



## **Canine Team Evaluators Course**

## **Objectives**

- 1. Train the student how to evaluate canine team performance under the POST guidelines.
- 2. Train the student how to interpret and apply reasonable and uniform evaluations of the standards set forth in the POST guidelines.

## **Expanded Course Outline**

### I INTRODUCTION

- A. Objectives
- B. Overview of the course
- C. Review POST K-9 Team Guidelines

### II DEMONSTRATION

- A. Demonstrate a canine team completing scenarios that meet the guideline.
- B. May use video demonstrations.

### III SCENARIOS

- A. Equipment
  - 1. Use actual field equipment used by agency being evaluated throughout the testing process.
    - a. Dog
    - b. Handler
    - c. Training
- B. Use of Agitators / Assistants



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- 1. Agency being tested will provide assistants and/or agitators to work under the direction of the evaluator.
- 2. Evaluator to provide clear directions.

### C. Site Selection

- 1. Select area conducive to testing.
- 2. Tested agency selects site, subject to approval of evaluator.

### D. Reasonable Test Conditions

- 1. All testing scenarios should be designed to reasonable working conditions.
- 2. Extreme testing situations should be avoided.

## E. Safety Considerations

1. Apply POST Specific Safety Policy for canine training.

### IV UNIFORM APPLICATION OF STANDARDS

- A. Definition of Terms.
  - 1. See glossary
- B. POST Voluntary Guidelines
  - 1. These are NOT the evaluator's guidelines.

### V LOCAL CONSIDERATIONS

### A. Prior to Testing

- 1. The evaluator should become familiar with the agency's policies, procedures and standards.
- 2. The evaluator should know, prior to testing, what field equipment is normally used by the agency.

## B. During the Evaluation Process

1. The evaluator should make reasonable accommodations to the agency tested without deviating from POST guidelines.



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2. Test only those topics within the guidelines that are applicable to the agency being evaluated.

### VI TESTING

- A. How to Use the Scenarios
  - 1. Refer to "Suggested Canine Team testing scenarios"
- B. Evaluator's Discretion
  - 1. Minor mistakes
  - 2. Second command
- C. Failure to Test
  - 1. Wait at least 24 hours before retesting.
  - 2. Test only the major topic failed.

### V EVALUATION FORMS

- A. How to Use
- B. Use comments section only if there is failure
  - 1. Use brief comments
- C. Signed evaluation forms should be left with the agency being evaluated.
- D. Indicate on the evaluation form the type of agency equipment used during the testing process.

## VI REASONABLE APPLICATION OF POST GUIDELINES

- A. DO NOT dictate agency policy.
- B. Work with the agency policy.





## **GLOSSARY**

### **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

### TRAINER

The current trainer of the canine team.

## **TOPICS**

Limited to headings of Obedience, Search, Apprehension, Handler Protection and Narcotics Search.

## **HANDLER**

The person that deploys the dog as part of the canine team.

## **ALERT**

A recognized signal from the dog to the handler.

### CALL OFF

The stopping of the activity.

### FIELD EQUIPMENT

That equipment used by the dog or the handler while performing their normal duties.