



## **ATF and National Canine Associations enter partnership to improve explosives detection canine standards**

- Provide National 2 part certification to Law Enforcement Explosive Detection Canine Teams.
- Partners with existing International and National Canine Associations; USPCA, NAPWDA, IPWDA and NPCA.
- Encourages/Requires participation in International and National Canine Associations.
- Creates and facilitates greater interaction between Explosive Community and Canine Community.
- Refocuses existing resources from training of new canines to advanced training of existing canine teams.
- Addresses canine training/certification for Explosive Detection Canine Teams and Explosive Canine Trainers.
- Seeking Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation (FLETA)

### **Directives:**

- ATF will only offer the National Odor Recognition Test (NORT) each fiscal year to canine association members through an organized test with that association. Each association will be given three test sites of their choice per fiscal year.
- All certifications will be conducted by the canine associations and the ATF and must be renewed on a yearly basis.
- Re-certifications will be conducted by the ATF at these events for any association member who has completed the ATF Advanced Certification Course and who meet the requirements of membership with the canine association and have a current certification within that association.
- Any association member not holding a current certification would not be allowed to participate in an ATF certification unless they were willing to join the hosting association and pass the certification of that association.

### **Courses Offered:**

#### **National Canine Initiative Course (Handler)**

40-hour course will provide **Handlers** training and certification for canine teams in the area of explosives detection. Training topics include Explosives Recognition and Safety, Training Aid Storage, Handling, Transportation, Air movement, Legal aspects, Contamination and Investigative Application of Canine on Operational Missions.

### **Requirements to attend:**

- Law Enforcement Officer (active)
- Member in good standing with one or more of the listed canine associations.
- Minimum two years as an explosive detection canine handler and current certification with one or more of the listed canine associations.
- Successful completion of the ATF National Odor Recognition Test (NORT) within the last twelve months. **Waived until January 2009.**

### **National Canine Initiative Course (Evaluator)**

This 40-hour course provides Departmental canine trainers with consistent techniques to improve the proficiency of canine teams for the detection of explosives during criminal investigations and operational uses. The course will teach the **Evaluators** canine imprintation of new odors, how to set up and help canine teams to be successful in passing the NORT as well as the operational certification. Evaluators will work under the direction and established procedures of the ATF regarding explosives canine training and national certification initiatives.

### **Requirements to attend:**

#### **Trainer:**

- Law Enforcement Officer (active or retired)
- Member in good standing with one or more of the listed canine associations.
- Recognized as explosives detection canine trainer with one or more of the listed canine associations.
- All candidates must submit a resume to include all explosives detection canine handler and trainer experience.
- ATF will make the final determination on all selections based upon geographical funding and over-all needs of the ATF.

#### **Handler:**

- Law Enforcement Officer (active)
- Member in good standing with one or more of the listed canine associations.
- Minimum five years as an explosive detection canine handler with a current certification with at least one of the listed canine organizations.
- Successful completion of the ATF NORT within the last twelve months
- Successful completion of the ATF National Canine Initiative Course
- ATF will make the final determination on all selections based upon geographical funding and over-all needs of the ATF.

## **Administrative Protocol**

- Applicants must fill out entry application form and then forward it to their respective organizations Person in Charge (POC) listed on the bottom of the application for concurrence. The organizational POC will then forward the application to the POC listed below.
- The application can be emailed to [Patrick.L.Davis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Patrick.L.Davis@usdoj.gov) or faxed to the Canine Training Branch at 540-622-6598 in care of Patrick Davis.
- The ATF will then process the application based on slots available and equitable distribution for all Canine Associations. In all cases the individual and the responsible department will be notified.
- The ATF will fund the course for all individuals attending the course; to include transportation, lodging and per diem.



**DOJ/ATF, National Canine Initiative Courses  
ATF Canine Training Center, Front Royal, Virginia**

**TRAINING REGISTRATION**

NAME (as you would like on certificate)

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COURSE ATTENDING     Evaluator     Handler

TITLE

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SSN (for Travel Reimbursement)

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AGENCY/DEPARTMENT

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Supervisors Name and Phone

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ADDRESS

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EMAIL

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BUSINESS PHONE

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CELL PHONE

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Shirt Size

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K9 NAME/Age    Class dates to attend    Alternate date

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Years of K9 experience    Types of K9 worked    Types of K9 Trained

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(for example) P (Patrol), N (Narcotics), E (Explosives), PN or PE, Other

Approximate # of Canines Trained

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Current Member in good standing of one or more of the Canine Associations: (Mark all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/>	USPCA	<input type="checkbox"/>	NAPWDA	<input type="checkbox"/>	NPCA	<input type="checkbox"/>	IPWDA
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Date certified with organization

Date of N.O.R.T. completion

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**Contact and forward to your organization person in charge**

Mike Rudolph	USPCA	<a href="mailto:mjr.rudolph@gmail.com">mjr.rudolph@gmail.com</a>	612-916-6160
Bruce Schofield	NAPWDA	<a href="mailto:napwda.ca@earthlink.net">napwda.ca@earthlink.net</a>	951-315-1639
Katy Farnsworth	NPCA	<a href="mailto:farnsfam4@msn.com">farnsfam4@msn.com</a>	877-362-1219
Dick Sheehy	IPWDA	<a href="mailto:rns910@aol.com">rns910@aol.com</a>	508-631-3896

Canine Association information verified by:

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N.O.R.T. information verified by:

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