

## TRAINING TASK: TACTICAL BUILDING SEARCHES / K-9

### TASK # 25

#### **Purpose**

The officer will learn the practicality of calling out a K-9 unit in certain incidents. The officer will learn how to tactically search a building.

#### **Preceding Task:**

Alarm Response  
Use of Force

#### **I. Statute and City Ordinances**

None

#### **II. Policy and Procedure**

A. G.O. 41.1.4 Special Purpose Vehicles

#### **III. Operational Procedure**

- A. Arrival at scene
  - 1. Secure the perimeter
  - 2. Direct and place additional crews
  - 3. Intelligence/information gathering
  - 4. Establish a Command Post if serious
- B. Determination of necessity
  - 1. Patrol vs SRT
    - a. Patrol searches when open door, alarm, non-violent circumstances
    - b. SRT is used in hostage situation, barricaded subject, violent felon, or high risk entry
  - 2. K-9 is most preferable when SRT is not called out - if K-9 not on duty ask supervisor for call out
- C. Search of Building
- D. General information
  - 1. K-9 will be deployed at discretion of handler or supervisor
  - 2. It is very important not to contaminate a scene or moving about prior to arrival of K-9

3. K-9 is trained in and should be utilized in:
    - a. Building searches
      1. First officer on the scene must secure the perimeter
        - a. Think containment
        - b. Stay clear of windows
        - c. Keep flashlight and radio to a minimum
        - d. Maintain position **EVEN** if suspect flees building
      2. Do not enter building
      3. Stay away from suspect vehicles
      4. Keep other people and animals away
      5. Perimeter duty is most important to maximize effectiveness of search
      6. At least 1 Officer will go inside on search w/ K9 team. Stay with Handler, do not wonder off. Also, the primary purpose of the back-up Officer is to scan for threats (Handler Safety), not to watch the K9.
  4. Maintain outer perimeter
  5. Work together as a team with no less than four officers on tactical search
  6. Maintain sight contact with other team members
  7. Radio and flashlight control/discipline
  8. Planned pattern
    - a. Perimeter
    - b. Covering multiple rooms
    - c. False ceilings
    - d. Basements /crawl spaces
    - e. False walls and access ways
    - f. Listen for clues and movement
    - g. Look for signs of disruption where people could have hidden
  9. Weapon selection--handgun vs rifle
  10. If search done by patrol and gets out of hand, back out and secure until help arrives
  11. **SAFETY OF OFFICERS IS PRIME IMPORTANCE**
- E. Additional K-9 Procedures
  1. Area searches
    - a. Particularly in enclose areas like lumber yards
    - b. Same principles as building searches
  2. Tracking-less than one hour old
    - a. Do not contaminate scene
    - b. K-9 follows track of most recent human being
    - c. If on tracking team:
      1. Be in flanking position 10-15 feet behind handler
      2. Focus on front and sides, scanning.
      3. **HANDLER WILL CONTROL ARREST**

4. Primary purpose of back-up, Handler Safety – don't watch the dog.
- d. Set up a perimeter as soon as possible:
  1. 3 or less Officer's for perimeter: Use a roving perimeter.
  2. 4 or more Officer's for perimeter: Use of stationary, roving or mixture of the 2 may be used.
  3. When setting up perimeter, think of how long it has been since incident and how far suspect(s) could have got. That will determine how wide the initial perimeter needs to be.
  4. Expand/move perimeter as track progresses.
  5. Do not hide on perimeter, use overhead lights, spot lights, headlights, etc. – make yourself visible.
  6. If stationary, make sure your engine is off, exhaust kills scent.
3. High risk situations
  - a. KPD, Centerville PD, MCSO, Beavercreek, Riverside, Miami Township and Miamisburg have a Dual Purpose K9s (Patrol/Drugs)
  - b. WPAFB and Middletown have a bomb dog
4. Vehicle stops involving K-9
  - a. Watch k-9's location if you are back up
  - b. K-9 officer will tell you about K-9 if you are back up
  - c. K-9 unit is in pursuit K-9 will be deployed to make arrest that flee--**HOLD YOUR POSITION**
5. Handler distress/hurt
  - a. If handler and K-9 in fight talk to handler as you approach
  - b. Automobile accident
    1. Enclose K-9 in compartment if possible
    2. Distract dog at rear of car to close cage
  - c. If handler and K-9 out of car
    1. Pull K-9 vehicle up and tell dog to "load up"
    2. Take bite with sleeve in trunk and walk dog through the car
  - d. Stay calm, talk calmly to dog, do not hurt the dog--if all else fails call family member
6. Narcotic Sniffs – All KPD K9's are trained in narcotic detection. Any vehicle legally stopped may be subject to an exterior K9 sniff. However, it is best to develop some type of justification (suspicious behavior, known drug history, etc.) as a basis before having a K9 sniff conducted.
  - a. As in any K9 Sniff, your job will be to watch occupants after their removal from the vehicle to ensure Handler Safety.

- b. Keep occupants attention away from Handler and K9. If suspect attempts to distract K9, stop it and consider arrest.

\*\*\*K9 **CAN NOT** be used to sniff houses/apartments/hotel rooms without consent of owner/renter. K9 alert to exterior of door to house/apartment/hotel does not give authority to search – Search Warrant would still be required.

F. K-9 handler will document K-9's usage on a call

*I acknowledge that I received training in the skills and knowledge necessary to perform in the above Training/Task Topics, and I am able to perform at an acceptable level.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Probationary Officer                      Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Supervisor                      Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*FTO                      Date*