

# ESWDA

## FIREARMS DETECTION TEST

This test will determine the proficiency and reliability of dogs in the detection of firearms and related odors.

**All canine teams must be tested on FOUR out of the five basic odors. The basic odors to be tested on are:**

- 1 Firearms ( both cleaned and recently fired) **\*Required Scent**
- 2 Magazines ( both loaded and empty) **\*Required Scent**
- 3 Shells ( both brass and shotgun) **\*Required Scent**
- 4 Gun Powders- both black and smokeless
- 5 Shell casings (which are empty and have been previously discharged)

The minimum weight of the powders used shall be one half (1/2) ounce and the maximum weight of powders used shall be one (1) ounce . Each area tested will contain a minimum one aids and a maximum of three aids with each aid being a different basic odor. The handler will not be told the number or type of basic odors they are searching for.

The canine team will be tested in four (4) areas. The canine team must search the areas of Building(s), Vehicles , Open Area and Baggage / Packages.

**For certification the K-9 team CANNOT miss any aid in any phase of testing.** A false indication is considered a miss and will cause the K-9 team to fail the test. All aids will be hidden at least thirty (30) minutes prior to testing. The term “aid” shall mean any firearm or related odor, which is used for testing purposes. If an aid has to be moved to a new location, the previously used area must be removed as a testing site. Each handler shall brief the examining K-9 trainer as to the dogs alert and response to aids prior to testing and each indication to a training aid by the canine should be obvious to the examining K-9 trainer. The purpose of the testing is to observe the team’s ability to locate a hidden firearm or related odor. It should be noted that all aids might not be pinpointed to source due to height, wind current and/or placement of the testing aid.

**STRICT SAFETY MEASURES SHALL BE UPHOLD DURING TESTING !!**

## **BUILDING SEARCH:**

The building search will consist of a minimum of three (3) rooms and a maximum of six (6) rooms. Each room will be at least 144 square feet and have some type of items in it. Only one (1) aid may be placed in each room. One or more rooms shall contain **NO** aid(s). One aid must be placed at least 6 feet in height from grade level. The aids will be placed so the canine cannot retrieve same. The handler may not open cabinet doors, desk drawers, closet doors, etc.

## **VEHICLE SEARCH:**

Four (4) vehicles minimum with a maximum of eight (8) vehicles, of any type or model including pickup trucks and vans shall be used for testing purposes. The vehicles will be parked in a configuration so as to allow the team to have easy access to each vehicle. The aids will be placed so the canine cannot retrieve same. Only one (1) aid may be placed on or inside each vehicle. A minimum of three (3) vehicles shall have **NO** testing aid placed on it.

## **OPEN AREA SEARCH:**

1. Exterior of buildings
2. Open fields
3. Wooded area

The search area is to be no larger than seventy-five (75) yards by seventy-five (75) yards and no smaller than twenty five (25) yards by twenty five (25) yards or any configuration thereof. Aids will be placed at the discretion of the Trainer and can be placed anywhere from a maximum of six (6) inches below surface level to a maximum of six feet (6) above surface level. A maximum of three (3) aids shall be placed in the area to be searched.

## **PACKAGES/BAGGAGE SEARCH:**

Baggage shall be defined as hard and soft shell suitcases, attache cases, clothes bags, briefcases, golf bags, sea bags, duffel bags, etc.

Packages shall be defined as cardboard boxes, shipping envelopes, paper boxes and envelopes, or Express Mail type envelopes.

Fifteen (15) bags/packages minimum with a maximum of thirty (30) bags/packages or a combination thereof shall be used. All aids will be placed inside the bags/packages in a manner such that the canine cannot retrieve same. A minimum of eight (8) bags/packages shall have **NO** training aid placed in it.

### **Person Search (Optional):**

A minimum of seven (7) people and a maximum of ten (10) people shall be used for this area of testing. It is recommended that an equal amount of male and female subjects be used for testing purposes. One (1) testing aid will be hidden on one (1) person and all the subjects will be required to stand in a single file fashion with a minimum of four (4) feet and a maximum of six (6) feet between subjects. The canine will be required to walk past and find the person in which the testing aid is hidden. Upon the dog finding the subject who is hiding the testing aid, the suspect subject shall be moved into a different location in the lineup and the test shall be repeated. This shall be done a total of three (3) times. If the canine indicates on the same subject who is hiding the testing aid, the test shall be considered passed. If the canine does not perform the test correctly three (3) times in a row or indicates on a person upon whom **NO** testing aid is hidden, the test is considered failed. If a canine shows any aggression or antisocial behavior towards anyone in the lineup, the canine will be immediately disqualified and considered failed. The canine shall not jump up on or scratch any person in the lineup. Such behavior shall be cause for immediate disqualification. Behaviors which are benign canine behaviors, i.e., brushing past the person touching them with his tail, touching the person with his nose, shall not be cause for disqualification.

The firearms detection test shall be graded on a pass/fail basis.

**This certification is valid from one (1) year from date of issue.**