



This examination is designed to establish the effectiveness in the detection capability of the Narcotic Detection K-9 Team. The examination consists of a number of different detection exercises. The handler and dog will be required to successfully complete the exercises as a team. These exercises are designed to be as closely related to realistic situations and conditions as possible. The exercises present the detector dog with various amounts of appropriate narcotic substances, contained in an assortment of wrappings and packaging, concealed in any number of different locations, among a multitude of distractions. These exercises provide for the evaluation of the detector dog while the team is engaged in a search where the narcotic involved is positively emitting a detectable odor. The detector dog will be required to demonstrate a 100% success rate at closely examining, detecting, and responding to the odor of the concealed narcotics. Equally important, the detector dog and handler must complete the examination without exhibiting any false indication. The appearance of a false indication during testing will result in an unsatisfactory completion of the Narcotic Detection K-9 Team examination and a certification will not be granted. The evaluation will be scored on a Pass/ Fail basis.

The K-9 team can be tested on the following odors:

1. Marijuana
2. Hashish
3. Heroin
4. Cocaine
5. Crack Cocaine
6. Methamphetamine
7. Ecstasy
8. Oxycodone

Note: The above list of drugs can be used for testing but it is up to the individual police department or private company, as to what they want the K-9 team to be tested on. The K-9 Team is to provide a list of drugs they want to be certified on in advance of the test.

The minimum weight of the narcotics used for testing will be no less than five (5) grams and no larger than twenty-five (25) grams of each substance being tested. The examining K-9 trainer will insure that the narcotic substances being used for testing were legally obtained and their use and storage are in compliance with all Local, State/Provincial and Federal laws. Only actual narcotic substances will be used for the testing. The examining K-9 trainer will insure that the quality or purity of each substance used in these exercises are known and determined by a legally acceptable standard.

With respect to certification testing done in Canada, due to the weight allowance set by Health Canada, all weights used for testing will be determined by the examining K-9 trainer in accordance with their Local, Provincial and Federal Laws.

There will be at least two (2) hides but no more than four (4) hides per section of the test. The handler will not be told what type of hide it is or the number of hides. The hides will be hidden 45 minutes prior to the start of the test. There is a twenty (20) minute time limit for each section of this test. If a K-9 team fails any particular area of this test, they may not be re-tested until a twenty-four (24) hour time period has elapsed from the end of the failed test.

No rewards will be hidden with the narcotic substances. (towels, balls, pipe, etc.) During each section of the test, the examining K-9 trainer will also hide one (1) distractor item, e.g., food, towel, ball, dog toy. If the dog indicates on the distractor item, the test will be considered failed.

The K-9 team must score a perfect score on all of the areas and narcotics being tested. If the K-9 team misses at least one (1) hide, that area of the test will be considered to have been failed. The K-9's alert shall be noticeable to the examining K-9 trainer.

If the dog false alerts during the test, that area of the test will be considered failed

Test Setup:

Recognition/ Scent Association

1. In order to ascertain the dog's response to the actual narcotic odor a point-to-point exercise will be conducted using one of the narcotics listed below. The team will be required to search for approximately twenty paces in straight line from one point to another. The narcotic substance shall be concealed between the two points no more than three feet off the ground. The substance will be positioned so that the odor will be available for the dog to detect, but not allowing for him to physically contact the substance. This exercise will be conducted using a sterile glass container with narcotic substance (amount according to examining K-9 trainer).
2. The team must demonstrate the ability to successfully complete this exercise prior to proceeding with any other exercises.
3. This exercise will be conducted using one of the following narcotics - Heroin, Cocaine, Methamphetamine,

The K-9 team will be tested in the following areas:

1. Buildings - The testing shall be carried out in a building which allows the use of multiple rooms. The rooms may be equipped such as a residential home, hotel/motel, dormitory, office, etc. There must be five (5) rooms used for testing.
2. Vehicles - Seven (7) vehicles shall be made available for the test. If possible, a larger type commercial vehicle, e.g., bus, van, truck, should be included in the vehicle testing.
3. Baggage or packages - these are to include both cardboard, and both soft and hard shell type luggage. Twenty five (25) bags/packages must be used for the testing.

The examining K-9 trainer shall ensure that the test areas are free from any residual narcotic odor and emulates realistic deployment parameters.

Certification:

The handler and K-9 will be certified as a team. The examining K-9 trainer will determine if the team is certified at the completion of the exercise(s).

Provided that the K-9 team passes their certification, each narcotic substance that the K-9 team was trained and tested on and successfully passed, will be listed on their respective K-9 team certification.

An Eastern States Working Dog Association Inc. Narcotic Detection Certification is good for a period of one (1) year.