

Narcotics Canine Team Certification Standards

Purpose and Scope:

1. To evaluate the K-9 teams ability to successfully identify target odors in a typical environmental and operational setting.
2. Areas will be selected at the discretion of the evaluators.
3. All efforts will be made to assure the evaluation is a single blind.
4. Certification may be terminated at any time for performance and or safety.
5. Certification is valid for 1 calendar year.

Testing Standards:

1. K-9 team must correctly locate 9/10 hides.
2. Testing will be pass/fail.
3. 1 false response will be allowed, any other false response will constitute a failure.
4. Handler may call a recognized false response with no penalty.
5. 1 retest is permitted 24-48 hours after test
6. Failure on retest will result in dismissal of student from class.
7. Odors will be set out a minimum of 30 min prior to testing.
8. Ethical Violations

Deliberate compromise of a certification will not be tolerated:

Any communication (in person, by cell phone, text messaging, or by any other means) between handlers and personnel participating in the certification, concerning specifics of an area still being evaluated, placements of narcotic training aids or any other information pertaining to the certification, prior to the termination of said certification (by certifying official), will constitute a compromise of the certification. The handler(s) will not be allowed to continue and will be removed from the certification.

Basic Odors:

- All odor will come from a certified source. DEA or Crime Lab
 - Pseudo will not be used
 - Minimum amount is 5 grams
 - Maximum Amount is 1 pound
1. Marijuana
 2. Methamphetamines
 3. Cocaine/Crack
 4. Heroin/Black Tar Heroin

Areas of Testing:

1. Vehicles
Minimum of 12 vehicles in the set.
3 hides
2 exterior
1 interior
10 min max
Handler will identify vehicles that contain odor
Sources will not be visible to K-9 Team

2. Large Vehicles (Buses, airplane, Commercial truck, Equipment)
Minimum 4 vehicles
1 hide
15 min max
Handler will identify vehicles that contain odor
Sources will not be visible to K-9 Team

3. Buildings (1500 sq. ft. minimum)
3 hides
25 min max
Handler will identify object that contains odor
Sources will not be visible to K-9 Team

4. Parcel/Luggage
5 suitcases or parcels
1 hide
4 min max
Handler will identify package that contains odor
Sources will not be visible to K-9 Team

5. Open Area (100 ft. x 100 ft. minimum)
2 hides
15 min max
Handler will identify are that contains odor
Sources will not be visible to K-9 Team