

EFFECTIVE: 1 May 2017

SUBJECT: Canine Police Service Dog

ISSUED BY: Fernando M. Solorzano, Chief of Police

## **Canines**

### **I. PURPOSE**

To establish policy and operational procedures for the use of police service dogs owned by the CSU Long Beach Police. Highly skilled and trained teams of handlers and canines are used to supplement police operations to locate individuals, locate contraband and to apprehend criminal offenders.

### **II. POLICY**

It shall be the policy of this department to provide the campus community with the services of a canine program. The primary goal of this program is to enhance campus safety by the use of canines, thereby strengthening our ability to deter on-campus crime through increased field performance. Generally, the Department will maintain dual use K-9 teams (e.g. patrol/narcotics detection or patrol/explosives detection) to achieve this goal.

Because of their superior senses of smell and hearing and their physical capabilities, the trained law enforcement canine is a valuable supplement to police staffing. However, utilization of canines requires adherence to procedures that properly control their use-of-force potential and that channel their specialized capabilities into legally acceptable crime prevention and control activities.

### **III. DEFINITIONS**

- (a) Canine (K-9): A department service dog with specialized training.
- (b) Canine (K-9) Officer or Canine (K-9) Handler: The assigned officer in control of a department canine.
- (c) Canine (K-9) Team: A canine team consists of an officer-handler and a service dog.
- (d) Explosive Detection K-9: A canine specifically trained in the detection of explosives.
- (e) Narcotics Detection K-9: A canine specifically trained in the detection of controlled substances.
- (f) Canine Program Coordinator: The command staff member assigned by the Chief of Police to oversee, manage and coordinate the canine program.
- (g) Canine Unit Supervisor: The sergeant or corporal assigned by the Chief of Police in charge of the day-to

GO #40, Canine Police Service Dog

(h) Dual Use K-9: A K-9 trained for more than one function such as patrol and explosive detection. (t)-



## **VI. PREPARATION FOR UTILIZING A CANINE**

Prior to the use of a canine to search for or apprehend any individual, the canine handler and/or the supervisor on scene shall carefully consider all pertinent information that is reasonably available at the time. The information should include, but is not limited to the following:

- (a) The individual's age or estimate thereof
- (b) The nature of the suspected offense
- (c) Any potential danger to the public and/or other officers at the scene if the canine is released.
- (d) The degree of resistance or threatened resistance, if any, the subject has shown.
- (e) The potential for escape or flight if the police dog is not utilized.
- (f) The potential for injury to officers or the public caused by the suspect if the canine is not utilized.

As circumstances permit, the canine handler should make every reasonable effort to communicate and coordinate with other involved personnel to minimize the risk of unintended injury.

A canine handler shall have the ultimate authority not to deploy the dog. The handler will evaluate each situation and determine if the use of a canine is technically feasible. Generally, the decision whether to deploy the dog shall remain with the handler. However, a supervisor sufficiently apprised of the situation may decide not to deploy the dog.

## **VII. WARNINGS GIVEN TO ANNOUNCE THE USE OF A CANINE**

Unless it would otherwise increase the risk of injury or escape, a clearly audible warning to announce that a canine will be released if the person does not come forth, shall be made prior to releasing a canine. Unless doing so creates an immediate officer safety concern (e.g. need for radio silence), communications should be advised that a canine announcement was made. The canine handler, when practical, shall first advise the supervisor of his/her decision if a verbal warning is not given prior to releasing the canine. In the event of an apprehension, the handler shall document in any related report whether or not a verbal warning was given and, if none was given, the reasons why.

## **VIII. USE OF EXPLOSIVES DETECTION CANINE**

Due to the high risk of danger to the public and officers when a bomb or other explosive device is suspected, the use of a trained explosive detection dog team may be warranted. When available, a trained explosive detection dog team may be used in accordance with current law and under the following circumstances:

1. To assist in the search of a building, structure, area, vehicle or article where an actual or suspected explosive device has been reported or located.
2. To conduct preventative searches at locations such as special events, VIP visits, official buildings and other restricted areas. Because a dog sniff may be considered a search, such searches of individuals should remain minimally intrusive and shall be strictly limited to the purpose of detecting explosives.
3. To assist with searches at transportation facilities and vehicles (e.g., buses, airplanes and trains).

4. To assist in the search of scenes where an explosion has occurred and an explosive device or secondary explosive device is suspected.
5. At no time will a detection dog be used to render a suspected device safe or clear.

## **IX. USE OF NARCOTICS DETECTION CANINE**

A narcotic-detection trained canine may be used in accordance with applicable current law. Current case law holds that as a general rule, a canine alert of an inanimate object in a public place does not constitute a "search" (e.g. library, bookstore, etc.) and is therefore not required to be preceded by probable cause. This would include an alert of the exterior of luggage or backpack in a public place (particularly when the luggage is in the possession of a common carrier), the outside of a locker in a public place, the outside of a vehicle in a public place and the outside of a vehicle that has been lawfully stopped at a checkpoint. Care must be taken not to cause any additional delay to the motorist other than what would be normally required for the nature of the inspection. A lengthy delay would more than likely require reasonable suspicion (*Terry v Ohio* 392 US 1 1968). A narcotic-detection trained canine may be used under the following circumstances:

- (a) When available, a trained narcotics detection team may be used to assist in the search for narcotics during a search warrant service.
- (b) A canine alert of other areas and objects may constitute a "search" depending upon the location of the area or object. For example, a canine alert of backpack carried by persons in a public place, the bodies and pockets of students, and the personal effects in possession of or carried by a person constitutes a search.
- (c)

- (c) When the service dog is left alone and unattended in a patrol vehicle, and use of the dog is not anticipated, the windows shall be rolled up a sufficient distance so that the dog cannot put his head out of the window. When responding to calls for service and conducting vehicle/person contacts various vehicle windows may be left down in accordance with current K-9 best practices and training the service dog and canine officer has received.
- (d) Canine officers shall not demonstrate the dog while on-duty. No public demonstrations are allowed, except those approved and scheduled through the Canine Program Coordinator.
- (e) Canine officers shall not deploy service dogs for a building or area search until the patrol supervisor has been informed of the intended use.
- (f) Police canines shall not normally be handled or given commands by anyone other than the assigned handler. In the event that the canine officer is injured to the extent that the dog cannot be controlled, another person capable of exercising control over the dog shall be called to the scene. This may be another canine officer, the department's Canine Program Coordinator, or a family member. Other officers shall not attempt to take control of the dog, except in life or death situations.

## **XI. USE OF CANINE REPORTING**

Unless first approved by the on-duty shift supervisor, whenever the police service dog is deployed a Canine Use Report shall be completed by the handler and turned in to the Unit Coordinator before going off-duty. If a delayed report is approved by shift supervisor, the report shall be completed and turned into the Unit Coordinator as soon as practical or as directed by the Unit Coordinator.

Whenever the use of the canine results in a bite or any injury a Canine Use Report Form shall be completed and included with any related incident report.

- (a) The canine officer shall immediately report to the on-duty supervisor all dog bites or other injuries caused by a service dog.
- (b) The canine officer shall ensure that medical treatment is provided to anyone injured by a service dog as soon as possible and shall prepare an incident report to document the circumstances of the incident. A copy of this report will be sent to the Chief of Police via the on-duty shift supervisor.
- (c) On-duty supervisors, when notified of a bite or injury caused by a service dog, shall:
  1. Ensure that photographs are taken of the injured areas to include photographs of the injury after medical treatment.
  2. Contact the Canine Program Coordinator.
  3. Contact the Captain of Police Operations.
  4. Contact the Chief of Police.

**XII. ASSISTANCE TO OTHER JURISDICTIONS**

- (a) Requests for police service dog assistance to other jurisdictions are to be considered mutual aid requests and require the approval of the Canine Coordinator or, in his/her absence, the Captain of Police Operations. In the event that neither the Captain nor Chief is available, in exigent circumstances, or officer safety concerns necessitate and immediate response, the shift supervisor may approve the use of the canine team. In all cases, the Canine Coordinator, the Captain and the Chief of Police shall be notified of all requests in writing or email as soon as practical.
- (b) The canine officer shall determine the feasibility of a response based upon information

#### **XIV. TRAINING AIDS/CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE TRAINING AIDS**

Controlled substance training aids are required to effectively train and maintain the Department's narcotics detection canine. Further, controlled substances can also be an effective training aid during training sessions for law enforcement personnel and the public. Health & Safety Code §11367.5 provides that any Sheriff, Chief of Police, the Chief of the Bureau of Controlled Substance Enforcement, or the Commissioner of the CHP, or a designee thereof, may, in his/her discretion, provide controlled substances in his/her possession for training purposes:

- (a) To any duly authorized peace officer or civilian drug detection canine trainer working under the direction of a law enforcement agency; and
- (b) Provided the controlled substances are no longer needed as criminal evidence; and
- (c) Provided the person receiving the controlled substances, if required by the Drug

Enforcement Administration, possesses a current and valid Drug Enforcement Administration registration that specifically authorizes the recipient to possess controlled substances while providing substance abuse training to law enforcement or the community or while providing canine drug detection training.

*Procedures:*

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

- (a) The Canine Program Coordinator will prepare a written memorandum to the Chief of Police for the use of narcotics (types and quantities) for canine training to (See Appendix C);
- (b) The Chief of Police will review and provide written approval on the written memorandum by the Canine Program Coordinator.
- (c) All necessary controlled substance training samples shall be acquired from the Department's evidence personnel or from allied agencies authorized by Health & Safety Code § 11367.5 to provide controlled substance training samples. All controlled substance training samples shall be weighed and tested prior to dispensing to the individual canine handler.
- (d) The weight and test results shall be recorded and maintained by the Property/Evidence Officer, even if the drugs came from an allied agency;
- (e) Any person receiving controlled substance training samples pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 11367.5 shall maintain custody and control of the controlled substance. He/she shall keep records and prepare a Department follow-up report (using the original case number) regarding any loss of, or damage to, those controlled substances;
- (f) All controlled substance training samples will be exchanged, inspected, weighed, and tested annually, or at the conclusion of a canine handler's assignment, or during prolonged periods of absence by the canine handler, or at the discretion of the Canine Program Coordinator.



- (g) The results of the annual testing shall be recorded and maintained by the canine coordinator with a copy forwarded to the Property/Evidence Officer and the dispensing agency, if different;
- (h) All controlled substance training samples will be stored in locked boxes at all times, except during training. The locked boxes shall be secured in the trunk of the canine handler's assigned patrol unit in a separate compartment not available to other persons, or stored and secured in the approved department safe located in the Department's armory. There is no exceptions to this procedure;
- (i) The Canine Program Coordinator shall periodically inspect every controlled substance training sample for damage or tampering and take any appropriate action;
- (j) Any unusable controlled substance training samples shall be returned to the Property/Evidence Officer or to the dispensing agency;
- (k) 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;
- (l) All controlled substance samples are subject to inspection by any supervisor whenever the handler is on-duty.

All narcotics training shall be documented on the Canine Narcotics Detection Log and submitted to the Canine Program Coordinator (see Appendix B).

## **XV. IMMUNITY**

Under Health & Safety Code § 11367.5(b), all duly authorized peace officers, while providing substance abuse training to law enforcement or the community or while providing canine drug detection training, in performance of their official duties, and any person working under their immediate direction, supervision, or instruction, are immune from prosecution.

## **XVI. EXPLOSIVE SUBSTANCE TRAINING AIDS**

K-9 handlers may be issued the following explosives:

- (a) Data Sheet
- (b) Det cord
- (c) C-4
- (d) TNT flake
- (e) Red stick AN
- (f) NG Dyno
- (g) Water Gel
- (h) Black powder
- (i) RD smokeless powder
- (j) Anfo
- (k) Sodium chloride
- (l) Potassium chloride
- (m) Any other explosives approved by the Chief of Police



- (i) Police personnel shall not approach the dog without the consent of the officer-handler and only with the assigned handler present.

Vehicles designated for service dogs are to be used only by assigned canine teams. When the need arises, usage of the vehicle(s) by other department personnel is at the discretion of the shift supervisor.

At no time shall any department personnel use the designated canine vehicle(s) to transport stray animals unless authorized by the canine handler and approved by the shift supervisor.

## **XVIII. CARE OF CANINES**

- (a) It shall be the responsibility of the canine officer-handler to keep his/her dog in such physical condition that the dog is able to perform the duties required.
- (b) When a service dog is sick or injured, notification must be made to the on-duty patrol supervisor and the Canine Program Coordinator.
- (c) Canine officers are required to keep kennel space at their residence in a clean and sanitary condition.
- (d) Canine officers are responsible for keeping their assigned dog properly groomed, fed, bathed, and free from parasites.
- (e) The necessary handling and kenneling equipment will be furnished by the department and will be the property of the department.
- (f) Canines will be securely kenneled or under direct control of their handler while off-duty. When kenneled, the dog will be securely contained.
- (g) Kennels at the officer's home shall be constructed so that the dog cannot escape, either over or under the kennel.
- (h) An officer absent from his/her home for more than 24 hours shall either take their dog

## **XIX. DESIGNATED CANINE VEHICLE USE/REQUIREMENTS**

- (a) Except in extreme emergencies only the K-9 handler assigned to the vehicle may operate his/her assigned vehicle.
- (b) K-9 handlers are sworn police officers and therefore must meet all the POST requirements to operate an emergency vehicle in the State of California.
- (c) All K-9 patrol vehicles shall be marked in the same fashion as all other marked patrol units with additional markings identifying the vehicle as a specialized “K-9” unit. Required training in the operation of a K-9 vehicle and vehicle emergency equipment is the same as the standard patrol car.
- (d) All K-9 patrol vehicles shall meet all of the requirements set forth in department policy and the existing CSU/SUPA MOU.
- (e) K-9 handlers are responsible for monitoring the general maintenance of their assigned vehicle (e.g. gas, oil level, coolant, tire pressure, etc.) and reporting regular inspections via the fleet maintenance coordinator.
- (f) K-9 handlers shall be in full work uniform or in approved training gear when driving the K-9 vehicle or any marked unit, unless pre-approval is obtained by the Unit Supervisor or the Captain or Chief of Police (e.g. transporting service dog for veterinary appointments, etc.).
- (g) The canine unit supervisor is responsible for the completion of a documented quarterly operational readiness inspection of the unit’s assigned K-9 vehicles and related equipment.

## **XX. CANINE VEHICLE EQUIPMENT**

In addition to the required equipment to be maintained in all marked units used by the CSU Police Department, Long Beach (05-L.E.-002, Patrol Vehicle Equipment/Daily Vehicle Inspection

List, Section H) the following equipment shall be maintained in vehicles designated for canine use:

- (a) Groom and Care:
  - 1. Water bowl
  - 2. Comb (slicker)
  - 3. Comb (groom)
- (b) Leashes:
  - 1. One (1) 30-foot nylon lead
  - 2. One (1) 15-foot nylon lead
  - 3. One (1) 6-foot leather lead
- (c) Training Equipment:
  - 1. Fur saver
  - 2. Prong collar
  - 3. Leather collar
  - 4. Muzzle
  - 5. Scratch pants

6. Bite sleeve

7. Canine toy

(d) In addition to the above, explosive detection handlers will also carry a DOT-approved explosives carrier, which may contain any of the Explosive Substance Training Aids specified in §390.5.3 and corresponding data sheet.

(e) One (1) set of Turbo flares

(f) In addition to the above, narcotics detection handlers will also carry a department approved lockbox, which may contain any of the Controlled Substance Training Aids specified in §390.5.1 and corresponding inventory records.

## **XXI. VEHICLE TAKE HOME/OFF-DUTY OPERATION PROCEDURES**

Canine officers are authorized to drive their assigned vehicles to and from their place of residence under the following terms and conditions:

(a) All department-issued shotguns and/or patrol rifles will either be secured in the police equipment room prior to their end-of-watch or within a pre-approved location within the officer's residence (e.g. gun safe) and secured on the vehicle's shotgun/patrol rifle vehicle rack upon return to the station. Weapons shall not be left in the assigned vehicles when the officer is off-duty and secured properly in either location.

(b) Canine officers who drive a police vehicle between the department, his/her place of residence, or any other approved destination away from the California State University, Long Beach campus, shall not engage in any routine traffic enforcement while in transit.

(c) Canine officers who witness a serious crime or collision while in transit between the campus and their residence are reminded to consider their ability to properly respond to such an incident (e.g., radio communication, ability to handle the situation without immediate backup, etc.). Whenever possible, the officer should consider whether there is an immediate danger to the public or if providing good accurate information to the law enforcement agency with the proper jurisdiction (e.g., Long Beach Police, California Highway Patrol, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, etc.) will serve the situation.

1. In any incident in which an officer takes any official police action, while identifying himself/herself as a peace officer, shall immediately report the incident to the officer's supervisor.

2. The supervisor shall report the incident up the chain of command.

3. An official report will be completed by the officer involved in the incident as soon as practicable.

2. Transportation or otherwise driving of the vehicle off-duty or on regularly scheduled days off.

(e) Canine officers must have a fully enclosed car garage at their residence. Upon arrival at their residence, the canine officer shall secure his/her vehicle in the garage. This requirement may be waived upon evaluation of the Canine Program Coordinator and approval of the Chief of Police.

(f) Canine officers shall have a letter in their department file issued by the Chief of Police approving a canine officer to drive their assigned vehicle to their residence in accordance with campus policy.

(g) It remains the right of the Chief of Police to rescind the ability of a canine officer to drive a department vehicle to their place of residence for any reason.

**XXII. CANINE PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

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(f) Candidates should have at least an above-average service record, be slow to anger, patient, self-disciplined, mature, and present a professional appearance as well as a positive attitude.

(g) Candidates must have the ability to make quick decisions and the intelligence to properly evaluate any situation. They should have prior experience with canines as pets, and it is paramount that they have no fear of canines or other animals.

(h) The candidate must be in good physical condition and understand that the duties of a canine officer are assumed in addition to, and not in place of, their regular duties as a patrol officer.

(i) In view of the nature of the training, the handler may find that his assigned canine will not be compatible with other dogs or animals in their household. Should this arise, the handler must be prepared to make disposition of other family pets to avoid potentially dangerous conflicts between the animals, which could result in serious injury to the handler, members of their family, or the canine.

(j) An oral interview will be utilized to select officers for the program. The board will generally be comprised of the Canine Program Coordinator, a police sergeant and a representative from another agency's K-9 unit.

(k) All handlers must pass a POST-approved course in the handling of police canines and be able to pass the POST police canine test in the allotted time period.

**XXV. CANINE**

**SEPARATION FROM SERVICE**

- (a) The trainer, the department-authorized veterinarian, and the Chief of Police will determine when a canine is to be retired from service.
- (b) Any canine that dies while in-service will be buried in an appropriate animal cemetery. The type of burial will be consistent with the circumstances of the canine's death.
- (c) At the time of a canine's retirement, the Chief of Police will determine the disposition of the canine.
- (d) The department may, at the Chief of Police's discretion, sell a retired police service dog to its handler for one dollar (\$1).