

# LAW ENFORCEMENT NARCOTICS STANDARDS

## **Narcotic Detection Standards**

**Narcotic Detection** Narcotic Detection dogs are trained to detect the presence of controlled substances such as Marijuana, Cocaine, Heroin and Methamphetamines. These dogs are trained to find these substances in various locations such as vehicles, luggage, mail packages, cargo, residence, and businesses. Detection dogs can be trained in passive or aggressive alerts. Certifier's must be informed of the type of alert k9 will be responding with before certification.

There will be a total of three types of searches conducted.

- Vehicle search
- Building or residential search
- Parcel search (may include luggage, envelope, boxes etc.)

The searches will include the following narcotics

- Marijuana
- Cocaine
- Heroin
- Methamphetamines

**NOTE: ANY TEAM WISHING TO CERTIFY IN ANY OTHER NARCOTIC MUST NOTIFY THE HOSTING AGENCY IN WRITING TEN DAYS PRIOR TO CERTIFICATION.**

- All narcotics will be tested for quality prior to certification.
- Pseudo- narcotics will not be used in the certification.
- All of the tests hides will be at least 5 grams in weight, to any amount. Preferably some large amounts should be used.
- The narcotics will be hidden in practical areas and allowed to age for (30) thirty minutes prior to the first team's test.
- During the test, only the handler/dog and the two evaluators will be allowed in the search area.
- In each of these searches, enticement articles such as food, soiled clothing, empty plastic bags, etc. may be used to thoroughly test the dog's ability.
- The dog must make the alert obvious to the evaluators and as close to the hide as possible.
- There will be a total of nine possible indications of narcotics during the test. The dog must be able to locate a minimum of eight hides in order to achieve certification, or three out of four tested.
- One false indication during the certification will be evaluated as a failure to locate. Two false indications will result in the failure of the entire narcotics certification.
- Dog teams will be given certification for the type of narcotics located, provided.
- Each dog team will have separate sets of vehicles, rooms, and parcels for the narcotics detection.

## **VEHICLES:**

- There will be a total of six vehicles used. These may be of various sizes and models.
- There will be three test hides concealed on the vehicle.
- There will be two enticement articles hidden during the test.
- One vehicle will remain clean of any articles or narcotics.

- There will be a fifteen- minute time limit to search all six vehicles.
- There will only be one hide or enticement per vehicle. There will be one outside hide and two inside hides.

**BUILDINGS:**

- The building search shall consist of a minimum of two rooms with a minimum of two rooms a minimum 1,000 square feet total area.
- There will be four hides concealed one for each of the narcotics.
- Two of the enticement articles will be hidden.
- The narcotic may be hidden at any height with a maximum of six feet high.
- There will be a fifteen- minute time limit to search the two rooms.

**PARCELS:**

- Shall consist of three columns of six packages each. Packages will be a minimum of three feet apart.
- Two enticement articles will be hidden in each column.
- There will be a ten (10) minute time limit to search the three columns.