1-64 PATROL CANINE (K-9) UNIT

Related SOP(s), Forms(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):

A. Related SOP(s)

   2-1 Uniforms
   2-8 Use of On-Body Recording Devices
   2-52 Use of Force: General
   2-56 Use of Force: Reporting by Department Personnel
   2-57 Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel

B. Form(s)

   Canine (K-9) Kennel Inspection Form

C. Other Resource(s):

   None

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

   None

1-64-1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedures for Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit personnel for the proper use of Police Service Dogs (PSD) in locating and apprehending specific individuals suspected of committing a crime, for conducting searches, and for protecting the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler.

1-64-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) for certified Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers to deploy a PSD based on the rules outlined in this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

1-64-3 Definitions

A. Apprehension

   Any occasion when a PSD is deployed and plays a clear and well-documented role in apprehending an individual. In order to play a clear and documented role, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler must articulate the PSD's role, such as being the subject of warnings, following bark commands, performing a search, or the individual stating that the PSD influenced their decision to submit to arrest.
B. Accidental Bite

Any occurrence when the PSD bites an unintended person. An accidental bite is not considered for purposes of calculating the bite ratio of Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers.

C. Bite

A skin puncture or tear caused by the teeth of a PSD.

D. Bite Apprehension

Any apprehension where a bite occurred.

E. Bite Ratios

Calculation of the number of bite apprehensions divided by the total number of apprehensions for a given time period. For the purpose of this calculation, PSD bites will not include accidental bites or directed bites.

F. Deployment

Any situation, except an on-leash article search, where a PSD is brought to the scene and is used in an attempt to locate or apprehend an individual suspected of committing a crime, whether or not the individual is located or apprehended.

G. Directed Bite

When a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler directs a PSD to bite a visually-identified individual. A directed bite will be investigated as a use of force. If a bite occurs, this investigation will be conducted as a Level 3 use of force investigation.

H. Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler

An officer who is certified as a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit handler, who is assigned to a particular PSD, who deploys with their assigned PSD, and who is responsible for the PSD’s care twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days per week.

I. Police Service Dog (PSD)

A canine that is assigned to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit after it meets the selection standards and certification requirements as established by the Special Operations Division (SOD).

J. PSD-Inflicted Injury

Any injury caused by a PSD that is not a bite, including knocking a person down,
scratches, and/or abrasions.

K. Search

When a PSD is deployed into a search area or structure to locate an individual who is suspected of committing a crime, or concealing themselves from law enforcement.

6 1-64-4 Rules and Responsibilities

A. General Responsibilities

1. A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall:
   a. Be responsible for the actions of their PSDs, both on and off duty;
   b. Prior to giving the PSD a break, ensure there are no community members in the immediate area;
      i. If so, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall keep the PSD on a leash during the break.
   c. When moving away from their Department-issued police vehicle while the PSD is inside, ensure the PSD has proper climate control for the given weather conditions
   d. Ensure that their Department-issued police vehicle is properly secured; and
   e. Meet with a Department Behavioral Sciences Section (BSS) clinician on an annual basis.

2. A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall not use their assigned PSD:
   a. To assist in civil disturbances or crowd control;
   b. To affect the arrest of known highly intoxicated, feeble, or otherwise incapacitated or disabled persons(s) who obviously cannot escape, resist, or become an immediate threat to sworn personnel or others;
   c. To apprehend individuals experiencing a known behavioral health crisis who have not committed a felony crime;
   d. To apprehend known suicidal individuals who have not committed a felony crime;
   e. To search commercial buildings or schools without clear signs of unauthorized entry, or when no Reporting Party (“RP”) is present or contacted, or when FSB sworn personnel cannot make contact with the RP to establish elements of a crime; or
   f. To engage an individual by directing the PSD to apprehend them if a lower level of force is feasible and deemed safe, and could reasonably be expected to control and apprehend the individual.

3. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall manage requests for PSD demonstrations and exhibitions.
4. Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit supervisors and Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers shall wear the Department-approved black or blue alternate duty uniform, consistent with SOP Uniforms.

   a. Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit supervisors and Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers are authorized to wear green alternate duty uniforms upon completion of necessary SWAT Operator certifications.

B. Use and Deployment of a PSD

1. The primary duties and responsibilities of the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit shall include, but are not limited to:

   a. Building searches to locate an individual suspected of committing a felony crime or an individual suspected of committing a misdemeanor crime who is concealing themselves in a building and is believed to be armed; and
   b. Apprehending an individual who is suspected of committing a felony crime, and is concealing themselves or fleeing.

2. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall determine whether to conduct a search and shall determine whether their PSD will be muzzled or un-muzzled during the search after carefully evaluating the following non-exhaustive factors:

   a. The time of day or night;
   b. Evidence of forced entry;
   c. Potential danger to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler, other sworn personnel, PSDs, or the public;
   d. The type of building, including commercial or residential buildings;
   e. The possibility of uninvolved persons inside;
   f. The nature of the suspected crime;
   g. Information from the RP;
   h. Alarm activation information, such as multiple, prior alarm(s), camera intelligence, or a significant delay in the time that has passed since the alarm was activated; and
   i. Any other pertinent investigative information known at the time of the incident.

3. If a PSD bites an individual, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler or Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall immediately contact an Emergency Communications Center (ECC) Dispatcher to request for emergency medical services (EMS) personnel to respond to the scene.

   a. If EMS personnel determine that additional medical attention is required, the individual shall be transported to a medical facility for treatment.

C. Verbal Warnings
a. Prior to conducting a search of a building with their PSD, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall issue three (3) loud and clear verbal warnings.
b. During the search, if the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler acquires information suggesting that an unauthorized individual may be hiding within a specific area of the building, they shall give additional verbal warnings, if feasible.
c. If the building that is being searched is large, or has multiple levels, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall give additional verbal warnings, including at each level of the building, or in the area of the building in which the unauthorized individual is believed to be concealing themselves.
d. If the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler and sworn personnel believe the individual may be Spanish speaking, they shall make every reasonable attempt to issue the verbal warning in Spanish.

D. Operational Control and Conflict of Orders

1. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall respond to incidents which include any apprehension with an injury, area searches, accidental bites, and injuries to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler or a PSD.

2. If the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant is not present and another supervisor asks a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler to deploy their PSD in a manner the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler believes is inappropriate, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall have the final say on deployment of the PSD.

   a. Under no circumstance shall a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler comply with an illegal order or one that violates the civil rights of any individual, specifically the use of excessive force.

E. Reporting and Investigation

1. If the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler uses their PSD as a force option, Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) personnel shall:

   a. Respond to the scene; and
   b. Be responsible for reviewing and investigating the use of force incident.

2. An accidental bite shall not be considered a use of force.

   a. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall investigate accidental bites.

3. If the PSD injures a wanted individual, the SOD chain of command shall review the PSD deployment and upload documentation outlining their review in the Internal Affairs (IA) database web application.

F. Scheduled Leave
Before going on any scheduled leave, including extended scheduled leave, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall explain to the Tactical Deputy Commander that the PSD will be properly fed and safely cared for while on leave.

G. Call-Outs

1. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit shall be on-call twenty-four (24) hours per day.

2. Sworn personnel shall request for a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler through the ECC.
   a. If there are no Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers who are on-duty, an on-duty supervisor must pre-approve calling out a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler.
   b. The Tactical Deputy Commander or their designee must approve all requests for mutual aid and any special requests by outside law enforcement agencies.
      i. When a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler responds to mutual aid requests by outside law enforcement agencies, they shall adhere to all Department SOPs.

3. The ECC Supervisor shall notify the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant or their designee of all incidents involving area searches.

Analysis

A. Bite Ratios

1. A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall:
   a. Track and calculate PSD bite ratios on a monthly basis; and
   b. Provide monthly bite ratio reports to Internal Affairs Professional Standards (IAPS) Division Commander.

2. The IAPS Division Commander shall review each Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler’s PSD bite ratio by considering activity from the previous six (6) months.
   a. If a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler’s PSD bite ratio exceeds twenty percent (20%) for the preceding six-month period, the IAPS Division Commander shall track the information in the Department’s Performance Evaluation and Management System.
   b. If the PSD bite ratio for all Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers in the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit exceeds twenty percent (20%), the SOD chain of command shall meet to discuss.
      i. The SOD chain of command shall document the actions they will take in an Interoffice Memorandum addressed to the IAFD Commander.

B. Annual Policy Review
Tactical Section supervisors shall meet on an annual basis to analyze occurrences and issues from the previous year.

C. Records

1. All Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit PSD deployments shall be recorded and archived in the unit’s designated databases.

2. PSD medical records shall be recorded and archived with the Department’s contracted veterinarian.

3. Monthly in-service training, PSD deployments, PSD bites, and certifications shall be recorded and archived within SOD.

4. The SOD chain of command shall analyze PSD bite apprehensions in order to identify potential needs for revision to training, policy, equipment, tactics, and supervision.

5. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall approve all Internal Affairs (IA) database web application entries for the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit within five (5) calendar days.
   a. The SOD chain of command shall consider reasonable delays, such as vacation or sick leave, as an exception to the deadline.

A. Maintenance of PSD

1. A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall be given a maximum of five (5) hours of compensation time for PSD maintenance for each week of the pay period.

2. The Department’s contracted veterinarian will examine all PSDs to evaluate their health and, on an annual basis, the veterinarian will administer their shots.

3. If at any time the PSD shows signs of illness or injury, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler will call the Department’s contracted veterinarian or take the PSD to the contracted veterinarian as soon as practicable.
   a. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall immediately notify the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler Sergeant when their PSD shows signs of illness or injury.

4. On an annual basis, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall conduct home kennel inspections.
   a. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall document the kennel inspections on the Canine (K-9) Kennel Inspection Form and shall provide the completed
form to SOD administrative personnel to keep on file.

b. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall immediately report any documented concerns to the SOD chain of command and shall document their recommendations to resolve the concerns in an Interoffice Memorandum addressed to the SOD chain of command.

B. Retirement of PSD

1. The SOD chain of command shall make the final decision to retire a PSD based on their health, ability to perform, and age.

2. The Department’s contracted veterinarian may recommend retiring a PSD based on medical reasons.

3. The Chief of Police shall release the retired PSD to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler it was assigned to.

   a. If the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler does not wish to take ownership of the retired PSD, the SOD chain of command shall be responsible for finding a suitable home.
   
   b. The person who takes ownership of the retired PSD shall sign a waiver, relinquishing the City of Albuquerque of any liability for the PSD, including any costs for its upkeep.
1-64  **PATROL CANINE (K-9) UNIT**

Related SOP(s), Forms(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):

A. Related SOP(s)

2-1 Uniforms
1-92 Specialized Tactical Units (Formerly 6-8)
2-3 Firearms and Ammunition Authorization (Formerly 2-22)
2-8 Use of On-Body Recording Devices
2-52 Use of Force: General
2-56 Use of Force: Reporting by Department Personnel
2-57 Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel
3-33 Performance Evaluation and Management System (Formerly Early Intervention and Recognition System (EIRS))
6-8 Specialized Tactical Units

B. Form(s)

Canine (K-9) Kennel Inspection Form None

C. Other Resource(s):

None

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

None

1-64-1 **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedures for the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit personnel for the proper use of Police Service Dogs (PSD) in locating and apprehending specific individuals suspected of committing a crime, for conducting searches, and for protecting the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit handler, for conducting article searches, and for tracking and wind scenting individuals.

1-64-2 **Policy**

It is the policy of the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) to for certified Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers to use-deploy a PSD to assist in locating and apprehending specific criminal suspects, to protect the K-9 handler, to track and wind scent individuals, and to conduct article searchs. Graham v. Connor, 490 U.S. 286 (1989), based on the rules outlined in this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

1-64-3 **Definitions**
A. Apprehension

Any occasion when a PSD is deployed and plays a clear and well-documented role in apprehending a suspect or individual. In order to play a clear and documented role, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler must articulate the PSD’s role, such as being the subject of warnings, following bark commands, performing a search, or the suspect individual stating that the PSD influenced their decision to submit to arrest.

B. Accidental Bite

Any occurrence when the PSD bites an unintended person. An accidental bite is not considered for purposes of calculating the bite ratio of a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler/Handlers/unit.

C. Bite

A skin puncture or tear caused by the teeth of a PSD.

D. Bite Apprehension

Any apprehension where a bite did occurred.

E. Bite Ratios

Calculation of the number of bite apprehensions divided by the total number of apprehensions for a given time period. For the purpose of this calculation, PSD bites will not include accidental bites or directed bites.

F. PSD-Caused Injury

Any injury caused by a PSD that is not a bite. This includes knocking a person down, scratching, and/or causing abrasions.

G. Deployment

Any situation, except an on-leash article search, where a PSD is brought to the scene and is used in an attempt to locate or apprehend an individual suspected of committing a crime, whether or not the individual is located or apprehended.

H. Directed Bite

When a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler directs a PSD to bite a visually-identified individual. A directed bite will be investigated as a use of force. If a bite occurs, this investigation will be conducted as a serious Level 3 use of force investigation.
H. Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler

An officer who is certified as a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit handler, who is assigned to a particular PSD, who deploys with their assigned PSD, and who is responsible for the PSD's care twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days per week.

I. Police Service Dogs (PSD)

A canine that is assigned to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit after it meets the selection standards and certification requirements as established by the Special Operations Division (SOD) or the Department's Tactical Section – K-9 Unit.

J. PSD-Caused Injury/PSD-Inflicted Injury

Any injury caused by a PSD that is not a bite. This includes knocking a person down, scratching, and/or causing abrasions.

K. Search

When a PSD is deployed into a search area or commercial or residential structure, to look for and find a specific suspect individual who is suspected of committing a specific crime, or concealing themselves from law enforcement, when a PSD is utilized to ensure that the search area or commercial or residential structure is clear of any criminal individual suspected of committing a crime who may be hiding from law enforcement or evading being captured.

6-64-4 Rules and Responsibilities Training and K-9 Handler Team Certifications

Training and Handler Team Certifications

Training

On a weekly basis, Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit personnel shall complete training. Training will be conducted on a weekly basis by the Patrol K-9 Unit.

All training will be conducted in accordance with that meets the Department-approved trainer and the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant’s guidelines, training practices, and safety measures of the approved Department trainer and/or Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant.

A certified trainer shall evaluate each Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler and the PSD that has been assigned to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler.
The Patrol K-9 Unit shall utilize a certified trainer to evaluate each Handler and PSD.

- The certified trainer shall make any training and performance recommendations to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant.
- The Special Operations Division (SOD) chain of command shall determine the certified trainer’s job duties for the certified trainer.

__Certifications__

On an annual basis, the certified trainer shall recertify all Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers. All handler/PSD teams shall be re-certified annually by the certified trainer.

If for any reason a PSD does not meet the expected standards articulated by the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler must immediately notify the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant and, together with the certified trainer, will evaluate any deficiencies and determine if whether the PSD will remain in service while the deficiency is being corrected or be removed from service.

1-64-45 Patrol K-9 Unit Rules and Responsibilities

A. General Rules for the Patrol K-9 Unit Responsibilities

1. A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall:

   a. Be responsible for the actions of their PSDs, both on and off a leash and, at all times;
   b. Prior to giving the PSD a break, the handler will make sure there are no civilians in the immediate area;
   i. If conditions do not permit, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall keep the PSD on a leash during the “break.”

2. Handlers shall not discipline their PSDs in public view.

3. Cruel actions toward the PSDs will not be tolerated and are grounds for disciplinary action.

   a. When a handler leaves his or her unit vehicle while the PSD is inside, he or she will ensure the PSD has proper ventilation for the given weather conditions;
   b. Ensure that their Department-issued police vehicle is properly secured;
   c. All Patrol K-9 Unit Members shall be subject to a meeting.
Department’s Behavioral Sciences Section (BSS) clinician on an annual (frequency) basis.

2. A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall not use their assigned PSD:

   a. To assist in civil disturbances or crowd control;
   b. To affect the arrest of known highly intoxicated, feeble, or otherwise incapacitated or disabled persons(s) who obviously cannot escape, resist, or become an immediate threat to sworn personnel or others;
   c. To apprehend individuals experiencing a known behavioral health crisis who have not committed a felony crime;
   d. To apprehend known suicidal individuals who have not committed a felony crime;
   e. To search commercial buildings or schools without clear signs of unauthorized entry, or when no Reporting Party (“RP”) is present or contacted, or when FSB sworn personnel cannot make contact with the RP to establish elements of a crime; or
   f. To engage an individual by directing the PSD to apprehend them if a lower level of force is feasible and deemed safe, and could reasonably be expected to control and apprehend the individual.

A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall not:

   - Deploy their PSD for crowd control;
   - Deploy their PSD against an individual known by sworn personnel to be pregnant, less than fourteen (14) years old, or over seventy (70) years old unless sworn personnel can articulate exceptional circumstances justifying the deployment;
   - The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall not deploy their PSD merely because it is an available option;
   - Discipline their PSD in public view;
   - Engage in cruel actions towards their PSD.

Such actions shall be grounds for disciplinary action.

PSDs will not be deployed for crowd control.

A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers shall not discipline their PSDs in public view.

The Patrol Canine (k-9) Unit Handler is prohibited from engaging in cruel actions towards the PSD. Such actions shall will not be tolerated and are grounds for disciplinary action.

The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall manage

3. Requests for PSD demonstrations and exhibitions will be managed by the Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant.
Prior to giving the PSD a “break,” the handler will make sure there are no civilians in the immediate area. If conditions do not permit, the handler will keep the PSD on a leash during the “break.”

4. **All Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit supervisors and Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers** shall wear the Department-approved black or blue alternate duty uniform, consistent with SOP Uniforms.

   a. **Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit supervisors and Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers** are authorized to wear green alternate duty uniforms upon completion of necessary SWAT Operator certifications.

   a. **PSDs will not be deployed for crowd control.**

All Patrol K-9 Unit Members shall be subject to a meeting with the Department’s Behavioral Sciences Section.

B. **Use and Deployment of a PSD as a Force Option**

1. **Anytime a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler officer** within the K-9 Unit is required to use their PSD as a force option, they shall do so in accordance with the United States Constitution, the Supreme Court’s decision in *Graham v. Connor*, all applicable laws, and SOP – Use of Force: General (refer to SOP Use of Force: General for sanction classifications and additional duties).

2. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall report a PSD apprehension that results in an injury for investigation as a Level 3 use of force, consistent with SOP Use of Force: Reporting by Department Personnel (refer to SOP Use of Force: Reporting by Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

   i. **IAFD personnel** shall investigate the PSD apprehension as a Level 3 Use of Force, consistent with Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel (refer to SOP Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

It is the policy of the Department to allow the deployment of PSDs in the following

1. The primary duties and responsibilities of the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit shall include, but are not limited to:

   a. Building searches to locate an individual suspected of committing a felony crime or an individual suspected of committing a misdemeanor crime who is concealing themselves in a building and is believed to be armed; and

   b. Apprehending an individual who is suspected of committing a felony crime, and is concealing themselves or fleeing.

2. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall determine whether to conduct a search and shall determine whether their PSD will be muzzled or un-muzzled during the search after carefully evaluating the following non-exhaustive factors:
a. The time of day or night;
b. Evidence of forced entry;
c. Potential danger to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler, other sworn personnel, PSDs, or the public;
d. The type of building, including commercial or residential buildings;
e. The possibility of uninvolved persons inside;
f. The nature of the suspected crime;
g. Information from the RP;
h. Alarm activation information, such as multiple, prior alarm(s), camera intelligence, or a significant delay in the time that has passed since the alarm was activated; and
i. Any other pertinent investigative information known at the time of the incident.

The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall deploy their PSD:

- To apprehend an individual who has committed a violent felony crime;
- To apprehend individuals who pose an immediate threat to the safety of the officers sworn personnel or others;
- For officer safety, to conduct searches for an individual who has committed a violent felony crime individuals or who committed a felony property crime involving when there are articulable facts that the suspect individual is currently armed or where when the individual has concealed themselves from law enforcement; and
- To locate an individual who committed a misdemeanor individual crime where the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant has approved a search with a muzzled PSD.

When the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler is deciding to deploy their PSD to conduct a search, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall have the discretion to deploy their PSD with or without a muzzle and shall have the discretion to deploy their PSD on-lead or off-lead.

The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall determine whether to conduct the search with their PSD muzzled or unmuzzled after careful evaluation of the following:

- Time of day or night;
- Evidence of forced entry;
- Danger to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler, other sworn personnel, or their PSD;
- Type of building, including commercial or residential;
- Possibility of innocent persons inside;
- The nature of the suspected crime, which must meet the criteria for building searches as outlined in this SOP or the criteria for area searches as outlined in this SOP;
- Information from the responsible party (RP);
- Alarm activation information, such as multiple trips, camera intelligence, or a significant delay in the time that has passed since the alarm was activated; and
Any other pertinent investigative information known at the time of the incident. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler who deploys their PSD as a force option must use the minimum amount of force that is objectively reasonable and necessary and based on the totality of the circumstances confronting them in order to bring about a lawful objective, consistent with SOP Use of Force: General (refer to Use of Force: General for sanctions classifications and additional duties).

Before deploying their PSD, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall consider the reasonableness of other use of force options.

Before deploying their PSD, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler must evaluate the following factors and take into consideration the safety of community members, sworn personnel, and the individual:

- The severity of the crime(s) at issue;
- Whether the suspect/individual poses an immediate threat to the safety of the officers/sworn personnel or others;
- Whether the suspect/individual is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight; and
- All other factors that must be considered pursuant to SOP Use of Force: General.

The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall have the discretion to deploy their PSD with or without a muzzle or on-lead or off-lead. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall not deploy their PSD merely because it is an available option. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall determine whether to conduct a search and whether they will conduct the search with their K-9 PSD will be muzzled or unmuzzled, after careful evaluation of the following:

- Time of day or night;
- Evidence of forced entry;
- Danger to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler, other officers, or PSD;
- Type of building (commercial or residential);
- Possibility of innocent persons inside;
- The nature of the suspected crime, which must meet the criteria for building searches as outlined in this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) or the criteria for area searches as outlined in this SOP;
- The nature of the suspected crime: violent felony or a felony property crime involving articulable facts that the suspect is currently armed;
- Information from the responsible party (RP);
- Alarm activation information, such as multiple trips, camera intelligence, or a significant delay in the time that has passed since the alarm was activated; and
Any other pertinent investigative information known at the time of the incident.

3.1 Use of the PSD as a tactic may range from the simple presence of the PSD to a less lethal force option. A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall not deploy their PSD merely because it is an available option.

Consistent with SOP – Use of Force: General, The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall deploy their PSD based on objectively reasonable facts and circumstances confronting them, consistent with SOP Use of Force: General (refer to Use of Force: General for sanctions classifications and additional duties).

Use of the PSD as a tactic may range from the simple presence of the PSD to a less lethal force option. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall not deploy their PSD merely because it is an available option.

b. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler who deploys their PSD as a force option must use the minimum amount of force that is objectively reasonable and necessary and based on the totality of the circumstances confronting them in order to bring about a lawful objective.

d. The Handlers should consider the reasonableness of other use-of-force options before deploying the PSD. Based upon the totality of the circumstances, the handler will have the discretion of deploying the PSD with or without a muzzle or on- or off-lead. Before deploying the PSD, the handler must evaluate the following factors, taking into consideration the safety of civilians, officers, and the suspect or individual:

a. The severity of the crime(s) at issue;

b. Whether the suspect poses an immediate threat to the safety of the officers or others;

c. Whether the suspect is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight; and

d. All other factors that must be considered pursuant to SOP – Use of Force: General.

4.1 It is the policy of the Department to allow the deployment of PSDs in the following circumstances:

a. To apprehend violent felony individuals;

b. To apprehend individuals who pose an immediate threat to the safety of the officers or others;

c. For officer safety, to conduct searches for violent felony individuals or a felony property crime involving articulable facts that the suspect is currently armed, where the individual has concealed themselves from law enforcement; and

d. To locate a misdemeanor individual where the Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant has approved a search with a muzzled PSD.
5. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall not deploy their PSDs should not be deployed against an individual known by the officers/sworn personnel to be pregnant, less than fourteen (14) years old, or over seventy (70) years old unless the officers/sworn personnel can articulate exceptional circumstances justifying the deployment.

3. If a PSD bites an individual, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler or Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall immediately contact an Emergency Communications Center (ECC) Dispatcher to request for emergency medical services (EMS) personnel to respond to the scene.

a. If EMS personnel determine that additional medical attention is required, the individual shall be transported to a medical facility for treatment.

The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler who violates this SOP shall be subject to disciplinary action, consistent with SOP Complaints Involving Department Personnel (refer to SOP Complaints Involving Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler who violates this policy SOP will be subject to disciplinary action, consistent with SOP Complaints Involving Department Personnel (refer to SOP Complaints Involving Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

IAFD personnel shall investigate the PSD apprehension as a Level 3 Use of Force, consistent with Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel (refer to SOP Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

6. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler who violates this policy SOP will be subject to the handler to disciplinary action, consistent with SOP Complaints Involving Department Personnel (refer to SOP Complaints Involving Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

**B. C. Verbal Warnings**

When a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler uses their PSD is used to locate an individual, the handler will give issue three (3) loud and clear verbal warnings before releasing the PSD.

The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler's verbal warnings will give notice that the handler serves to notify the individual that they will release their PSD and that the PSD will probably bite the suspect.

If the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler and officers/sworn personnel believe the individual may be Spanish-speaking, they will shall make every reasonable attempts to provide issue the verbal warning in Spanish, as well. The warning will give notice that the handler will release a PSD and that the PSD will probably bite the suspect.
a. Prior to conducting a search of a building with their PSD, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall issue three (3) loud and clear verbal warnings.

b. During the search, if the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler acquires information suggesting that an unauthorized individual may be hiding within a specific area of the building, they shall give additional verbal warnings, if feasible.

c. If the building that is being searched is large, or has multiple levels, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall give additional verbal warnings, including at each level of the building, or in the area of the building in which the unauthorized individual is believed to be concealing themselves.

d. If the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler and sworn personnel believe the individual may be Spanish speaking, they shall make every reasonable attempt to issue the verbal warning in Spanish.

Under certain circumstances, a warning or multiple warnings may be dangerous or futile. Thus, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler is shall not be required to give a verbal warning prior to deploying their PSD deployment if the situation is difficult or dangerous and rapidly evolves, which prevents or prohibits the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler from having a reasonable amount of time or the opportunity to do so.

2. When the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler is unable to issue a verbal warning, the warning is not given in this circumstance, they shall complete a Uniform Incident Report documenting the specific facts and circumstances in his or her written report to explain the omission.

D. Operational Control and Conflict of Orders

1. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall respond to incidents which include any apprehension with injury, area searches, accidental bites, and injuries to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler or a PSD.

2. If the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant is not present and another supervisor asks the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler to deploy their PSD in a manner the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler believes is inappropriate, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall have the final say on deployment of the PSD.

a. Under no circumstance shall a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler comply with an illegal order or one that violates the civil rights of any individual, specifically the use of excessive force.

C. Operational Control and Conflict of Orders

The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant will assume operational control and respond to incidents which include any apprehension with injury, area search, accidental bite, injury to Patrol Canine Handler or PSD, situation requiring deployment of the a PSDs, unless the purpose of the deployment is to safely
search and clear a building the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit handler Handler believes is empty, in which case a supervisor is not required.

4. (Someone) shall contact a Tactical Section Supervisor to assume control. In the absence of the Patrol K-9 Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Unit Sergeant's absence, a Tactical Section Supervisor will be contacted to assume control.

If the Patrol K-9 Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Unit Sergeant is not present and another supervisor asks a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit handler Handler to deploy his their PSD in a manner the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit handler Handler believes is inappropriate, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit h Handler shall have the final say on deployment of the PSD explain the concerns to the (type) supervisor.

If the (type) supervisor allows the order to stand, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit handler Handler will shall do his their best to comply with the order.

2. The (type) supervisor issuing the order assumes responsibility for the decision. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit handler Handler and (type) supervisor will shall each complete a supplemental Supplemental report Report detailing their discussion and decision.

3. However, uUnder no circumstance will shall a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit handler Handler comply with an illegal order or one that violates the civil rights of any individual, particularly specifically prohibitions against the use of excessive force.

If a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler is participating in a full tactical activation, the Tactical Section Commander or their designee will shall have the authority to direct the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler to deploy a their PSD.

E. Reporting and Investigation

1. If the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler uses their PSD as a force option, Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) personnel shall: shall immediately report to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant when a PSD bites or when a PSD injures an individual or an officer.
   a. Respond to the scene; and
   b. Be responsible for reviewing and investigating the Use of Force incident.

 Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) personnel shall investigate a PSD bite as a Level 3 use of force.

2. An accidental bite shall not be considered a use of force.
   a. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall investigate accidental bites.

3. If the PSD injures a wanted individual, the SOD chain of command shall review the PSD deployment and upload documentation outlining their review in the Internal Affairs (IA) database web application.
The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall report a PSD apprehension that results in an injury for investigation as a Level 3 use of force, consistent with SOP Use of Force: Reporting by Department Personnel (refer to SOP Use of Force: Reporting by Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

IAFD personnel shall investigate the PSD apprehension as a Level 3 Use of Force, consistent with Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel (refer to SOP Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

F. Working Hours

A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler will normally shall work an eight (8) hour shift or a ten (10) -hour shift.

The SOD Chain of Command will determine which days and hours days the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler can take off-duty.

Hours of assignment and scheduled vacation and days off will be determined by the needs for Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit service and support.

Before going on vacation or other kind of leave, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall explain to the Patrol K-9 Tactical Deputy Commander how the PSD will be properly fed and safely cared for while the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler is on leave.

G. Call-Outs

1. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit shall be on-call twenty-four (24) hours per day.

2. Sworn personnel shall request for a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler through the Emergency Communications Center (ECC).

a. If there are no Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers who are on-duty, an on-duty supervisor must pre-approve calling out a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler.

The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall respond to all Patrol Canine call-outs on a twenty-four (24) hours, on a year-round, 365 day basis.

(Someone) shall create the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit on-call schedule will be issued every other month.
Scupervisor shall call the primary Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler when a Sergeant or higher-ranking officer requests assistance by the Patrol K-9 Unit.

b. The Tactical Deputy Commander or their designee must approve all requests for mutual aid and any special requests by outside law enforcement agencies.

i. When a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler deploying for responds to mutual aid requests by outside law enforcement agencies, they shall adhere to all Department policies, procedures, and guidelines for when using their PSD and when use of using their PSD as a force option will be followed by the handler, not those of the non-Department agency.

3. The ECC Supervisor shall notify the Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant or their designee of all incidents involving area searches, or large-scale searches that require more than the primary and secondary Patrol K-9 Unit teams.

### 1-64-5 Data Analysis and Documentation

#### A. Bite Ratios

1. A Patrol K-9 Unit officer will:

   a. Track and calculate PSD bite ratios on a monthly basis;
   b. Members of the Patrol K-9 Unit will provide monthly bite ratio reports to the Internal Affairs Professional Standards (IAPS) Division Commander by then documenting PSD activity and bite ratios.

2. The IAPS Division Commander shall review each Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler’s PSD’s bite ratio will be reviewed by considering activity from of the previous six (6) months.

   a. If a Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler’s PSD bite ratio exceeds twenty (20) percent (20%) for the preceding six-month period, the IAPS Division Commander shall track the information in the Department’s Performance Evaluation and Management System (PEMS) for review by for that handler and the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler’s supervisor.
   b. If the entire Unit’s the PSD bite ratio for all Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handlers in the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit exceeds twenty percent (20%), the SOD chain of command shall meet to discuss the proper corrective action.

   i. The SOD chain of command shall document the discussion in an

   d. This meeting will be documented in an
D. Documentation of Reporting of Injuries Resulting From a Use of a PSD Bite

1. A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler Personnel shall immediately report to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant any when a PSD bites or when a PSD inflicted caused injury to an individual or an officer to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant. The K-9 Unit Sergeant will respond to the scene, conduct an initial post-apprehension deployment investigation, and provide necessary information to the Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) for consideration in their investigation of the incident.

A PSD bite shall be investigated as by a PSD is considered a Level 3 use of force and shall be investigated by the K-9 Unit Sergeant and the IAFD personnel.

An accidental bite shall not be considered a use of force.

2. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall investigate accidental bites shall be conducted by the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant.

Whenever a PSD bites an individual sustains a PSD bite, the handler Patrol Canine Unit Handler or Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Unit Sergeant shall immediately contact an Emergency Communications Center (ECC) Department Dispatcher to request for Emergency Medical Services personnel to respond to the scene.

If EMS personnel determines that additional medical attention is required, the individual shall be transported to a medical facility for treatment.

F. Records

1. The Patrol K-9 Unit will track and record performance measures of both the handler and the PSD;

   a. All Patrol K-9 deployments will be recorded and archived in designated databases.
   a. PSD medical records will be recorded and archived with the contracted unit veterinarian.
   a. Monthly in-service training, deployments, bites and certifications will be recorded and archived within SOD.
a. All K-9 deployments resulting in a bite apprehension will be presented to the Department’s Force Review Board (FRB) and analyzed to identify potential needs for revision to training, policy, equipment, tactics, and supervision. Accidental bites shall not be presented to the FRB.

b. K-9 Blueteam entries shall be approved by the Patrol K-9 Sergeant within 5 calendar days. Reasonable delays such as vacation, or sick leave shall be considered an exception to the deadline.

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**Working Hours**

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Handlers will normally work an eight- or ten-hour shift. The SOD Chain of Command will determine hours and days off. Hours of assignment, vacation, and days off will be determined by the needs for service and support. Before going on vacation or other extended leave, the handler will explain to the Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant how the PSD will be properly fed and safely cared for while the handler will be on vacation.

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**Call-Outs**

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Responding to call-outs will be one of the handlers’ responsibilities. Handlers will be subject to call-outs on a twenty-four hour, 365 day basis. The Patrol K-9 Unit on-call schedule will be issued every other month.

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The Communications Supervisor will call the primary handler when a Sergeant or higher ranking officer requests Patrol K-9 assistance.

The Tactical Commander or their designee must approve all requests for mutual aid and any special requests.

When deploying for mutual aid requests, Department policies, procedures, and guidelines for using the PSD and use of force will be followed by the handler, not those of the non-Department agency.

The Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant or designee will be notified of all incidents involving a, area searches, or large-scale searches that require more than the primary and secondary Patrol K-9 teams.

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**E. Patrol K-9 Unit Equipment**

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1. Handlers will maintain all equipment issued by the K-9 Unit, including on-body recording devices (OBRD) for officers. Equipment that requires repair will be reported as soon as practicable to the K-9 Unit Sergeant.
2. Specialized weapons issued to handlers shall be carried at all times. Handlers shall be qualified in their use in accordance with SWAT Unit requirements as set forth in SOP – Specialized Tactical Units and in accordance with Department standards set forth in SOP – Firearms and Ammunition Authorization.

F. Training and Handler Team Certifications

1. Training will be conducted on a weekly basis by the Patrol K-9 Unit weekly.

2. All training will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines, training practices, and safety measures of the approved Department trainer and/or Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant.

3. The K-9 Unit Sergeant will be responsible for coordinating proper training for each handler and PSD.

4. The Patrol K-9 Unit shall utilize a certified trainer to evaluate each Handler and PSD. The K-9 Unit will contract with a professional trainer regarding selection and training of PSDs. The K-9 Unit’s professional trainer will guide the teams to their highest level of ability.
   a. The contracted, professional trainer will evaluate each PSD to determine any performance concerns. The trainer will make any training and performance recommendations to the Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant.
   b. Job duties for the contracted certified, professional trainer will be determined by the SOD Chain of Command Tactical Section Commander.

5. Handlers will follow the training directives from the Department trainer and the K-9 Unit Sergeant.

6. All handler/PSD teams shall be re-certified annually through by the professional certified trainer at a minimum annually. All teams will also complete a secondary certification process.

7. All handlers will assure their PSDs comply with the standards of training set forth in this policy and standards recommended by the professional trainer.
   a. If for any reason a PSD does not meet the expected standards articulated by the Patrol K-9 Unit, the handler must immediately notify the Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant.
   b. The Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant, together with the Department certified trainer and professional trainer, will evaluate any deficiencies and determine if the PSD will remain in service while the deficiency is being corrected or be removed from service until the deficiency is corrected.

G. Records
1. The Patrol K-9 Unit will track and record performance measures of both the handler and the PSD. In addition, deployments will be specifically tracked and archived within other specialized units, as noted below.
   a. All Patrol K-9 deployments will be recorded and archived within the Tactical Section and the Internal Affairs Professional Standards (IAPS) Division in designated databases.
   b. PSD medical records will be recorded and archived with the contracted unit veterinarian.
   c. Monthly in-service training, deployments, bites and certifications will be recorded and archived within SOD, the contracted professional trainer. Copies of in-service training and certifications will also be archived with the K-9 Unit Sergeant.
   d. Handlers will archive all PSD training, as well as copies of deployment reports resulting in bites and certifications presented to the handler and/or PSD.
   e. K-9 Bluteam entries shall be approved by the Patrol K-9 Sergeant within 5 calendar days. Reasonable delays such as vacation, or sick leave shall be considered an exception to the deadline.

F. Maintenance of the PSD

1. The eighth hour of each eight-hour shift or the last hour and fifteen minutes of a ten-hour shift will be reserved for PSD and equipment upkeep. This reserved time will apply to every working shift, training day, or all types of leave. These guidelines assume that the PSD's assigned handler is caring for the PSD, not another handler or boarder. The total allotted compensation time for this PSD maintenance will not exceed five hours in a pay period week, or forty-three minutes per day in a seven-day period. This time will be allotted for the daily upkeep of the PSD and will include the handler's regular days off. This time may also be used for picking up dog food and routine visits to the veterinarian.
   a. No compensation beyond the time allowed will be authorized, unless approved in advance by the K-9 Unit Sergeant, SOD Chain of Command.

2. The K-9 Unit Sergeant and the contracted veterinarian will instruct handlers on proper methods of PSD health. Twice a year the contracted veterinarian will examine all PSDs to ensure their state of health and to give them their annual shots.
   a. If the PSD shows signs of illness or injury, the handler will call the contracted veterinarian or take the PSD to the contracted veterinarian as soon as practicable.
b. If the PSD is injured, the PSD will be treated as soon as possible, either by the contracted veterinarian or at the Emergency Animal Clinic. In either case, the Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant shall be notified immediately. The Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant shall conduct home kennel inspections on an annual basis. The inspections shall be documented on the K-9 Kennel Inspection Form and provided to SOD Admin Staff for record. Any documented concerns shall be immediately brought to the attention of the SOD Chain of Command.

c. Remedies for identified concerns shall be documented within an Interdepartmental Memorandum and presented to the SOD Chain of Command.

B. Annual Policy Review

- The supervisors of the Tactical Section shall conduct an annual meeting to analyze occurrences and issues from within the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit of the previous year to discuss specific topics, including but not limited to:
  - Policies;
  - Procedures;
  - Legal developments;
  - Training updates;
  - Operational evaluations;
  - FRB recommendations; and
  - After-Action Reviews (AAR).

C. Records

- The Patrol K-9 Canine (K-9) Unit (Sergeant?) shall track and record performance measures of both the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit and their PSD.

1. All Patrol K-9 Canine (K-9) Unit PSD deployments shall be recorded and archived in the unit’s designated databases.

2. PSD medical records shall be recorded and archived with the Department’s contracted unit veterinarian.

3. Monthly in-service training, PSD deployments, PSD bites, and certifications shall be recorded and archived within the SOD.

4. (Someone) The SOD chain of command shall analyze PSD bite apprehensions in order to identify potential needs for revision to training, policy, equipment, tactics, and supervision, and shall present to the Department’s Force Review Board (FRB).
their analysis of all PSDK-9 deployments that result in a bite apprehension will be presented to the Department’s Force Review Board (FRB) and shall analyze the bite apprehensions in order to identify potential needs for revision to training, policy, equipment, tactics, and supervision.

(Someone) shall not present information about accidental bites shall not be presented to the FRB.

5. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall approve all Internal Affairs (IA) database web application entries for the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Blue team entries shall be approved by the Patrol K-9 Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant within five (5) calendar days.

a. The (Someone) SOD Chain of Command shall consider reasonable delays, such as vacation, or sick leave, shall be considered as an exception to the deadline.

G. Working Hours

a. Handlers will normally work an eight- or ten-hour shift. The Tactical Section SOD Chain of Command Commander will determine hours and days off. Hours of assignment, vacation, and days off will be determined by the needs for service and support.

Before going on vacation or other extended leave, the handler will explain to the Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant how the PSD will be properly fed and safely cared for while the handler will be on vacation.

2. Handlers are expected to be available for duty at all times should the need arise.

b. Hours of assignment, vacation, and days off will be determined by the needs for service and support.

3. Handlers are also subject to SWAT Unit call-outs.

G. Call Outs

1. Responding to call-outs will be one of the handlers’ responsibilities. Handlers will be subject to call-outs on a twenty-four hour, 365-day basis. The Patrol K-9 Unit on-call schedule will be issued every other month.

a. The Patrol K-9 Unit on-call schedule will be issued every other month; it will identify primary and secondary on-call teams. The schedule will be modified by the Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant only as needed to accommodate unforeseen schedule changes and overtime issues. The Tactical Section Commander will receive a copy of the Patrol K-9 Unit on-call schedule.
b. The Communications Supervisor will call the primary handler when a Sergeant or higher ranking officer requests Patrol K-9 assistance. The Tactical Commander or their designee K-9 Unit Sergeant or designee must approve all requests for mutual aid and any special requests. When deploying for mutual aid requests, Department policies, procedures, and guidelines for using the PSD and use of force will be followed by the handler, not those of the non-Department agency.

c. The Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant or designee will be notified of all incidents involving a barricaded subject, area searches, or large-scale searches that require more than the primary and secondary Patrol K-9 teams. The K-9 Unit Sergeant or designee is the Tactical Commander or their designee. The Tactical Commander will also be contacted regarding requests from supervisors of specialized units and requests for mutual aid from non-Department agency.

H. Vacations

1. Vacations for handlers will be contingent upon the needs of the Department and the Tactical Section.

2. Before going on vacation or other extended leave, the handler will explain to the K-9 Unit Sergeant how the PSD will be properly fed and safely cared for while the handler will be on vacation.

I. SWAT Unit Assistance

1. Officers assigned to the K-9 Unit will also be considered SWAT officers. As such, they will be expected to abide by SOP—Specialized Tactical Units. They will be held to all SWAT Team standards, as explained in the SOP. Failure to comply with these standards may result in the officer’s removal from the K-9 Unit.

M. General Rules for the Patrol K-9 Unit

1. Handlers shall commit to the Patrol K-9 Unit for a minimum of 3 years. Handlers are responsible for the actions of their PSDs, both on and off a leash and at all times.

2. Handlers will not discipline their PSDs in public view; unless the handler, PSD, or another’s safety is immediately at risk and/or some sort of exigency exist.

3. Cruel actions toward the PSDs will not be tolerated and are grounds for disciplinary action.

4. When a handler leaves his or her police unit while the PSD is inside, he or she will ensure the PSD has proper ventilation for the given weather conditions and that the unit is properly secured.
5. Requests for PSD demonstrations or exhibitions will be managed by the Patrol K-9 Unit Sergeant.

6. Prior to giving the PSD a “break,” the handler will make sure there are no civilians in the immediate area. If conditions do not permit, the handler will keep the PSD on a leash during the “break.”

7. All Patrol K-9 supervisors and handlers will wear the Department-approved fatigue black or blue duty or alternate uniform, as their normal duty uniform. PSDs will not be deployed for crowd control.

8. All Patrol K-9 Unit Members shall be subject to a meeting with the Department’s Behavioral Sciences Section.

N. Bite Ratios

1. Patrol K-9 Unit Officers will track and calculate bite ratios on a monthly basis. Members of the Patrol K-9 Unit will provide monthly reports to the IAPS Division documenting activity and bite ratios. These monthly reports will be forwarded to the K-9 Unit Sergeant for review and aggregated into unit monthly and annual reports. The K-9 Unit Sergeant will review monthly reports to ensure accuracy.

2. Each handler’s bite ratio will be reviewed by considering activity of the previous six months. If any handler’s bite ratio exceeds twenty (20) percent for the preceding six-month period it will be included as an indicator in the PEMS for that handler and will be reviewed by that handler’s supervisor. If the entire Unit’s bite ratio exceeds that threshold, a meeting with the Division Commander, SOD Chain of Command, Tactical Section Lieutenant, and K-9 Unit Sergeant will take place. They will determine why the 20 percent threshold was exceeded and this meeting will be documented in an interdepartmental memorandum.

O. Annual Retention Review

All K-9 Unit Members will be subject to an annual review to ensure they are meeting the delineated criteria for their positions.

1. The annual review shall be comprised of three evaluations.

Maintenance and Retirement of PSDs

A. Maintenance of the PSD
1. A Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall be given a maximum of five (5) hours of total allotted compensation time for PSD maintenance per pay period week. No compensation time beyond the time allowed will be authorized, unless approved in advance by the SOD chain of command.

2. The Department’s contracted veterinarian will examine all PSDs to ensure their state of health and will administer annual shots that are due each year. On a biannual basis, the Department’s contracted veterinarian will examine all PSDs to ensure their state of health and, on an annual basis, the veterinarian will administer annual shots that are due each year.

3. If at any time the PSD shows signs of illness or injury, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler will call the Department’s contracted veterinarian or take the PSD to the contracted veterinarian as soon as practicable. In either case, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler shall immediately notify the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant when their PSD shows signs of illness or injury shall be notified immediately.

4. On an annual basis, the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall conduct home kennel inspections on an annual basis. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall document the kennel inspections shall be documented on the Canine (K-9) Kennel Inspection Form and shall provide the completed form to SOD administrative personnel staff to keep on file for record. The Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Sergeant shall immediately report any documented concerns shall be immediately brought to the attention of the SOD chain of command and shall document their recommendations to resolve the concerns in an.

b. Remedies for identified concerns shall be documented within an Interdepartmental Interoffice Memorandum and presented to the addressed to the SOD chain of command.

a. The chain of command will review the Team Member’s Employee Work Plan.

b. The chain of command will conduct a file review of the Team Member.

c. The Department’s Behavioral Sciences Section will meet with the Team Member.

3. Should negative issues arise during the annual review, the Team Member will be subject to retraining, progressive discipline, and/or removal from the unit.

B. Retirement of Police Service Dogs PSD

1. The SOD chain of command shall make the final decision to retire a PSD will be retired based on their PSD’s health, ability to perform, and age. The decision to retire a PSD will be after consultation from the Unit Trainer, the professional trainer,
and the K-9 Unit Sergeant. The final decision on a PSD retirement will shall be made by the K-9 Unit Sergeant SOD Chain of Command.

2. The Department’s contracted veterinarian may recommend retiring a PSD, which may be based on medical reasonsly retired on the recommendation of the Department’s contracted veterinarian.

3. The (Someone) Chief of Police shall release A the retired PSD will be released to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler Handler to the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler to whom it was assigned it was assigned to.

a. If the Patrol Canine (K-9) Unit Handler does not wish to take ownership of the retired PSD, the SOD Chain of Command K-9 Unit Sergeant will shall be responsible for finding a suitable home. In any case, the person who takes ownership of the retired PSD will shall sign a waiver, The waiver will relinquish the City of Albuquerque of ownership of any liability for the PSD, including any costs for its upkeep, provided by the City of Albuquerque City Attorney Legal Department.

3. The waiver will relinquish the City of ownership of any liability of the PSD to include any costs for its upkeep.

3. Annual Policy Review

1. The supervisors of the Tactical Section will conduct an annual meeting every January to analyze occurrences and issues of the previous year. During this meeting the topics to be discussed will include (but need not be limited to) policies, procedures, legal developments, training updates, operational evaluations, FRB recommendations, and after action reviews. If any changes are required, those changes shall be implemented no fewer than 90 days from the review date.

2.b._____

- 24 -