

K9 RESPONSE					
Checklist	Questionnaire	Sample Questions For K9 Handlers	Required	Does Not Qualify	Notes
	Resume/CV	Do you have a resume/CV for handler and K9?	Handler must have a professional resume for themselves and their K9. Handler must submit resume/CV for themselves and K9 to the lead detective prior to deployment, and again with the report at the end of the deployment for the case file.	Handlers who cannot produce a Handler and K9 resume or CV immediately upon request shall not be permitted to deploy on a case and the team is deemed unfit for deployment.	This is required best practice per US Supreme Court guidelines and is used to establish credibility and subject matter expertise.
	Certification	Who are you certified through?	POST, NAPWDA, IPWDA. Handler must submit proof of certification prior to responding to the case.	NSDA, Tri-State, In-House, CARDA, or "none" (to name a few) deems the team unfit for deployment.	Although common around some states, NSDA or Tri-State do not meet US Supreme Court Standards
	Discipline K9 is certified in.	Is your K9 certified in HRD? Trained in forensics?	K9 must be trained in Human remains detection and trained specifically in forensics. Handler must provide proof of certification.	K9s certified in live find or disciplines other than HRD Forensics, or trained only in large cadaver, wilderness cadaver or cadaver awareness, is not sufficient for criminal cases and deems the team unfit for deployment on ANY criminal case.	Most handlers in Idaho and surrounding states, especially those on SAR units, have multi-discipline dogs that are trained to find live people, or items other than human remains. This is not acceptable for US Supreme Court as a forensic K9.
	Yearly evaluation	How often does your certifying agency require you to recertify? How often do you recertify or get an assessment? When was your last one?	Handlers recvaluation must be within 12 months of the date of the investigation/mission. Handler must submit proof of assessment within 12 months of certification evaluation date is more than 1 year	Most certifications only require reevaluation every 2-3 years. Handlers must receive an annual assessment regardless of certification standards. Inability to submit proof of annual reevaluations deems the team unfit for deployment.	US Supreme Court best practice is yearly evaluations.
	16 hours per month	Have you ever not met the 16 hour/month training requirement?	16 or more hours per month are required since the K9s previous certification. Handler must submit proof of recency via training log stats sheet.	Less than 16 hours of training during any 60 day period voids the K9s certification and deems the team unfit for deployment.	US Supreme Court requires 16 hours per month of documented training.
	Log Books	Are your logbooks up to date? What system do you use to document training logs?	Handlers must submit a summary for the last 30 days showing recency of experience and proper log book documentation. Logbooks should be through PackTrack. Handler must submit training log PDF for 30 days.	Answers about what kind of logbooks they use that are "excel", "notebook", "Journal" or anything other than PACKTRACK or KATZK9 is not acceptable. Inability to submit a PDF of summary of training recency and logbooks deems the team unfit for deployment on a criminal investigation.	US Supreme Court recognizes PackTrack most widely and PackTrack is best practice, and used in law enforcement.
	Probable Cause Qualified	Does your K9 meet requirements to obtain probable cause?	Human remains that would confirm the victim had to be deceased in order for that to be available- bones - tissues - organs - etc. Handler may verbally confirm, and 30 days of training log history will also aid in verification	Cannot have trained on exclusive blood, teeth, hair, cremains, finger nails, placenta or pseudo scent. If the K9 has trained on blood only, teeth only, placenta only, it may not be used to obtain probable cause.	K9s trained on any of the previous items by themselves may not legally be used to obtain probable cause according to case law.
	Detector K9 Handler Best Practice Standards	Are you intimately familiar with NIST /SWGDOG? Are you intimately familiar with Sheepdog Guardian Consulting? Have you reviewed all case study? **Do you CURRENTLY MEET ALL STANDARDS?*	Verbal confirmation that they are familiar with and comply with all standards, and membership and have reviewed all standards and case studies. This includes being proficient in knowledge of Review Mark Redwine - Trial, "Cadaver dogs—A study on detection of contaminated carpet squares", "Reliability of Bloodhounds in Criminal Investigations", "ASB Technical Report 025, Crime Scene Death Investigation – Dogs and Sensors Terms and Definitions", ANSI/ASB Standard 088, General Guidelines for Training, Certification, and Documentation of Canine Detection Disciplines, ASB Standard 135 - Scene Detection and Processing in Forensic Anthropology", Best practice standards according to Sheepdog Guardian Consulting, State vs. Bucki, Cadaver Dog Handbook, Ethics and Legal Issues in the Courtroom", "K9s in the Courtroom"	Inability to confirm compliance with NIST/ANSI/ASB, SWGDOG and Sheepdog Guardian shall deem the team unfit to respond to a criminal investigation.	All deployable teams must comply with NIST/SWGDOG and ASB standards to meeting best practice guidelines for the US Supreme Court. Sheepdog Guardian Consulting is a legal expert entity in the K9 industry. All handler records must be in compliance of and reviewed by sheepdog guardian to ensure they are up to date with latest US Supreme Court best practice standards.
	Reports	Do you turn in reports after each mission?	Full report of sniff is due within 7 days of the investigation.	Inability to submit reports, complete with diagrams, tracks, resume of handler and K9 after the mission deems the team unfit to respond to a criminal investigation.	A detailed and conclusive report after every single deployment is required of every K9 handler regardless of whether or not the K9 had any interest on that deployment.
	Recorded tracks	Are you able to download all handler and K9 tracks into caltopo at the conclusion of the mission?	All K9 and handler tracks must be able to be recorded, downloaded onto a map, and submitted at the conclusion of the mission, along with the report	Inability of the team to record all tracks and download onto a universal map system (CalTopo) deems the team unfit for response.	All tracks must be submitted in addition to the report.
	Agency Affiliation	What agencies have you assisted on cases with?	K9 Teams should produce enough agencies that can be used to know what kind of cases they have worked, when and to call for references as needed.	Inability of the K9 team to produce a viable list of verifiable agencies assisted, should not be utilized as a resource.	
	Fitness	Do you and your K9 have an annual fitness requirement? If so, what is it and when was it done last?	All handlers and K9s must be adequately fit and healthy to deploy on a case and not be a potential liability.	Inability for the team to produce verification of fitness standards and compliance are deemed unfit for deployment.	
	Medical	Do you have a current first aid, CPR, Wilderness First Aid or higher?	CPR, First Aid is required. Wilderness First Aid or higher is strongly advised.	Inability of handler to produce current first aid/CPR documents deems the team unfit for deployment.	
	Law Enforcement affiliation	Do you personally have an affiliation with law enforcement as either active law enforcement or a member in good standing of a sheriff's office, constable and	All handlers should be personally affiliated with a law enforcement agency as an LE employee or as a member of a SAR unit that is a subunit of the sheriff's office.		