

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
 METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
 OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

K - SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION

K-100	SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION ADMINISTRATION Page 1.....Policy Page 1.....Directive A Canine Functions Page 2.....Directive B Related Policy and Procedures
K-110	SHERIFF'S CANINE SELECTION Page 1.....Policy Page 1.....Directive A Canine minimum requirements
K-200	SHERIFF'S CANINE HANDLER SELECTION Page 1.....Policy Page 1.....Directive A Canine Handler Qualifications Page 2.....Directive B Selection Process Page 3.....Directive C Shift Assignment
K-250	SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION UNIFORM Page 1.....Policy
K-260	CANINE HANDLER UNIFORM-CALL OUTS Page 1.....Policy
K-270	CANINE HANDLER UNIFORM-LAPEL PIN Page 1.....Policy
K-300	SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION DEPLOYMENTS Page 1.....Policy Page 2.....Directive A Types of Calls Suited for Canines Page 2.....Directive B Canine Assignments/Priority 3 Calls Page 2.....Directive C Deployments by Supervisors Page 3.....Directive D Deployments by Handlers Page 4.....Directive E Canine Team Callouts
K-400	SHERIFF'S CANINE HANDLER RESPONSIBILTIES Page 1.....Policy

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
 METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
 OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

K - SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION

	Page 1.....Directive A	Canine Handler Responsibilities-General
	Page 2.....Directive B	Canine Handler Responsibilities-Injury
	Page 3.....Directive C	Supervisor Responsibilities-Injury
	Page 4.....Directive D	Canine Coordinator Responsibilities-Injury
K-500	POLICE SERVICE DOG DEPLOYMENT	
	Page 1.....Policy	
	Page 1.....Directive A	Deployment Factors
	Page 2.....Directive B	Canine Deployment Announcements
	Page 2.....Directive C	Notification
	Page 3.....Directive D	Reporting
K-510	SHERIFF'S CANINE SEARCHES	
	Page 1.....Policy	
	Page 1.....Procedure A	Building Searches
	Page 2.....Procedure B	Area Searches
K-550	NARCOTIC DETECTOR DOG DEPLOYMENT	
	Page 1.....Policy	
	Page 1.....Directive A	Deployments
	Page 1.....Directive B	Searching Person(s)
	Page 1.....Directive C	Assist Other Departments
	Page 2.....Directive D	Drug Detector Dog Training
K-560	NARCOTIC DETECTOR DOG TRAINING AIDS	
	Page 1.....Policy	
	Page 1.....Directive A	Training Aids
	Page 2.....Directive B	Training Aids-Distribution
	Page 2.....Directive C	Training Aids-Acquisition
	Page 3.....Directive D	Training Aids-Returning for Destruction
	Page 3.....Directive E	Training Aids-Storage and Security
K-570	EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS DETECTION DOG DEPLOYMENT	
	Page 1.....Policy	

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
 METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
 OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

K - SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION

Page 1.....	Directive A	Deployments
	Page 1.....	Directive B
	Page 2.....	Directive C
		Searching Person(s)
		Assist Other Departments
Page 2.....	Directive D	Explosive Materials Detection Training
K-580	EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS DETECTION DOG TRAINING AIDS	
	Page 1.....	Policy
	Page 1.....	Directive A
	Page 2.....	Directive B
	Page 2.....	Directive C
	Page 3.....	Directive D
	Page 3.....	Directive E
		Training Aids
		Training Aids Distribution
		Training Aids Acquisition
		Training Aids Returning for Destruction
		Training Aids Storage and Security
K-600	SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION TRAINING	
	Page 1.....	Policy
	Page 1.....	Directive A
	Page 1.....	Directive B
		Departmental Canine Trainer
		Canine Section Training Officer
K-700	SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION STATISTICS	
	Page 1.....	Policy
	Page 1.....	Directive A
	Page 2.....	Directive B
		Weekly Canine Activity Report
		Canine Narcotic Detection Training
K-800	SHERIFF'S CANINE INJURY PROCEDURE	
	Page 1.....	Policy
	Page 1.....	Directive
	Page 1.....	Procedure A
	Page 1.....	Procedure B
		Emergency Medical Treatment-Weekdays
		Emergency Medical Treatment-Weekends
K-1000	SHERIFF'S RETIREMENT OF CANINE	
	Page 1.....	Policy

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION

OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TITLE: SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION ADMINISTRATION NO. K-100

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 1992 REVIEWED: December 20, 2019

APPROVED BY: Commander Tim Posey

REFERENCE:

POLICY

The Sheriff's Canine Section operates under the Metropolitan Patrol Division. A canine team consists of one handler and one canine. The canine teams are cross-trained and serve in both patrol and narcotic or explosive detection roles. The canine teams are functionally assigned to the Metropolitan Patrol Division. Shift assignments will be based on canine-related workload requirements.

The Metropolitan Patrol Division Commander serves as the Canine Section Manager and will be responsible for the overall management of the section. The Canine Section Manager will designate a Metropolitan Patrol Division Sergeant, or a sergeant of his choice to act as the section coordinator, who will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the section.

The Canine Section exists to assist the Sheriff in facilitating the functions of the department. This assistance is not limited to the division deploying such teams, but exists to serve the needs of the department as a whole. To that end, the mission of the Canine Section is to:

- Reduce/deter crime;
- Decrease assaults on officers;
- Increase apprehension of criminal suspects;
- Increase detection/seizure of narcotics/explosives;
- Reduce man hours necessary for searches;
- Provide officer safety during such searches;
- Reduce crime through proactive patrol;
- Reduce man hour requirements for crowd control;
- Maintain an active public relations program.

DIRECTIVE A. CANINE FUNCTIONS

The canine teams are line units and due to the nature of their training, they are particularly suited to the following functions:

- Crime prevention via visible patrol and proactive enforcement;

- Building and area searches for suspects and/or evidence
- Apprehension of fleeing criminal suspects when less aggressive alternatives are impractical;
- Tracking of suspects who have fled the scene of criminal activity;
- Tracking of citizens who have become lost;
- Crowd control (only as directed by policy);
- Detection/seizure of narcotics and the searching/locating of explosive materials/precursors;
- Public appearances and demonstrations.

DIRECTIVE B. RELATED POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Canine teams will perform their duties in accordance with all laws, the Departmental Policy & Procedures Manual, the Departmental Report Writing Manual and the Metropolitan Patrol Division Operational Manual.

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TITLE: SHERIFF'S CANINE HANDLER SELECTION NO. K-200

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 1992 **REVIEWED:** December 20, 2019

APPROVED BY: Commander Tim Posey

REFERENCE:

POLICY

Selection of canine handlers will be accomplished from a list of volunteers, after having shown the skills, abilities and qualifications for such a position. Canine Handler selection will be in accordance with the Sheriff's Office Policies and Procedures Manual and M.O.U.

DIRECTIVE A. CANINE HANDLER QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants for the position of Canine Handler must:

- Have a minimum of two (2) years experience in field patrol immediately prior to application;
- Have a residence where a large dog can be housed and a yard with at least a five (5) foot fence.
 1. In the event of a rental or lease, be able to provide written authorization from the property owner to kennel the canine at the residence;
- Post selection, successfully complete the Basic Handler and Explosive Material Detection/Narcotic Detector Canine Course;
- Be physically and emotionally prepared to perform the duties of a canine handler;
- Be willing to devote the time necessary, in addition to regularly assigned duties to perform canine specific duties including, but not limited to:
 1. Call outs;
 2. Canine training;
 3. Canine demonstrations;
 4. Routine care, grooming, medical checkups as required.
- Maintain their residence in a manner, which does not bring discredit to the Department or the Canine Section. Agree to inspection for suitability with reasonable prior notice;

- Maintain their canine and canine related equipment in a neat, clean, and functioning condition;
- If currently in a Sheriff's Program (i.e. FTO, SID, etc.), request that the respective Program Manager forward a letter to the Canine Program Manager, stating that they have fulfilled their obligation to the respective program and are leaving in good standing.

DIRECTIVE B. SELECTION PROCESS

Those interested in becoming a canine handler will be asked to complete the application process, which will consist of:

- Completion and submission of the Special Assignment Application within the time limits specified on the Special Assignment Announcement;
- Preparation and submission of a resume, which should include:
 1. Experience;
 2. Related training;
 3. Prior assignments;
 4. Interest in program;
 5. Number and ages of children;
 6. Number and types of other pets.
- Completion of an oral assessment process, designed to examine the applicant's ability to handle a canine, knowledge of canine subject matter and overall qualifications for the position. The oral assessment panel will review Departmental files including, but not limited to:
 1. Personnel files;
 2. Internal Affairs Files;
 3. Employee Performance Reports;
 4. Time sheets;
 5. Traffic accident reports;
 6. A sampling of Crime or Incident Reports prepared by the applicant.
- Though not required for final selection, it is recommended the applicant participate in several formal Canine Training Exercises prior to the oral assessment;
- The applicant will need to be prepared for scenario-based testing with the approval of the canine coordinator.
- From the oral assessment process/review of files and scenario performance, applicants will be ranked for selection;
- If selected for canine training, the applicant must successfully complete the Basic Handler School and Explosive Detection or Narcotic Detector Canine Training Course. Failure to successfully complete the required training will result in de-selection as a canine handler.

TITLE: SHERIFF'S CANINE HANDLER SELECTION

NO. K-200

DIRECTIVE C. SHIFT ASSIGNMENT

Canine team assignments will be made based on Departmental need for a canine. Available shifts will be filled based on seniority. Seniority is determined by time in rank, as described in the KLEA MOU, Article X-Shift Bids/Schedules.

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TITLE: SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION DEPLOYMENTS NO. K-300

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 1992 REVIEWED: December 20, 2019

APPROVED BY: Commander Tim Posey

REFERENCE:

POLICY

Due to their unique capabilities and training, Sheriff's canines are ideally suited for searching and locating suspect(s). They should not be considered as a **"last resort"** but should be considered as a **primary** resource for this type of activity. In addition to their ability to search and locate suspect(s), Sheriff's canines also possess the capability and training to physically seize suspect(s) who are violent and resisting. In this capacity, the deployment of the Sheriff's canine becomes a use of force, subject to the Use of Force Policy contained in the Sheriff's Office Policies and Procedures Manual, Section F-100. For all intents and purposes, due to the training of Sheriff's canine teams, such deployments are considered a **less lethal** use of force. As a use of force, Sheriff's Canine Handlers alone will make the decision to deploy their canines in this capacity, based on the totality of the facts they possess and current Use of Force Policy considerations.

All Sheriff's canines are also trained in the detection of controlled substances or explosives. As such, they are extremely useful in searching buildings, rooms, containers, vehicles, etc., for controlled substances. Sheriff's canines will not conduct searches of person(s) for controlled substances. Sheriff's canines are also trained in explosive material and precursor chemicals detection and will conduct searches of buildings, rooms, containers, vehicles, etc. Sheriff's canines will not conduct searches of person(s) for explosive materials/precursor chemicals.

Sheriff's canines can sometimes be successful in crowd control situations. Due to variable conditions involved in these situations, Sheriff's canines will only be deployed as directed by a Command/Ranking Officer.

Sheriff's canine teams also serve a significant public relations role. Public demonstrations by the Sheriff's canine teams are a highly visible way to show the public the high level of training, control, and overall quality of the teams that serve within their community.

DIRECTIVE A. TYPES OF CALLS SUITED FOR CANINES

Sheriff's canine teams should be primarily dispatched to the types of calls which best suit their abilities. These calls include, but are not limited to:

- Prowlers;
- Controlled substance searches/explosive material/precursor searches
- Burglaries/alarms in progress;
- Calls involving tracks;
- Building/area searches;
- Violent or resisting suspects;
- Warrant service (arrest, bench, search);
- Back up unit;
- Crowd control (with approval of a Command/Ranking Officer);
- Searches for non-criminal person(s) (i.e.; missing/lost person);
- Assist other Departments (with approval of a Command/Ranking Officer);
- Canine teams should not be dispatched to report calls or other routine assignments, which would cause them to be unavailable for extended periods of time. See **Directive B** for exceptions.

DIRECTIVE B. CANINE ASSIGNMENTS / PRIORITY 3 CALLS

Sheriff's canine teams should not normally be used as primary, investigative units. Extensive investigative calls for service and the requisite reporting, is best suited to patrol units. Due to their limited numbers and special skills, canine units should remain available for canine support activity.

Canine teams can assist when calls for service are extremely backlogged and patrol units are unavailable for assignments. One manner of assistance is in the handling of minor, non-complex, Priority 3 calls under the following circumstances:

- Communications Center Supervisor declares calls for service are unreasonably backlogged;
- Assigned patrol units are unavailable due to assignments;
- Priority 3 call is non-complex and does not involve arrest situations (canine unit can not transport), or does not involve extended down time;
- Communication Center Supervisor contacts and obtains approval from the on-duty Command/Ranking Officer;
- Canine unit assigned Priority 3 call, will listen to their portable radio for possible re-assignments to a canine-related call. Should a canine unit be re-assigned to another call, the handler will advise the reporting party that either he/she will return later to complete the report/investigation, or another unit will be dispatched. In the event the canine unit is unable to return to the report/investigation call, the handler will notify the Communications Center that a patrol unit needs to be dispatched.

DIRECTIVE C. DEPLOYMENTS BY SUPERVISORS

Command/Ranking Officers may direct that a Sheriff's canine team be utilized on any given situation, bearing in mind:

- Officer safety;
- Canine team safety;
- Departmental Use of Force Policy;
- Canine handlers may use their canines to protect themselves, other officers, and citizens from death and/or serious injury;
- Tactical considerations. The actual tactics to be utilized by the canine team will be determined by the handler based on his/her training and knowledge of the canines training, characteristics and capabilities;
- Attempts should be made to control contamination of the search area(s) as such contamination severely reduces the team's effectiveness. Rapid containment of the search area is the key to successful canine searches;
- Utilization of canine teams for primary reports/investigations is an inefficient use of the team and should be avoided. See **Directive B** for exceptions;
- Canine teams should never be used to satisfy a civil process without prior approval from the Sheriff;
- Canine teams should not be used to transport prisoners except in severe emergencies;
- Crowd control: Canine handlers have been instructed to avoid the use of the canine in crowd control situations, due to the variables involved in each circumstance, without a supervisor. Canine teams should only be deployed in crowd control situations at the direction of a Command/Ranking Officer and only after a review of the situation and development of a tactical plan with the input of the handler. Canine teams may become involved without a supervisor if non-intervention would endanger officers or innocent person(s).

DIRECTIVE D. DEPLOYMENT BY HANDLERS

The primary mission of the Sheriff's canine teams is to serve as a support function to line operations. Their focus will be to provide canine assistance where appropriate. The secondary mission will be to provide uniform law enforcement service as required. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Crime prevention/suppression via high visibility patrol;
- Building/area searches for suspect(s);
- Backup assistance to other officer(s);
- Tracking, both for criminal suspect(s) and non-criminal person(s);
- Apprehension of violent or resisting suspect(s), within Use of Force Policy (DPPM, F-100);
- Warrant service (arrest, bench, search);
- Narcotic searches (See section K-550)/Explosive material/precursor searches (See section K-570);
- Respond to canine related calls for service in the Sub-Station response areas. Handlers will attempt to notify the on-duty Patrol Sergeant and/or Watch Commander when leaving the Metropolitan Patrol Area;
- Assist other Departments (with approval). Sheriff's office policies and procedures will be followed when assisting other Departments. In addition, canine teams should be apprised of all relevant information on the incident, prior to deploying their canine;
- Public demonstrations (with approval of the Canine Section Manager/Coordinator);

- Canine handlers may use their canines to protect themselves, other officers, and citizens from death or serious injury;
- Canine teams should never be used to satisfy a civil process without prior approval from the Sheriff;
- Canine teams should not transport prisoners except in severe emergencies;
- Crowd control: Canine handlers should avoid use of the canine in crowd control situations, due to the variables involved in each circumstance, without a supervisor. Canine teams should only be deployed in crowd control situations at the direction of a Command/Ranking Officer and only after a review of the situation and development of a tactical plan with input from the handler. Canine teams may become involved without a supervisor if non-intervention would endanger officers or innocent person(s). **Crowd control will only be done "on leash" (6' or less).**

DIRECTIVE E. CANINE TEAM CALL-OUTS

Since there are a limited number of canine teams, we are unable to provide 24-hour coverage. Also, since the canine teams are assigned to the Metropolitan Patrol Division and their primary work activity takes place within those boundaries, there may be occasions when a canine team is not available for other Departmental Work Units. On these occasions where a canine team is needed, but one on-duty is not available, the call-out of a canine team may be required. The on-duty Command/Ranking Officers has the authority to authorize a canine team call-out. The Command/Ranking Officer should contact the Communications Center and request the next on-duty canine team be called out. The Communications Center has a copy of the Metropolitan Patrol Division schedule for identifying this unit. When a canine team is called out, the communication center should attempt to notify the Canine Coordinator of the call-out. If there is a problem with the team being called out, the Canine Coordinator will have final say in the authorization of the call-out. Because of canine fatigue and feeding schedules, calling a canine unit who has just ended a shift should be avoided. After the canine has been fed, the team will be unavailable for a minimum of three (3) hours.

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TITLE: SHERIFF'S CANINE HANDLER RESPONSIBILITIES NO. K-400

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 1992 REVIEWED: December 20, 2019

APPROVED BY: Commander Tim Posey

REFERENCE:

POLICY

Due to the special relationship that is inherent in a canine team, the specialized training, and unique work environment that canine teams operate in, Sheriff's canine handlers have a very important responsibility for the care, training, and proper deployment of their canine partners. In most cases, it is only the Sheriff's canine handler who can and must control the actions of their respective canines. It is a violation of policy for any person to purposely agitate, tease, or distract a Sheriff's canine, without the express permission of the assigned canine handler. Only the assigned Sheriff's canine handler shall attempt to command a Sheriff's canine, except for canine staff for training purposes. Safety and control of the canine are priority responsibilities for the handler.

DIRECTIVE A. CANINE HANDLER RESPONSIBILITIES-GENERAL

The Sheriff's canine handler responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Remaining alert to and avoiding unsafe situations with the canine. Handlers should never allow their canines into an unsafe situation where person(s) or the canine could be unnecessarily injured. This includes the handler's residence, vehicle(s), or any such place where the canine may be present;
- Maintaining command and control over their assigned canine at all times. This includes the handler's residence, vehicle(s), or any such place where the canine may be present;
- Never allowing any other person to purposely agitate, tease, or distract a Sheriff's canine, except during training exercises and with the express permission of the assigned canine handler. Handlers will immediately notify their immediate supervisor of such incidents and will forward a detailed memorandum to the Canine Section Coordinator as soon as possible;
- Ensuring that their residence is kept in such a condition to not bring discredit to the Department or the Sheriff's Canine Program;
- Ensuring that the canine's kennel, five (5) foot fence, and all gates are secure;

- Providing their assigned canine with proper grooming, medical care, and proper feeding/watering;
- Ensuring that all assigned equipment is kept clean, neat and functioning;
- Providing and ensuring adequate training is administered. Continued training deficiencies or deficiencies which affect the ability to perform, will be immediately reported to the Canine Coordinator. The Canine Coordinator will confer with the Departmental Trainer for determination of further action, including remedial training and/or if warranted, suspension from work until such time as the performance is acceptable;
- Promptly preparing and submitting all reports as may be required.

DIRECTIVE B. CANINE HANDLER RESPONSIBILITIES-INJURY

Whenever a Sheriff's canine injures any person(s), including an officer, the assigned canine handler shall:

- Immediately notify the on-duty Command/Ranking Officer and provide the details surrounding the injury. This information will be included in the C.I. report;
- If the injury is to a person(s) arrested, the involved canine handler shall **require** that the arrested person(s) be taken to Kern Medical (or local hospital if in the outlying areas) and that treatment is either obtained or refused;
- If the injury is to any other person(s), the involved canine handler shall **request** that the injured person(s) seek medical treatment;
- Conduct an investigation into the injury, seeking statements (audio record if possible) from any witness(es) and the person(s) injured;
- Request Technical Investigations respond and photograph the injury (after the wound(s) is cleaned, prior to bandaging) and any other relevant evidence;
- Ensure that a C.I. report is completed; pulling a new case number if one does not already exist. If a case number already exists, the involved canine handler will complete a supplemental report containing the information. The information should include:
 1. Date/time of injury;
 2. Location injury occurred;
 3. Personal information on injured party (age/DOB, home address, phone number, etc.);
 4. Type and extent of injury;
 5. Hospital where treatment was sought;
 6. Person providing treatment;
 7. Witness(es) and statements;
 8. Circumstances surrounding the injury;
 9. Deployment/tactics used;

10. Involved canine handler/canine;
11. Which supervisor was notified;
12. Which Technical Investigator responded;

Such reports should be completed by the end of the shift, processed as a priority, with a copy requested for the Canine Manager and Canine Coordinator;

- Ensure that the Canine Coordinator is advised and briefed on the incident as soon as possible, either by memorandum, phone, or in person.

DIRECTIVE C. SUPERVISOR REPONSIBILTIES-INJURY

Upon notification by a canine handler of an injury, the on-duty Command/Ranking Officer should:

- Review the incident and offer assistance where needed;
- Ensure that all reports are completed;
- Review reports for completeness.

DIRECTIVE D. CANINE COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITES-INJURY

Upon notification of an injury, the Canine Coordinator will:

- Review all reports to ensure policies and procedures were followed and take corrective action where required;
- Complete the use of force reporting procedure and document on the approved checklist
- Brief the Canine Manager of the circumstances and outcome of all injury incidents.

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TITLE: POLICE SERVICE DOG DEPLOYMENT NO. K-500

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 14, 2002 REVIEWED: July 29, 2020

APPROVED BY: Commander Tim Posey

REFERENCE:

POLICY

The Police Service Dog Program mission is to provide a reliable patrol dog capability through the employment of trained officer-dog teams to aid in law enforcement. The primary task of the canine team is search and locate criminal suspect(s), and at times, apprehend criminal suspect(s). The use of a Sheriff's Office canine to physically apprehend a person is a use of force and as such, is subject to the requirements and provisions of Sheriff's Office Policy and Procedure Manual Section F-100 as well as applicable state and federal law.

A Sheriff's Office canine may be used to apprehend an individual if the following exist and taking into consideration the factors outlined in the Graham V. Connor decision, which defines the reasonableness of force used based on the severity of the crime, if the suspect(s) is resisting by fleeing or fighting, and if the suspect(s) poses an immediate threat to the safety of officers or others:

- The suspect(s) have either committed any offense or is about to commit any offense and there is a reasonable belief that the suspect(s) poses an immediate threat of violence or serious harm to the public, or any officer.
- The suspect(s) have either committed any offense or is about to commit any offense and the suspect(s) is/are **violently resisting** arrest and the use of the police service dog appears necessary to overcome such resistance;
- The suspect(s) is/are **actively resisting**, and the deputy has probable cause to believe the suspect is wanted for a serious or violent felony.
- The suspect(s) either committed a serious or violent crime or is about to commit a serious or violent crime, and are believed to be concealed in an area where entry by other than the canine would pose a threat to the safety of officers or the public;
- It is recognized that a situation may arise which do not fall within the provisions set forth in this policy. In any such case, a standard of reasonableness shall be used to review the decision to use a police service dog in view of the totality of the circumstances;
- Absent the presence of one or more of the above conditions, mere flight from pursuing officer(s) shall not serve as good cause for a canine apprehension.
- **Passively resisting** suspect(s) wanted for and/or suspected of committing non-violent and/or non-serious offenses, are not grounds for a canine apprehension.

The Following Terms are Defined According to this Policy:

Passively Resisting

Not submitting to arrest by not following commands with no physically evasive acts.

Actively Resisting

Not submitting to arrest by not following commands **AND** running, jogging, fleeing from a deputy or hiding and/or lying in wait. Resisting the application of handcuffs by moving or manipulating the body in a way that will not allow the handcuffs to be applied.

***Suspect(s) who have committed a serious or violent crime (i.e. a P.C. 664/187 or a PC 245) and are refusing verbal commands to surrender, are verbally non-compliant, refusing to take their hands out of their pockets or refusing to surrender to deputies are considered to be **Actively Resisting** for purpose of this section, even if they are not running, jogging, fleeing, hiding and/or lying in wait.

Violently Resisting

1. Not submitting to arrest by not following commands **AND** violent acts such as punching, striking, kicking, biting or any other act that is likely to produce bodily injury.
2. The suspect(s) are threatening violence coupled with the ability to carry out said act.
3. Deputy has probable cause to believe the suspect is wanted for a serious or violent felony and meets the criteria for "**Actively Resisting.**"

DIRECT APPREHENSIONS

A direct apprehension, for the purposes of this policy, is defined as the act of the handler physically placing a Sheriff's canine on a suspect with the intention to have the canine bite the suspect **OR** the handler commanding the Sheriff's canine to apprehend the suspect(s) by releasing the canine, as the suspect(s) are in close proximity and the canine handler believes the suspect(s) are visible to the canine.

Sheriff's Office Canine Handlers shall not deploy a direct apprehension unless the suspect(s) actions meet the criteria of **Violently Resisting** (as defined above).

SWAT DEPLOYMENT/APPREHENSION TACTICS

Utilization of a canine during Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) deployments is a beneficial tool to the Kern County Sheriff's Office. Canine handlers train in special techniques with the Kern County Sheriff's Office SWAT team in order to safely resolve situations where SWAT is needed. Canine handlers who are deploying with the SWAT team are expected to follow the canine use of force policy (K-500) as well as all applicable department policies regarding using force.

There are special deployment techniques canine handlers train their canine partners to incorporate with the SWAT team tactics. One such technique is the use of a muzzled canine for Hostage Rescue Team (HRT) tactics. During a deployment under these circumstances, the canine is used as an impact weapon and

diversionary device when a suspect poses a threat to human life and/or is utilizing a hostage/victim as a means of escape or to prevent their capture.

Due to the unpredictable nature of SWAT incidents, there may be other extraordinary situations where a canine could be utilized, which is not outlined in the canine policy. When this occurs, the canine handler will make every attempt to get approval from the SWAT Commander prior to the deployment of the canine. If not feasible to wait for approval, the canine handler will make the decision to use the canine based on a totality of the circumstances.

DIRECTIVE A. DEPLOYMENT FACTORS

Prior to the use of a police service dog to search for, or to apprehend any individual, the canine handler shall carefully consider all pertinent information reasonably available at the time. This information shall include, but is not limited to:

- The seriousness of the crime;
- The suspect(s) age or estimate thereof;
- Any potential danger to any other officer(s) who may attempt to intervene or assist with the apprehension;
- Other use of force options available in compliance with department policy;
- Any potential danger to the public, which may result from the deployment of the police service dog.

DIRECTIVE B. CANINE DEPLOYMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Canine deployments for searches and apprehensions of fleeing/escaping and resisting suspects should only be conducted after a canine deployment announcement is made. There is an exception. The announcement may be dispensed with only if such announcement would unnecessarily endanger any officer(s) or innocent person(s) and only with approval of a command/ranking officer, unless waiting for said supervisor to arrive would escalate the danger. If a canine handler deploys his canine without making an announcement, the factors justifying this decision will be thoroughly outlined in the incident report.

The announcement may consist of the following, depending on the type of deployment:

Area/Building searches:

- The initial announcement shall at a minimum include;
 1. Identification: “Kern County Sheriff’s Office”
 2. Canine: “I have a police dog”
 3. Instruction: “Identify yourself now”
 4. Direction: “Walk to the (front, side, rear, etc.) of the (building, vehicle, park, etc.) now!”
 5. Warning: “If my dog finds you, he will bite you!”
- After giving a reasonable amount of time, the initial announcement may be repeated. At a minimum the second announcement should include;

1. Identification: "Kern County Sheriff's Office";
 2. Warning: "If you do not identify yourself, I will send in my police dog"
- Again, give a reasonable amount of time for person(s) to comply with the warning. If still no response, the canine may then be deployed by the handler

Fleeing/escaping or resisting suspect(s):

- The initial announcement shall at a minimum include:
 1. Identification: "Kern County Sheriff's Office";
 2. Canine: "I have a police dog";
 3. Instruction: "Stop (running, fighting, resisting, etc.)";
 4. Warning: "My dog will bite you"
- After giving a reasonable amount of time for the suspect(s) to comply, the initial announcement may be repeated, if it does not increase the risk to officer(s) or allow the suspect(s) time to escape. If, after the second announcement is given (if given) and the suspect(s) does not comply, the handler may then deploy the canine.

DIRECTIVE C. NOTIFICATION

After any police service dog apprehension, the canine handler will notify the Canine Section Coordinator and the on-duty command/ranking officer, as soon as practicable.

DIRECTIVE D. REPORTING

Prior to going off duty, the canine handler shall complete all necessary reports associated with the use of their police service dog in an apprehension.

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TITLE: SHERIFF'S CANINE SEARCHES NO. K-510

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 1992 REVIEWED: December 20, 2019

APPROVED BY: Commander Tim Posey

REFERENCE:

POLICY

Canine teams are one of the most valuable resources we have available for searches. Canine team searches can take less time to complete, are usually more thorough, but most importantly can be done with fewer officers, while still providing for safety. Whenever practical, canine teams should be dispatched and deployed on the types of calls identified in Section K-300.

Upon arrival, canine teams must consider a number of factors prior to deploying their canine on a search. Some such considerations are: What is the chance of an innocent person(s) being in the area to be searched? Should the search be conducted on or off leash? Are additional canine teams needed to assist in the search? Should an announcement be made prior to deployment? Each search will be different, and the circumstances will dictate how the search is conducted.

PROCEDURE A. BUILDING SEARCHES

- Entrances/exits should be covered by officers prior to a canine search;
- Upon arrival canine handlers should attempt to obtain as much information surrounding the call as possible (i.e.; type of call, reason to believe innocent person may or may not be inside, reason to believe suspect may be inside);
- Request additional canine/patrol units as may be necessary;
- Request at least one cover officer to assist during the search;
- Give announcement (Section K-500, Directive B);
- Generally building searches may be conducted on or off leash, at the canine handler's discretion. Off leash searches should only be performed after careful consideration of any innocent person(s) who may be inside;

- Conducting the search. The canine handler's focus will be on the canine; the cover officer(s) focus is on protecting the handler. Cover officer should stay with the canine team unless directed otherwise by the canine handler;
- Whenever a suspect is located hiding, every attempt should be made to talk him/her to a position of officer advantage. If the suspect refuses, cover officer(s), if available, should extract the suspect(s) from the hiding place. If this would create an unnecessary danger to the cover officer, the canine handler, or other person(s), the canine handler may decide to use his/her canine to extract the suspect. This decision rests with the canine handler;
- The cover officer(s) should take custody of the suspect.

PROCEDURE B. AREA SEARCHES

- A perimeter should be established as soon as possible;
- Upon arrival, canine handlers should attempt to obtain as much information surrounding the call as possible (i.e.; type of call, reason to believe innocent person(s) may or may not be in the area, reason to believe suspect(s) may be in the area);
- Request additional canine/patrol units as may be needed;
- Request at least one cover officer to assist during the search;
- Give announcement (Section K-500, Directive B)
- Generally, area searches may be conducted on or off leash, at the handler's discretion. Off leash searches should only be performed after careful consideration of any innocent person(s) who may be in the search area.
- Conducting the search. The Canine handler's focus will be on the canine; the cover officer(s) focus is on protecting the handler. Cover officer(s) should stay with the canine team unless directed otherwise by the canine handler;
- Whenever a suspect is located hiding, every attempt should be made to talk him/her to a position of officer advantage. If the suspect refuses, cover officer(s), if available, should extract the suspect(s) from the hiding place. If this would create an unnecessary danger to the cover officer, the canine handler, or other person(s), the canine handler may decide to use his/her canine to extract the suspect. This decision rests with the canine handler.
- The cover officer(s) should take the suspect into custody.

TITLE: NARCOTIC DETECTOR DOG DEPLOYMENT

NO. K-550

DIRECTIVE D. DRUG DETECTOR DOG-TRAINING

Training of the drug detector dogs will be conducted by the Department designated trainer using actual controlled substances as training aids.

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TITLE: EXPLOSIVE MATERIAL/PRECURSOR DETECTION DOG DEPLOYMENT NO. K-570

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 3, 2018 REVIEWED: December 20, 2019

APPROVED BY: Commander Tim Posey

REFERENCE:

POLICY

Because of the high risk of danger to the public and deputies when a bomb or other explosive device is suspected, the use of a canine team trained in explosive detection (EOD-dog) may be considered. The primary task of the canine team is to conduct searches for explosive materials/devices in designated areas and to assist the Kern County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad.

DIRECTIVE A. DEPLOYMENTS

The decision to use the EOD dog rests solely with the canine handler. The handler is responsible for the deployment of the dog during the course of the search. For every deployment of the EOD dog, the handler will be accompanied by a certified bomb technician in the event a device is located during the search. In the event the bomb technician deems it is unsafe for the EOD dog to be utilized for the search, the bomb technician can halt the use of the EOD dog for safety reasons. The EOD dog may be used to:

- Assist in the search of a building, structure, area, vehicle or article where a suspected explosive device has been reported;
- Assist with searches at transportation facilities and vehicles (e.g., buses, airplanes, trains);
- Preventative searches at special events, VIP visits, official buildings and other restricted areas;
- To assist in the search of a command post location for secondary explosive devices;
- Assisting in the search of a scene where an explosion has occurred, and an explosive device or secondary explosive device is suspected.

DIRECTIVE B. SEARCHING PERSON(S)

The EOD dog will not be used to search a person for explosive materials/precursor chemicals. Personal possessions may be searched by the dog only if removed from the person.

TITLE: EXPLOSIVE MATERIAL/PRECURSOR DETECTION DOG DEPLOYMENT NO. K-570

DIRECTIVE C. ASSIST OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The EOD dog team may be available for use by other law enforcement agencies. Requests by other agencies must be approved by the Canine Coordinator, or a Command/Ranking Officer in his/her absence. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. In the event a request is approved, Directive A shall still be followed.

DIRECTIVE D. EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS DETECTION DOG-TRAINING

Training of the EOD dogs will be conducted by the Department's designated trainer, and alongside the Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad using actual explosive material as training aids.

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TITLE:	SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION TRAINING	NO. K-600
--------	-----------------------------------	-----------

EFFECTIVE DATE:	February 1, 1992	REVIEWED: December 20, 2019
-----------------	------------------	-----------------------------

APPROVED BY: Commander Tim Posey

REFERENCE:

POLICY

Periodic training is necessary to maintain an optimal level of performance by the canine teams. This training is just as important for the handler as it is for the canine. The training schedule calls for a minimum of twenty (20) hours of group canine training per month (usually conducted in 10-hour blocks, twice per month). During this group training, training topics will vary depending on needs. In addition to group training, canine handlers are expected to train together in small blocks during their regular shifts. In the event a canine handler is experiencing a training deficiency, which is not being corrected by either group or individual training, the canine handler may contact the Departmental Trainer for specific training.

DIRECTIVE A. DEPARTMENTAL CANINE TRAINER

The Kern County Sheriff's Office contracts with:

Mr. Dave Reevers
Adlerhorst International Inc.
3951 Vernon Avenue
Jurupa Valley, CA. 92509
(951)685-2430

Adlerhorst serves as the Departmental Canine Trainer. Adlerhorst is responsible for:

- The Basic Canine Handler Course
- Narcotic Detection Course/Explosive Detection Course
- Group training and specific individual training, as needs require.

DIRECTIVE B. CANINE SECTION TRAINING OFFICER

The Canine Coordinator will be responsible for selecting a monthly Canine Section Training Officer. The Canine Section Training Officer will be responsible for:

TITLE: SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION TRAINING

NO. K-600

- Establishing training sites and times;
- Notification of canine handlers of training events;
- In conjunction with the Departmental Canine Trainer, identifying training needs;
- In conjunction with the Departmental Canine Trainer, assisting in group training;
- Documenting monthly training (attendance/topic).

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TITLE: SHERIFF'S CANINE SECTION STATISTICS

NO. K-700

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 1992

REVIEWED: December 20, 2019

APPROVED BY: Commander Tim Posey

REFERENCE:

POLICY

Documentation of Canine Section activity is necessary for the proper management of the section. The Canine Section utilizes several reports to organize the information. Canine handlers submit a Weekly Canine Activity Report at the end of each week. These Weekly Canine Activity Reports are maintained both by the canine handler and the Canine Section Coordinator. At the end of the month, these reports are compiled in a Monthly Activity Report. At the end of the calendar year, these monthly reports are compiled into a Yearly Canine Activity Report. Another document used for the recording of training activity, is the Canine Narcotic/Explosive Detection Training Record. This record is maintained by each handler and is periodically reviewed by the Canine Section Coordinator.

Both the Monthly Canine Activity Reports and the Yearly Canine Activity Reports are maintained in a permanent file for each handler.

DIRECTIVE A. WEEKLY CANINE ACTIVITY REPORT

This document is used to record weekly individual activity by canine teams:

Calls for Service: This is the total number of calls K-9 units handled or assisted. This number includes all the categories listed below. It includes calls the handlers processed with or without the use of their K-9.

Canine Deployed: This is the total number of times the K-9 was used on a call. It includes every manner of deployment (all searches/tracks, handler protection/back-ups, etc.).

Arrests: This is the total number of arrests the K-9 team was involved in. It includes arrests made by other officers/agencies.

Apprehensions: Self-explanatory

Surrender: Any time a canine warning was given to a suspect, and he gives up and is taken into custody.

Building Search: Self-explanatory

Area Search: Self-explanatory

Non-Criminal: Self-explanatory

Call-Out: Self-explanatory

Training: Total hours of K-9 hours trained on any given shift or training day.

Demonstrations: Number of demonstrations given.

Narcotics/EOD Searches: Includes date, type of search, type of aid, and general comments regarding the find.

Voluntary Compliance: Any time the canine is deployed and the suspect(s) surrender to law enforcement.

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TITLE: SHERIFF'S CANINE INJURY PROCEDURE

NO. K-800

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 1992

REVIEWED: December 20, 2019

APPROVED BY: Commander Tim Posey

REFERENCE:

POLICY

Infrequently, police dogs may become injured either on or off duty. Medical treatment of the Sheriff's canines should be considered a priority. The assigned canine handler will be responsible for ensuring the injured canine receives qualified medical treatment. Currently, we have a contract for such medical treatment with a local veterinarian. In the event this contract is made with a different veterinarian, this procedure will be modified to reflect the change.

DIRECTIVE

Anytime a Sheriff's canine receives injuries which require immediate medical treatment, either on duty or off duty, the assigned canine handler shall make notification to the Communications Center, advising the nature and extent of injuries, and estimated time of arrival to the medical treatment facility. The Communications Center will in turn make necessary notifications as prescribed by this procedure.

PROCEDURE A. EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT

Weekdays-Normal work hours (0800-1700)

The assigned handler will:

- Immediately contact the Communications Center and report the nature and extent of the injuries, and estimated time of arrival to:
 - Stiern Veterinary Hospital
17 Monterey St., Bakersfield, California
Office (661) 327-5571
- Request the Communications Center advise the Sheriff's Office Watch Lieutenant of the incident;
- If needed, request the Communications Center also call the current or next working canine handler and have him/her respond to assist in securing the injured canine;

TITLE: SHERIFF'S CANINE INJURY PROCEDURE

NO. K-800

- Safely transport the injured canine to the medical treatment facility and ensure the canine is secured during the medical procedure;
- Follow any post treatment recommendations provided by the treating veterinarian;
- As soon as practical, personally contact and brief the following on the circumstances surrounding the injury;
 - Canine Manager
 - Canine Coordinator
 - Departmental Trainer, Adlerhorst LLC.
- Prepare a C.I. report detailing the incident.

PROCEDURE B. EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT

Weekends/Holidays/Other hours

The assigned canine handler will:

- Immediately contact the Communications Center and report the nature and extent of the injuries, and estimated time of arrival to:
 - Kern Animal Emergency Clinic
4300 Easton Drive
Bakersfield, California
(661) 322-6019
- Request the Communications Center advise the Sheriff's Office Watch Lieutenant of the incident;
- If needed, request the Communications Center also call the current or next working canine handler and have him/her respond to assist in securing the injured canine;
- Safely transport the injured canine to the medical treatment facility and ensure the canine is secured during the medical procedure;
- Follow any post treatment recommendations provided by the treating veterinarian;
- As soon as practical, personally contact and brief the following on the circumstances surrounding the injury;
 - Canine Manager

TITLE: SHERIFF'S CANINE INJURY PROCEDURE

NO. K-800

- Canine Coordinator
- Departmental Trainer, Adlerhorst LLC.
- Prepare a C.I. report detailing the incident.

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
METROPOLITAN PATROL DIVISION
OPERATIONAL MANUAL

TITLE:	SHERIFF'S RETIREMENT OF CANINE	NO. K-1000
--------	--------------------------------	------------

EFFECTIVE DATE:	April 18, 2013	REVIEWED:	December 20, 2019
-----------------	----------------	-----------	-------------------

APPROVED BY:	Commander Tim Posey
--------------	---------------------

REFERENCE:

POLICY

The ultimate determination of the suitability for service of a canine shall be made by the Canine Manager. The Canine Manager may seek input from the Canine Coordinator, Department Trainer, and Department Veterinarian. Some factors to be considered, but not limited to, will be;

- The present performance level of the canine;
- The length of time the canine can be expected to remain serviceable;
- The canine's overall health;
- Suitability of the K-9.

CANINE RETIREMENT PROCEDURES

If the determination has been made to retire a canine from service, the handler presently assigned the canine will be given the opportunity to assume ownership of the canine. If the present handler does not desire to assume ownership of the canine, a former Kern County Sheriff's Office canine handler who has received training in the handling of a dual-purpose police service dog, will be given the opportunity to assume ownership.

In the event the current or a former canine handler does not desire to assume ownership of the canine, the Canine Coordinator will work with the Departmental Canine Trainer to locate and transfer ownership to a properly trained department or person.

- The Canine Coordinator will complete a Hold Harmless, Indemnification, and transfer agreement.
- The transfer of ownership of the canine will include the kennel and all related accessories, which was installed at the handler's residence.
- The Kern County Sheriff's Office will no longer have responsibility for the care and maintenance of the canine once ownership has transferred.