

OKLAHOMA EXPLOSIVE DOG STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

EXPLOSIVE DETECTION

1. Initial Training

- 1.1 The training should be conducted by a qualified explosives detector canine team trainer who is a competent individual from an entity that utilizes a structured curriculum with training designed to achieve specific learning objectives.
- 1.2 The training course should include training to detect the following mandatory groups of explosives that contain the following substances:
 - 1.2.1 RDX
 - 1.2.2 PETN
 - 1.2.3 TNT
 - 1.2.4 Dynamite
 - 1.2.5 Black powder
 - 1.2.6 Double base smokeless powder
 - 1.2.7 Ammonium nitrate
 - 1.2.8 Black powder substitutes – Pyrodex
 - 1.2.9 Blasting agents
 - 1.2.10 Cast boosters
 - 1.2.11 Composition B
 - 1.2.12 Emulsions
 - 1.2.13 Nitromethane
 - 1.2.14 Photoflash/fireworks/pyrotechnic powders
 - 1.2.15 Plastic explosives (unmarked and marked with detection agent)
 - 1.2.16 Semtex
 - 1.2.17 Single based smokeless powder
 - 1.2.18 Slurries
 - 1.2.19 Tetryl
 - 1.2.20 Water gels
 - 1.2.21 Chlorate based mixtures (e.g., potassium chlorate)
 - 1.2.22 Nitrate based mixtures (e.g., ANFO nitrate)
 - 1.2.23 Perchlorate based mixtures (e.g., potassium perchlorate)
- 1.3 The training should include varying quantities of various substances.
- 1.4 The training should include exposing the canine to various heights and depths of training aid placement in different training scenarios.

- 1.5 The initial training should continue until the explosives detection canine team is certified or deemed not certifiable.
- 1.6 Initial training should represent all conditions that could be encountered during a certification process.

2. Canine Handler Team Certification

2.1 Explosive detection canine team certification shall follow the CLEET approved national organizations: IPWDA, NAPWDA, USPCA, NPCA AND NTPDA for certification rules. Those organization will choose the odors to be tested, the weights, and the different search areas to be tested.

2.2 Certification Minimum Standards:

A minimum of six (6) odors from Page 1, Section 1.2 will be used.

A minimum of five (5) grams with no maximum.

Areas tested: Minimum of three (3) from the following:

Buildings

Vehicles

Baggage or Parcels

Open Area

Aircraft

Mass Transit, Boats, Buses, etc.

Real explosives only shall be used in certification

Minimum 70% passing.

2.3 No person who is an evaluator for any of the listed K-9 organizations may be allowed to certify their own agency's K-9s.

3. Maintenance Training

3.1 This type of training is meant to sustain and enhance the performance of the handler and canine and their ability to work together as a team.

3.2 In training, situations are purposely sought where the capabilities of the canine team are challenged in environments which simulate those in which the team may be deployed.

- 3.3 Training sessions should include the following:
- 3.3.1 A variety of locations, environments and times of day.
 - 3.3.2 A variety of training aides of varying amounts that may be typically found in the operational environments.
 - 3.3.3 A variety of heights, depths, containers and distraction odors.
 - 3.3.4 Various types of searches including vehicles, buildings, parcels, luggage and open areas.
 - 3.3.5 Variation in the duration of the searches.
 - 3.3.6 A variety of blank searches.
- 3.4 The canine team should conduct regular objective-oriented training sessions sufficient to maintain operational proficiency.
- 3.4.1 Routine training, conducted solely by the handler to maintain the canine team's proficiency and to reinforce odor recognition, is an acceptable form of training, but must be combined with supervised training on a regular basis. Supervised training conducted by a qualified trainer, instructor or k9 unit supervisor, other than the handler, in order to improve performance, identify and correct training deficiencies and perform proficiency assessments.
 - 3.4.2 The canine team shall spend an average of four (4) hours per week training to maintain the proficiency level of the team.
- 3.5 Maintenance training should represent all conditions that could be encountered during a certification process.

4. Training Aids

- 4.1 Every effort should be made to train on actual explosives and chemicals used in the making of explosives.
- 4.2 The training aids shall be stored in accordance with local, state and federal regulations.
- 4.3 Training aids shall be labeled and packaged in a manner safe for the handler and canine.
- 4.4 The training aid shall be maintained and handled in a manner to avoid loss, spillage, or destruction.
- 4.5 Storage of non-peroxide based training aids should be in a manner to prevent odor cross contamination or physical contamination, i.e., each training aid substance should be stored in separate impermeable containers such as paint cans, Teflon sealed glass jars stored within a federal, state or locally approved explosive storage magazine.
- 4.6 The source of training aids should be reliable and documented.

4.7 Disposal and or destruction of the training aids shall follow local, state and federal regulations.

4.8 Transportation and vehicle storage of training aids shall follow local, state and federal guidelines.

4.9 Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) must be available for each material utilized.

5. **Documentation**

5.1 The handler, department, and organization should maintain training records, training materials, proficiency assessments and utilization records.

5.2 Records should contain discipline-related specifics.

5.3 Records be standardized with the department, agency and/or organization.

5.4 Documents should be retained in accordance with unit, state and federal guidelines.

5.4.1 Training records should include but not be limited to the following data:

5.4.1.1 Date and time training took place.

5.4.1.2 Name or badge number of person placing aids.

5.4.1.3 Type and amount of training aid used.

5.4.1.4 Length of training session.

5.4.1.5 Location where training took place.

5.4.1.6 Type of training (e.g., vehicle, luggage, building, open area)

5.4.1.7 Searches and indications, i.e., results of searches.

5.4.2 Certification records should be kept by the certifying authority and handler and include the following information.

5.4.2.1 Date team was certified

5.4.2.2 Certification from the professional organization

5.4.2.3 Name of individual awarding certification.

5.4.2.4 Type of materials for which certification granted.

5.4.2.5 Location of certification.

5.4.2.6 Name of canine and handler.

5.4.3 Deployment/utilization records should contain the following information:

5.4.3.1 Date and time of deployment.

5.4.3.2 Location of deployment.

5.4.3.3 Length of search.

5.4.3.4 Description of activity.

5.4.3.5 Result of search.

5.4.3.6 Other information required by the organization and/or agency.

6. **Use of records/documentation**

6.1 Reliability of the canine team should be based upon the results of certification and proficiency assessments.

6.2 Training records do not necessarily reflect reliability.

6.3 Training records are necessary to illustrate the type and amount of training that the team has experience before and after certification.