

FIREARMS DETECTION EXAMINATION

This examination will determine the proficiency and reliability of dogs in the detection of firearms and related odors.

All canine teams must be tested on five basic odors. The basic odors to be tested on are:

- 1) Firearms (both loaded and unloaded)
- 2) Magazines (both loaded and unloaded)
- 3) Loaded Shells (both brass and shotgun)
- 4) Smokeless and Black Powders
- 5) Shell Casings (which are empty and have been previously discharged)

The K-9 Handler will not be told the number of basic odors they are searching for.

The canine team will be tested in four (4) areas. The canine team must search the areas of Buildings, Vehicles, Open Areas and Packages.

The K-9 team cannot miss any aid in any part of the examination. A false trained final alert will be considered a miss and will cause the K-9 team to fail the test. All aids will be hidden at least 1 hour prior to testing. The term "aid" shall mean any firearm or related odor, which is used for examination purposes. Each Handler shall brief the Certifying Official as to the dogs alert and response to aids prior to testing and each indication to a training aid by the canine should be obvious to the Certifying Official. The purpose of the testing is to verify the team's ability to locate a hidden firearm or related odor.

BUILDING SEARCH:

The building search will consist of a minimum of two (2) rooms and a maximum of four (4) rooms. One or more rooms shall contain no aid(s). One aid must be placed at least 4 feet in height from ground level. The handler may not open cabinet doors, desk drawers, closet doors, etc.

VEHICLE SEARCH:

Three (3) vehicles minimum with a maximum of six (6) vehicles will be used for testing purposes. Only one (1) aid may be placed on or inside each vehicle. A minimum of two (2) vehicles shall have no testing aid placed on it.

OPEN AREA SEARCH:

1. Exterior of buildings
2. Open fields
3. Wooded area

The search area will be determined by the Certifying Official. Aids will be placed at the discretion of the Certifying Official and can be placed anywhere from a maximum of four (4) inches below ground level to a maximum of four feet (4) above ground level. A maximum of three (3) aids shall be placed in the area to be searched.

PACKAGES SEARCH:

Packages shall be defined as cardboard boxes, envelopes, boxes and suitcases/backpacks. Twenty (20) packages minimum with a maximum of forty (40) packages will be used. A minimum of fifteen (15) packages shall have no aid placed in it.

The firearms detection test shall be graded on a pass/fail basis.

This certification is valid for one (1) year.