that does not release within the specified time will fail the criminal apprehension certification.
- The dog will be off-leash during the entire phase of the criminal apprehension certification with the exception of the escort/concealment phase, which is at the handler's discretion.
- Evaluators will instruct the handlers when to send the dog for apprehension, when to recall from apprehension, when to release, etc.