

CANINE HANDLERS COURSE - 4 WEEKS

Common Mistakes in Training Programs Handlers: *“Once the dog is trained, we’ll select a handler and they can hit the streets.” “We’ll pay to send the handler to a two- or three-week- or even a two- or three- month handler course with/without the dog and then when he/she is done they can handle all the dogs training after that.” “We will just train with the other local agencies.” “We cannot afford to send officers to an in-service Canine Handlers Course.”* Those are arrangements and arguments commonly used by administrators to cut costs.

However, the problems with those types of arrangements are numerous. Typically, a department purchases a trained dog from a private vendor or facility. When the dog’s training is complete, the handler attends a three-week handler course to learn how to work with the dog. The team then hits the streets and then the problems start almost immediately. In most cases, the handler has never handled a working dog before. The handler is not going to learn from a three-week class how to work out the problems on his or her own. In that amount of time, a handler gets the bare minimum of information about how to handle an already trained dog.

K-9 Handler Course - 4 Weeks:

The Handlers Course is structured to assist handlers with their own dogs in starting and continuing Detection Dog work. Handler will be trained with the canine in the field of Detection Dog Work, which includes canine obedience to odor, odor recognition training for the canine, handling techniques, search techniques for the handler and canine, canine and handler safety, basic training aid handling, all documenting requirements, report writing, canine legal update, proper utilization of the canine, and basic canine first aid.

Handler and canine will be trained 5 days a week for 8 hours a day under an agreement with your department and K-9 STAC after the approval of the initial proposal. The training sessions will be held at our training facility. Later, in the training process, the sessions will be in a variety of areas, which the canine and handler will be utilized to work throughout your areas of jurisdiction. Handlers along with their dogs should depart the course with a clear understanding and direction in regards to the method with unlimited assistance following the course.

Course requires:

- Each handler will be allowed to bring one canine
- Canine must have health records
- Canine must pass our selection test
- Handlers will be limited to 5 Handlers per course