

Canine Training

1102.1 CONTINUED TRAINING

Each CANINE team shall maintain POST required training standards. Additional training considerations are as follows:

- (a) CANINE teams should receive training as approved by the CANINE Lieutenant.
- (b) CANINE handlers are encouraged to engage in additional training with approval of the CANINE Sergeant, when shift activity and staffing allows.
- (c) To ensure that all training is consistent, no handler, trainer or outside vendor is authorized to train to a standard that is not reviewed and approved by this department.
- (d) All CANINE training should be documented and forwarded to the Personnel and Training Unit.

1102.2 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PROCEDURES

Due to the responsibilities and liabilities involved with possessing readily usable amounts of controlled substances and the ever-present danger of the CANINE's accidental ingestion of these controlled substances, the following procedures shall be strictly followed:

- (a) All controlled substance training samples shall be weighed and tested prior to dispensing to the individual CANINE handler or trainer.
- (b) The weight and test results shall be recorded and maintained by this department.
- (c) Any person possessing controlled substance training samples pursuant to court order or DEA registration shall maintain custody and control of the controlled substances and shall keep records regarding any loss of, or damage to, those controlled substances.
- (d) All controlled substance training samples will be inspected, weighed and tested quarterly. The results of the quarterly testing shall be recorded and maintained by the CANINE coordinator with a copy forwarded to the dispensing agency.
- (e) All controlled substance training samples should be stored in locked, airtight and watertight cases at all times, except during training. [REDACTED]
- (f) The CANINE coordinator should periodically inspect every controlled substance training sample for damage or tampering and take any appropriate action.
- (g) Any unusable controlled substance training samples shall be returned to the Property and Evidence Section or to the dispensing agency.
- (h) All controlled substance training samples shall be returned to the dispensing agency upon the conclusion of the training or upon demand by the dispensing agency.

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1102.3 MONTHLY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Each CANINE team (handler and dog) should complete a minimum of sixteen (16) hours of training per month to maintain and improve the proficiency level of the team. The designated times to accrue and maintain these hours will occur at weekly training and yearly certification. Additional time can be accumulated through daily training and other training as scheduled.

1102.4 DAILY TRAINING

CANINE handlers can conduct daily training with approval of the Watch Commander and when shift activity and staffing allows. Daily training can count towards monthly and yearly training hour totals. Daily training should be conducted during his/her normal work-day and regular hours.

- (a) "Daily training" is the unsupervised, documented training of the police service dog initiated and coordinated by the handler to improve performance and correct improper behavior.
- (b) Daily training in the field provides the opportunity to transition the dog from a formal training atmosphere to real world environments.

1102.5 WEEKLY TRAINING

The bi-weekly training is coordinated by our CANINE vendor/trainer Greg Tawney/Dtac Training. These training dates are currently scheduled on the first and third Thursday of each month.

These training dates are considered to be mandatory to attend with the exception of approved absences, or time off (Vacation, department training courses, etc.). The CANINE Sergeant should be notified if a handler is not going to be able to attend CANINE training. When feasible, the handler should attempt to make up the training hours on their own by documented daily training opportunities, or by attending another training opportunity. Any request for overtime needs to be preapproved by the CANINE Sergeant and Lieutenant.

Union City Police Department hosts CANINE training every third session with Greg Tawney and Dtac training.

training dates and times should address the following:

- (a) The primary purpose for training is to address training needs and improve the performance of the CANINE teams.
- (b) Handlers will notify Dispatch of their training location prior to the start of training.
- (c) Handlers will monitor their radios during training in the event a CANINE or additional staffing is needed on patrol.
- (d) Handlers may not be approved to train based on minimum staffing levels and/or if high call volume or emergency incidents require the handler to remain in service.
- (e) The patrol sergeant and/or Watch Commander cannot approve handlers attending CANINE training based on the above-mentioned conditions.

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1102.6 TRAINING WITH DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Training should be conducted to familiarize and integrate each CANINE team with all department personnel expected to assist and supplement their missions as a team, to include SWAT, patrol, investigations and any specialty units. Although the deployment of a CANINE team may occur without support personnel, it is not advisable to do so under normal circumstances.

- (a) The CANINE handlers should be responsible for scheduling on-duty periodic training for all department personnel in order to familiarize them with how to conduct themselves in the presence of the department police dogs. It is recommended that this occurs at the start of each patrol shift rotation where the handler is working with a new set of personnel.
- (b) Periodic training can include varied methods to achieve this requirement, such as lecture, power point, policy/use of force discussions/reviews, videos, debriefs and hands-on exercises and scenarios to best familiarize personnel how to work safely and efficiently with a CANINE team.

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

1102.7 USE OF AGITATORS

When completing CANINE training, handlers should use certified agitators to avoid unnecessary injury to the Police CANINE. The handler should always provide detailed instructions to the agitator to avoid any potential injury to the agitator, the Police CANINE, and/or the CANINE handler.

1102.8 REVISIONS

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