



Policy and Procedure

Number: 1116

Subject: Canine Team: Miscellaneous Searches		
Date Issued: 9-12-86	Effective Date: 04-30-10	Revision Number: 4

POLICY:

To establish a procedure for effective use of the Department Canine Team during miscellaneous searches.

PROCEDURE:

When the Canine Team is dispatched to or a situation is discovered in which the search skill of the Department canine may be of service, the following steps shall be taken:

**SUPERVISOR/
MEMBER:**

1. Notify the Shift/Unit Commander and request the use of the Canine Team.
2. While waiting for the Canine Team's arrival, take the precautions necessary to protect all evidence:
 - a. Do not handle any materials that may be used by the canine to conduct the search.
 - b. Attempt to seal off the area by all means possible within the physical limits of the search scene.
3. Members assigned to the search perimeter will not enter the search area unless specifically requested by the canine handler or other competent authority.
 - a. Secure all avenues of escape.
 - b. Eliminate as much noise as possible.

SUPERVISOR:

1. Upon the arrival of the Canine Team, brief the handler on the search situation and advise the handler of any avenues for the suspects escape or areas, which could conceal the suspect.
2. Do not allow other personnel into the search area during the Canine Team's search unless the handler requests other personnel to accompany him/her or requests immediate assistance.

CANINE HANDLER:

1. Upon arrival at the search location, confer with the supervisor to determine that the area perimeter has been properly secured.
2. Prior to beginning the search process, a "CANINE WARNING" shall be given where appropriate. The canine warning shall consist of a verbal notice given in the direction of the suspect via loud voice, bullhorn, or vehicle P.A. system, warning that a canine shall be released if the suspect does not surrender.
3. The handler shall provide an adequate time lapse for surrender prior to beginning the search.
4. While conducting the search, keep perimeter personnel advised of your progress and location.
5. If the Canine Team apprehends a suspect, request assistance from perimeter personnel.
6. Apprehended suspects shall be turned over to the reporting case officer for booking, unless the on-scene supervisor would specify otherwise.
7. Upon completion of the search and/or apprehension, complete a Supplementary Incident Report (PP95A) detailing all involvement and action taken.

NOTE:

The canine handler responding to a request for service shall be in charge of that portion of the operation relating to the use of the canine. A supervisor may take charge at his/her discretion. If a canine handler is requested to commence an action he/she feels he/she cannot or should not perform, the handler shall advise the commanding officer or supervisor. If the supervisor or commanding officer allows the order to stand, the handler shall attempt to comply.

**RELATED
PROCEDURES:**

[400, 2.f.\(2\) – Rules of Conduct, Duty to Obey, Conflict of Orders](#)
[1112 – Canine Team – Guidelines](#)
[1113 – Use of Department Canine Team](#)
[1115 – Canine Team: Building Searches](#)
[1117 – Canine Team: Documenting Canine Use of Force](#)
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