
Canine Operations

1101.1 OPERATIONAL SCHEDULE

The CANINE Unit is assigned to the Patrol Division. Shift deployments and schedules are may vary at the direction of the Chief of Police and/or organizational need. Currently, CANINE schedules are as follows:

- 1440-0300 hours Swing shift Thursday - Saturday
- 1440-0300 hours Swing shift Sunday- Tuesday
- 0640-1900 hours Day shift Friday - Sunday

Any requested modifications to this schedule shall be reviewed by the CANINE Sergeant, CANINE Lieutenant, and the Field Operations Captain. Each handler is expected to rotate their workdays for each six month patrol deployment. Any deviation from this rotating schedule must be approved by the CANINE Lieutenant and Division Commander. Unless organizational needs arise, CANINE handlers will typically train on Thursdays.

1101.2 SHIFT SELECTION

Patrol shifts will be selected based on seniority within the CANINE Unit and will coincide with patrol shift. However, CANINE handlers are expected to rotate through the approved CANINE shift slots.

1101.3 EMERGENCY BRAKE POLICY

Whenever a CANINE unit's engine is on and it will be left unattended, the handler will set the emergency brake and ensure the CANINE is secured in the rear of the vehicle with the vehicle doors locked. This is done to avoid the dog accidentally striking the gear shift should it have access to the driver's area.

1101.4 CANINE SOCIALIZATION WITH DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

In addition to the periodic training for all department personnel and in order to familiarize them with how to conduct themselves in the presence of the police dogs, the integration and socialization of the dog with department personnel should be conducted for short periods of time and under the direct supervision of the handler during regular working hours, when possible. It is essential to gain the confidence of the officers that work or may work with the CANINE team by encouraging positive interaction with the dog and evaluating the dog's ability to properly interact.

- (a) Each CANINE handler may bring his/her dog into all roll call briefings.
- (b) A police dog brought into the police station will remain under the immediate control of the handler and not be allowed to roam freely within the station. Using a leash to

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maintain control is recommended when inside the station. Handlers should keep in mind that certain patrol shifts (Day watch) may have citizens (contractors, custodians, etc.) in the station that could be fearful of CANINE. Handlers should use their discretion during these scenarios.

(c) [REDACTED]

1101.5 FIREARMS QUALIFICATION WITH THE CANINE

Each CANINE handler should attend the department-sanctioned qualification courses as required/scheduled with other patrol personnel and qualify. In addition, on the same day as the department-sanctioned qualification course, each handler should consider shooting the same qualification course again and accompanied by his/her police dog. While not mandatory, with the approval of the firearms instructors, handlers and CANINE animals may benefit from the additional qualification experience.

Handlers assigned to work collaterally with or assigned full-time to SWAT positions may, with firearms instructor approval, shoot the same individual SWAT handgun course with their police dog. The CANINE team should also consider participating in exercises with SWAT operators dressed in tactical uniforms and equipment, so CANINES are acclimated to the variations in equipment and training.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1101.7 FATS APPLICATIONS

The Firearms Training Simulator (FATS) is an interactive system that uses a computer program, large screen and realistic firearms to put officers through a decision-making process in potentially lethal force and use of force scenarios. The officer reacts to the situation which unfolds before him as he would normally be working on the street and responding to calls.

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The handler should consider incorporating their CANINE partner during this training to help determine how the dog might react in different scenarios. The handler should be prepared for and expect numerous possible reactions from the CANINE, including jumping, lunging, biting, confusion and frustration. Some CANINES might not have a reaction to the screen, however, training with the FATS machine and CANINES can be an important first step prior to live fire training.

1101.8 REVISIONS

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