



Bylaws & Certification Standards

V3.0

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CCU National K9 Certification

Bylaws

Effective April 9, 2023
V3.0

CERTIFICATION

Custom Canine Unlimited, LLC (CCU) holds all rights to these bylaws and governs any and all disputes concerning these bylaws. These bylaws have been adopted and will govern any and all certifications administered or represented by CCU under the name CCU National K9 Certification from the date set forth above as “Effective”. All requested certifications would originate with, be approved by, and coordinated by “Administration” of CCU National K9 Certification. Any changes made to these bylaws, will be made without notification by “Administration” of CCU National K9 Certification as seen fit to best represent CCU National K9 Certification’s mission. Each bylaw preceding any rule change will be kept on file for a minimum of (3) three years and will be numbered accordingly.

At least, (1) one certifying official will administer all certifications with the permission of CCU National K9 Certification. The final and ultimate decision to issue a team certification will be made by “Administration” of CCU National K9 Certification based on documentation submitted by the certifying official. The successful passing and certification in each area of testing may be considered acceptable testimony in a court of law. All certifications are valid for (1) one year after the certification date. All certifications are issued to certify a specific team in the specific areas passed. Each new member of each team and each new area must be certified as such.

MISSION

1. Establish a practical realistic standard for working dogs and handlers.
2. Establish a measure of reliability through certification of working dogs and handlers.
3. Provide dog handlers with education and background needed to confidently handle, train, and utilized their canine partners as working tools.
4. Provide a network of dog handlers with a common certification standard.

ADMINISTRATION

AJ Vargas or his design

CORRESPONDENCES

CCU National K9 Certification
PO Box 28
Flowery Branch, Georgia 30542

CERTIFYING OFFICIAL

CCU National K9 Certification will designate the certifying official for each event. Each certifying official must be pre-approved by CCU National K9 Certification Administration. All Certifying Officials may or may not be an employee or affiliate of Custom Canine Unlimited, LLC. Certifying Officials do not certify the team. Certifying Official may not evaluate a team that they supervise.

Each certifying official will minimally meet all of the following criteria:

1. Successful Graduate of Custom Canine Unlimited, LLC Trainer Course

Or

A documented certified working dog trainer that is certified by an approved school or organization.

2. Successful completion of Custom Canine Unlimited, LLC Evaluating Official Course and each subsequent yearly update.
3. 3(three) or more years of documented dog-handling experience.
4. All Certifying Officials must remain in good moral and legal standing.
5. All Certifying Officials may only evaluate teams in area(s) in which their Trainer Course and/or Experience meets the minimum standards.
6. All Certifying Officials must make themselves available as expert witnesses to testify according to each certification they administer.

The Certifying Official will brief all teams at the start of each event using the *Opening Brief Form (CCUNK9C-01 v.1.1)*. The Certifying Official at an approved certification event has the final and ultimate decision at that event. The Certifying Official will designate and document the area and manner of each area to be tested. The Certifying Official will designate and document each Evaluating Official to be used at each approved certification event. The

Certifying Official will make every effort not to interfere or distract the team. The team will be evaluated utilizing *Certification Attempt Forms CCUNK9C-AF-01 through CCUNK9C-AF-10* that corresponds with each certification areas.

The Certifying Official is responsible for submitting, *Request for Certification Form CCUNK9C-02* along with ALL original, applicable, and complete *Certification Attempt Forms CCUNK9C-AF-01 through CCUNK9C-AF-10* that correspond with the certification administered to CCU National K9 Certification Correspondences within (5) five business days of the date of administering the approved certification event.

In the event of a team fails to certifying, the official must submit ALL original *Certification Attempt Forms CCUNK9C-AF-01 through CCUNK9C-AF-10* that corresponds with the certification administered to CCU National K9 Certification Correspondence within (5) five business days of the date of administering the approved certification.

It shall be the duty of the Certifying Official to submit to obtain approval and public posting all certification events a minimum of 30 days prior to the start of the event date. All approved certification events must be made available to any team wishing to attend within the limits of available space.

EVALUATING OFFICIAL

Approved Certifying Officials will designate each evaluating official for each event. Each evaluating official must be pre-approved by CCU National K9 Certification Administration. All Evaluating Officials may or may not be an employee or affiliate of Custom Canine Unlimited, LLC. Evaluating Officials do not certify the team. Evaluating Official may not evaluate a team that they supervise.

Each evaluating official will minimally meet all of the following criteria;

1. Successful completion of Custom Canine Unlimited, LLC Evaluating Official Course and each subsequent yearly update.

2. All Evaluating Officials must remain in good moral and legal standing.
3. All Evaluating Officials may only evaluate teams in area(s) in which their experience meets the minimum standards.
4. All Evaluating Officials must make themselves available as an expert witness to testify according to each certification they administer.

The Evaluating Official will make every effort not to interfere or distract the team. The team will be evaluated utilizing *Certification Attempt Forms CCUNK9C-AF-01 through CCUNK9C-AF-10* that corresponds with each certification area attempt.

K9 TEAM

A K9 team consists of a dog and a handler. Only a team may be certified within these standards.

CERTIFICATION EVENT

A consecutive time frame (start date and end date) that was pre-approved by Administration with one Certifying Official where certification attempts and re-tests will be offered to teams. All events must be published and open for attendance by any qualifying K9 Team. No private certifications are permitted.

ATTEMPT

Each team will be provided one attempt for each area of certification and one re-test in each area within a certification event, so long as, time permits. No attempt may be made within 30 minutes of any training session. No attempt may be made in any certification area within 72 hours of a failure. All certification attempts will be briefed using each designated *Certification Brief Forms CCUNK9C-BF-01 through CCUNK9C-BF-07* prior to the start of any attempt. All certification attempts will be documented using each designated *Certification Attempt Forms CCUNK9C-AF-01 through CCUNK9C-AF-10*.

RE-TEST

Re-tests are provided to a team that has failed to meet certification standards in an attempt. Re-Test are only offered to a team after each team attending a Certification Event has been provided one attempt to in that specific area. All certification re-tests will be briefed using each designated *Certification Brief Forms CCUNK9C-BF-01 through CCUNK9C-BF-07* prior to the start of an attempt. All certification re-tests will be documented using each designated *Certification Attempt Forms CCUNK9C-AF-01 through CCUNK9C-AF-10*.

SCORING

There are no scores administered. All certifications are pass or fail, only. Any team that feels they have been judged wrong may follow the guidelines set forth in “Appeal” section of these bylaws.

FAILURE

A Failure is designated for any team that makes an attempt in an area and does not meet standards within that certification event.

APPEAL

A team that fails any of the certification attempts may reapply for testing at a later time in the day or the next most convenient time and date of the approved event, not to exceed two attempts per area of certification. All re-test requested will be administered only after all other teams have been given an attempt opportunity and at the discretion of the certifying official, based on time and availability.

Any team that fails to be provided an attempt or re-test at an approved event and/or fails certification at an approved event and that feels that they were judged or scheduled unfairly may notify the certifying official immediately at the event. If a solution cannot be reached then the team may notify “Administrators” of CCU National K9 Certification of the discretion in writing within (10) days of the event conclusion.

All written disputes will be reviewed on a case-by-case base by “Administration” of CCU National K9 Certification and by one independent, detached peer. A written decision will be issued to complainant within (15) days of receiving the complaint. CCU National K9 Certification will issue the final and ultimate decision in resolving the matter of complaint.



Certification Standards

v3.0

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

OBEDIENCE

This phase must be successfully completed prior to attempting any other portion of CCU National K9 Certification.

At the direction of the Certifying Official or Evaluation Official the team will complete the prescribed exercises. No toy, reward, or food may be used during this test. If a dog is permitted and wears a remote training collar during duty times, the dog may wear the remote training collar during this test, so long as the transmitter is given to the Certifying Official or Evaluation Official during the attempt or re-test. The remote training collar may be worn, but not utilized during an attempt or re-test. If the dog wears the remote training collar during the attempt or re-test, the Certifying Official or Evaluation Official must confirm it is turned off during.

During the attempt or re-test the dog shall be under the handler's constant control. At the direction of the Certifying Official or Evaluation Official the attempt or re-test will begin.

The Certifying Official or Evaluation Official will verbally direct the handler/canine team through a series of turns and movements at their discretion, to include, but not limited to, the following:

All Teams NOT Attempting Patrol Certification

On –leash:

- 1) Heel Position While Moving (neither lagging behind, nor forging ahead of the handler)
- 2) Two right turns (90 degree directional turn to the right)
- 3) Two left turns (90 degree directional turn to the left)
- 4) Two about turns (180 degree directional turn)
- 5) Two stop and sits
- 6) Down or Sit in motion
- 7) Two pace changes (one slow and one fast)

Off-leash:

- 1) Heel Position While Moving (neither lagging behind, nor forging ahead of the handler)
- 2) Two right turns (90 degree directional turn to the right)
- 3) Two left turns (90 degree directional turn to the left)
- 4) Two about turns (180 degree directional turn)

- 5) Two stop and sits
- 6) Down or Sit in motion
- 7) Come (a minimum of 10 feet apart, commanded to a controlled position)
- 8) Two pace changes (one slow and one fast)

Standards for All Teams Attempting Patrol Certification

On –leash:

1. Heel Position While Moving (neither lagging behind, nor forging ahead of the handler)
2. Two right turns (90 degree directional turn to the right)
3. Two left turns (90 degree directional turn to the left)
4. Two about turns (180 degree directional turn)
5. Two stop and sits
6. Down or Sit in motion
7. Two pace changes (one slow and one fast)

Off-leash:

1. Heel Position While Moving (neither lagging behind, nor forging ahead of the handler)
2. Two right turns (90 degree directional turn to the right)
3. Two left turns (90 degree directional turn to the left)
4. Two about turns (180 degree directional turn)
5. Two stop and sits
6. Down or Sit in motion
7. Stay (minimum of one continuous 2 minutes period)
8. Come (a minimum of 10 feet apart, commanded to a controlled position)
9. Two pace changes (one slow and one fast)

Certification Brief Forms:

Obedience Non-Patrol Teams Brief
Obedience Patrol Teams Brief

CCUNK9C-BF-01
CCUNK9C-BF-02

Certification Attempt Forms:

Obedience Non-Patrol Teams
Obedience Patrol Teams

CCUNK9C-AF-01
CCUNK9C-AF-02

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

DRUG DETECTION

While demonstrating reasonable control and coordination between handler and canine the team must collectively, between the two designated sniff areas (vehicles and building) locate each of the required odors, at least one time. Only one False Positive is accepted during this test. A false positive is designated when a team calls a find location that does not contain any of the required odors.

Each certification test will realize vehicles and building prior to any result being provided to K9 Team.

- The vehicle phase of the certification will consist of the sniffs of a minimum of 5(five) vehicles that consist of a minimum of 4(four) required odor types and 1(one) blank.
- The building phase will consist of 5(five) rooms of average size containing, a minimum of four (4) hides required odor types and 1(one) blank.
- Required Odors types are:
 - Marijuana
 - Cocaine
 - Heroine
 - Methamphetamine

The certification will consist of vehicles and rooms, each being “double blind”. On all phases, the Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official will place and document all required odor type locations without telling anyone else of the locations. Another Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official with no knowledge of locations will conduct each phase with each team. Each vehicle or room will be required to be sniffed one at a time. The handler must notify the Certifying Official or the Evaluation Official evaluating the phase, if the location is blank or call all indications/alerts at that moment. Once the handler has cleared the location the team must move to the next vehicle or room not yet sniffed. The team may not change their call or return to a previously sniffed vehicle or room. The accompanying Certifying Official or Evaluation Official will document the handler’s call locations at the time the handler makes the call without any interference, assistance, or conversation with the team outside of guiding the phase.

To insure adequate odor dispersion, the set time will be a minimum of 20 minutes prior to the commencement of the first attempt/re-test. Required Odors used for each phase should be between 5 grams and 30 grams. Required Odors used for each phase shall be

actual odor, no “pseudo odors” are permitted without written authorization of Administration. Specific odors may be removed from testing based on specific request of the handler. If a handler requests specific odor(s) be removed from testing the removed odor(s) must be documented in the notes section of both certification attempt forms.

Certification Brief Forms:

Drug Detection Teams Brief

CCUNK9C-BF-03

Certification Attempt Forms:

Drug Detection (Vehicles)

CCUNK9C-AF-03

Drug Detection (Buildings)

CCUNK9C-AF-04

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

EXPLOSIVES DETECTION

While demonstrating reasonable control and coordination between the handler and canine, the team must collectively locate a minimum of six (6) required odors. Only one False Positive is accepted during this certification. Only one False Positive is accepted during this test. A false positive is designated when a team calls a find location that does not contain any of the required odors.

Teams will be evaluated in three phases; vehicles, rooms, and parcels (boxes). This certification will be conducted utilizing the following criteria for each phase:

1. Minimum of 4(four) rooms with a total time limit of 12 minutes. 3 minutes will be added to total time for each additional room added. This phase will contain a minimum of 1 required odor and a minimum of 1 blank room.
2. Minimum of 4(Four) vehicles with a total time of 10 minutes. 2 minutes 30 seconds will be added to total time for each additional vehicle added. This phase will contain a minimum of 1 required odor and a minimum of 1 blank vehicle.
3. Four rows of five boxes (20 total) with 5 minutes to sniff all boxes. This phase will contain a minimum of 1 required odor and a minimum of 16 blank boxes.

Required Odors requirement: At least one odor must be chosen from each of the following 5(five) areas. Team are required to locate at least one odor from each of the following 5(five) areas:

1. Powders (Black, Single or Double Base, Pyrodex)
2. RDX or RDX Based Explosive
3. PETN or PETN Based Explosive
4. Ammonium Nitrate or Ammonium Nitrate/Fuel Oil
5. Sodium or Potassium Chlorate

Additional odor(s) can be chosen from the following odors if the Certification Official or Evaluation Official desires.

1. TNT
2. Dynamite (AN or NG)
3. Nitromethane
4. Water Gel
5. Slurries
6. Safety Fuse

7. Emulsion
8. Cast Boosters
9. Semtex
10. Comp B
11. Plastic explosives
12. Sheet Explosives
13. Tetryl
14. TATP
15. Perchlorate Based Explosives

The attempt will consist of vehicles, rooms, and boxes. The attempt will be “double blind”. On all phases the Certifying Official or Evaluation Official will place and document all placed odor locations without telling anyone else of the locations. Another Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official with no knowledge of odor locations will conduct the attempt with each team. Each vehicle or room will be required to be sniffed one at a time. The handler must notify the Certifying Official or Evaluation Official evaluating the attempt, if the location is blank or call all indications/alerts at that moment. Once the handler has cleared the location the team must move to the next vehicle or room not previously sniffed. The team may not change their calls or return to a previously sniffed location. The accompanying Certifying Official or Evaluation Official will document the handler’s call locations at the time the handler notifies them of each call without any interference, assistance, or conversation with team outside of guiding the attempt.

To insure adequate odor dispersion the set time will be a minimum of 20 minutes prior to the commencement of the first attempt. All odors presented will be no less than ¼ pound. All Odors used for each phase shall be actual odor, no pseudo odors are permitted without written authorization of Administration. If a handler requests specific odor(s) be removed from testing the removed odor(s) must be documented in the notes section of both certification attempt forms.

Certification Brief Forms:

Explosives Detection Teams Brief

CCUNK9C-BF-04

Certification Attempt Forms:

Explosives Detection (Vehicles)

CCUNK9C-AF-05

Explosives Detection (Buildings)

CCUNK9C-AF-06

Explosives Detection (Boxes)

CCUNK9C-AF-07

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

FIREARMS DETECTION

While demonstrating reasonable control and coordination between the handler and canine, the team must collectively locate a minimum of five (5) required odors. No False Positives are accepted during this certification. A false positive is designated when a team calls a find location that does not contain any of the required odors.

Teams will be evaluated in four phases; vehicles, rooms, parcels (boxes), and open area. This certification will be conducted utilizing the following criteria for each phase:

1. A minimum of four (4) rooms will be utilized during this phase. There will be at least one required odor and one blank room.
2. A minimum of four (4) vehicles will be used during this phase. Interiors and Exteriors of all vehicles must be used. There will be at least one required odor and one blank vehicle.
3. A minimum of 20 boxes, suitcases, or bags will be utilized. There will be at least one required odor type and 16 blank.
4. An open area of at least 40 yards (120 feet) by 40 yards (120 feet) will be used. The open area can consist of woods, shrubs, buildings, etc. and be thick enough to hide the visual location of at least one required odor.

Required Odors: At least one odor must be chosen from each of the following 5(five) areas. Team are required to locate at least one odor from each of the following 5(five) areas:

1. Powders (Black, Single, or Double Base, Pyrodex) minimum of 6 grams and a maximum of 1 oz.
2. Ammunition (Fired) Any caliber. Minimum of 6 rounds. Must have been fired within 72 hours.
3. Ammunition (Unfired) Any caliber, barrel length, style (revolver, semi-Auto, etc.).
4. Weapon (fired) Any caliber, barrel length, style (revolver, semi-Auto, etc.) is acceptable. Weapon should not have been fired more than 72 hours prior to use as an odor.
5. Weapon (unfired) Any caliber, barrel length, style (revolver, semi-auto, etc.) is acceptable and should contain a minimum of 5 live rounds or any caliber.

Additional odor(s) can be chosen from the following odors if the Certification Official or Evaluation Official desires.

1. Magazine (minimum of six (6) live rounds of any caliber)
2. Ammunition in its original box

The attempt will consist of vehicles, rooms, boxes, and open area. The attempt will be “double blind”. On all phases the Certifying Official or Evaluation Official will place and document all placed odor locations without telling anyone else of the locations. Another Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official with no knowledge of the odor locations will conduct the attempt with each team. Each vehicle or room will be required to be sniffed one at a time. The handler must notify the Certifying Official or Evaluation Official evaluating the attempt, if the location is blank or call all indications/alerts at that moment. Once the handler has cleared the location the team must move to the next vehicle or room not previously sniffed. The team may not change their calls or return to a previously sniffed location. The accompanying Certifying Official or Evaluation Official will document the handler’s call locations at the time the handler notifies them of each call without any interference, assistance, or conversation with team outside of guiding the attempt.

To insure adequate odor dispersion the set time will be a minimum of 20 minutes prior to the commencement of the first attempt. All odors presented will meet the requirements of each odor type described above. All Odors used for each phase shall be actual odor, no pseudo odors are permitted without written authorization of Administration. If a handler requests specific odor(s) be removed from testing the removed odor(s) must be documented in the notes section of both certification attempt forms.

Certification Brief Forms:

Firearms Detection Teams Brief

CCUNK9C-BF-o8

Certification Attempt Forms:

Firearms Detection (Vehicles)

CCUNK9C-AF-11

Firearms Detection (Buildings)

CCUNK9C-AF-12

Firearms Detection (Boxes)

CCUNK9C-AF-13

Firearms Detection (Open Area)

CCUNK9C-AF-14

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

ELECTRONIC STORAGE DEVICE DETECTION

While demonstrating reasonable control and coordination between handler and canine the team must collectively, between the two designated sniff areas (vehicles and building) locate each of the required odors, at least one time. Only one False Positive is accepted during this test. A false positive is designated when a team calls a find location that does not contain any of the required odors.

Each certification test will realize vehicles and building prior to any result being provided to the K9 Team.

- The vehicle phase of the certification will consist of the sniffs of a minimum of 5(five) vehicles that consist of a minimum of two (2) required odor types and 1(one) blank.
- The building phase will consist of 5(five) rooms of average size containing, a minimum of two (2) required odor types and 1(one) blank.
- Required Odors types are:
 - SD Card (may be contained within another device)
 - Mini SD Card (may be contained within another device)
 - Thumb Drive (may be contained within another device)
 - Hard Drive (may be contained within another device)
 - Cellular Phone

All efforts will be made to minimize or eliminate all human scent from all required odors. To accomplish this wear Nitrile Gloves or use tongs when placing all Required Odors for testing.

The certification will consist of vehicles and rooms, each being “double blind”. On all phases, the Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official will place and document all required odor type locations without telling anyone else of the locations. Another Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official with no knowledge of locations will conduct each phase with each team.

Each vehicle or room will be required to be sniffed one at a time. The handler must notify the Certifying Official or the Evaluation Official evaluating the phase, if the location is blank or call all indications/alerts at that moment. Once the handler has cleared the location the team must move to the next vehicle or room not yet sniffed. The team may not change their call or return to a previously sniffed vehicle or room. The accompanying

Certifying Official or Evaluation Official will document the handler's call locations at the time the handler makes the call without any interference, assistance, or conversation with the team outside of guiding the phase.

To insure adequate odor dispersion, the set time will be a minimum of 40 minutes prior to the commencement of the first attempt/re-test. Required Odors used for each phase should be between 1 device and 5 devices. Required Odors used for each phase shall be actual devices, no "pseudo odors" are permitted without written authorization of Administration. Specific odors may be removed from testing based on specific request of the handler. If a handler requests specific odor(s) be removed from testing the removed odor(s) must be documented in the notes section of both certification attempt forms.

Certification Brief Forms:

Electronic Storage Device Detection Team Brief

CCUNK9C-BF-09

Certification Attempt Forms:

Electronic Storage Device Detection (Vehicles)

CCUNK9C-AF-15

Electronic Storage Device Detection (Buildings)

CCUNK9C-AF-16

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

TRACKING

A person designated by a Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official will act as the tracklayer. Tracklayer will begin a track at an undisclosed location, simulating an actual track. Once track is laid according to specifications listed below, tracklayer will contact another Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official that will accompany the tracking team for evaluation and safety purposes. The tracklayer is not to discuss any portion or location of the track, other than the start location and direction of travel. Tracklayer will remain in place or leave a toy in place to be located by the tracking team. The tracklayer or toy at the end of the laid track will remain in place until located by the tracking team or notified by the evaluator that the team is no successful.

Only the team Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official, with no knowledge of the track will conduct the evaluation of the team. The team Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official will evaluate the team's workability together, the handler's ability to read and translate the dog's behavior, and the dog's ability to recognize and follow human odor. The team Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official will accompany the team without any interference, assistance, or conversation with the team.

Any conversation between the Certifying Official(s), an Evaluation Official(s), or tracklayer and the handler after the tracking certification brief are given will immediately terminate the attempt or re-test.

Specifications

While demonstrating reasonable control and coordination the team will collectively and safely track, in an urban/suburban environment. The track will be laid a minimum of ¼ mile (1320ft) total length. Track will contain a minimum of three terrain changes, with at least one terrain being hard surface not less than 12 feet by 12 feet. Asphalt, concrete, gravel, dirt road are all examples of surfaces considered hard surfaces. The track will also contain a minimum of two turns. The track will be continuous from start to finish without circling back on itself. One tracklayer or toy may be left at the finish of the track.

The designated track must be set for a minimum of 20 minutes prior to the team deploying. The 20 minutes sit time will start at the time the tracklayer starts laying the track. Under the direction and control of the handler, the tracking team will follow the track and locate the tracklayer or toy at the end. The track must be completed within 40 minutes of initial deployment time of the team.

Track will be judged on a pass/fail basis and can be terminated by the Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official for failure to perform on the part of the dog or handler, due to safety reasons, or failure of the tracking team to successfully locate the tracklayer or toy at the end of the track within 40 minutes.

Merely locating the tracklayer or toy does not constitute an automatic pass. All areas of critique are taken into consideration.

Certification Brief Forms:

Tracking Teams Brief

CCUNK9C-BF-05

Certification Attempt Forms:

Tracking

CCUNK9C-AF-08

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

ARTICLE SEARCH

One Certifying Official or Evaluation Official will place and document all articles used. Any handlers being tested shall not know article placement. The handler will be required to call all indications/alerts aloud and the accompanying Certifying Official or Evaluation Official will confirm or deny. The Certifying Official or Evaluation Official will remove each article the handler calls as a positive indication/alert. Accompanying Certifying Official or Evaluation Official is not to interfere, assistance, or converse with the team outside of guiding the test.

A Certifying Official or Evaluator will clearly mark the area to be cleared and shall walk in the area with a non-testing dog to contaminate the area prior to setting the articles. The search area will contain a minimum of 3 articles that are heavily scented with human odor. The articles should be dropped at different locations and should be made of metal, leather, cloth, plastic, wood, or glass. Articles should vary in size from small to large. Search area will be no larger than 40 yards by 40 yards, yet no smaller than 15 yards by 15 yards. Articles shall set for a minimum of 10 minutes before team begins sniff of the area.

Under the direction and control of the handler, the K9 team will attempt to locate the placed articles. The sniff of the area will be completed in a reasonable amount of time on or off leash, so long as the team is actively working and it does not become a safety hazard. Dog must positively locate a minimum of 2(two) articles in the allotted time, displaying recognition of human odor, which the handler calls. Only 1(one) false positive is allowed.

Article Search Certification will be judged on a pass/fail basis and can be terminated by the Certifying Official or Evaluation Official for failure to meet standards on the part of the dog or handler.

Certification Brief Forms:

Article Search Teams Brief

CCUNK9C-BF-06

Certification Attempt Forms:

Article Search

CCUNK9C-AF-09

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

PATROL

Team must meet all specified requirements below within a visual apprehension deployment, building search deployment, and/or area search deployment setting to obtain Patrol Certification. The focus of this certification is for the handler to demonstrate adequate control of his/her dog during the entirety of the attempt or re-test and for the dog to display appropriate aggression at appropriate times.

The team is allowed two mistakes during this certification, upon the third mistake during the attempt or re-test the attempt or re-test is immediately terminated as deemed not successful.

The team will be directed to deploy within one or more of the following pre-set settings (Visual Apprehension, Building Search, and/or Areas Search) by a Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official without prior knowledge of the setting or how it is setup. The team will be expected to deploy according to their training and as they would on duty. The Certifying Official or Evaluation Official will direct the attempt or re-test to ensure safety of all parties, yet as not to interfere with the team's performance. Certifying Official, Evaluation Official, or decoy interference will have no bearing on the team's results.

Requirements

Within a visual apprehension deployment, building search deployment, or area search deployment the team will be required to demonstrate the following elements without exceeding two mistakes:

- **Announcements** - The handler is required to give a minimum of 3(three) K9 Announcements consisting of their Authority, A Request for Peaceful Surrender, and Consequences prior to commanding each decoy apprehension, unless there is an immediate attack on the handler, where announcements may not be given due to immediacy of the threat.
- **Fleeing Decoy (suspect)** - The handler will send the dog by command in pursuit of the decoy. Once Handler commands canine to apprehend decoy the canine must apprehend and hold the decoy until such time as the handler verbally calls the canine off of the apprehension or manually removes the dog from the apprehension.

- **Verbal Call-Off (Out)** – On two occasions, after canine has physically apprehended a decoy the handler must verbally command canine to release the apprehended decoy from a distance not less than 7 feet. Canine must release decoy within 3 verbal call-offs and within a reasonable amount of time. The handler must demonstrate off-leash control of canine after release of decoy. At the discretion of the Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official the canine may be placed on leash upon outing.
- **Manual Removal** - After canine has physically apprehended decoy the handler must gain positive control of canine while commanding canine to release the apprehended decoy and maintaining positive control. Canine must release decoy within a reasonable amount of time. The handler must demonstrate positive control of canine after release of decoy as to prevent injury or reengagement of decoy or others. At the discretion of the Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official the canine may be placed on leash upon outing.
- **“Clean” Pat Down of Decoy** – Canine remains under control while guarding from a distance of not less than 10 yards. Decoy is to comply, not show any aggression, and allow handler to complete a Pat down. Once the handler pat down is complete the handler must gain positive control of their dog. At the discretion of the Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official the canine may be placed on leash upon completion of the exercise.
- **Handler Protection** – At the sole discretion of the Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official the canine may be inside the patrol vehicle, with the handler, or at a guard from a distance. The phase may be conducted on or off leash, at the discretion of the Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official. The decoy will suddenly, physically assault the handler. The canine will react to the assault by either of the following actions:
 1. Conditioned, immediate response in defense of the handler. No command given or;
 2. Respond upon the verbal command of the handler.

The canine will protect the handler by making a physical apprehension of the assaulting decoy and continue to hold until such time as the handler outs the canine. At the discretion of the Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official the canine may be placed on leash upon completion of the exercise.
- **False Starts** – On two occasions, the dog must be placed in a situation where proper K9 announcements are given with the dog in a controlled position. The dog must display that they remain in the controlled position until the handler commands them to apprehend the decoy.

- **Recall** - The handler will send the dog in pursuit of a decoy. Allowing appropriate distance (50% of the travel distance) the decoy will stop, stand completely still, and verbally surrender, simulating a compliant suspect. At the time of surrender, dog must have the opportunity to see and apprehend decoy. At this time the handler will verbally command the dog to abandon the apprehension. Dog is NOT to make any contact with the decoy.
- **Off Leash Control** – On two occasions, at the direction of the Certifying Official or Evaluation Official the handler must operate with the dog off-leash. Dog must remain in position and under complete control of the handler the entire time. This does not include times of recall and verbal outs.
- **Abandonment After Announcements** – At the discretion of the Certifying Official or Evaluation Official the handler must give at least 2(two) proper K9 Announcements to a visual decoy the withdraw from the immediate area with dog under control to an alternate cover position. This may be conducted on or off leash.
- **Apprehension of Non-Visual Decoy (suspect)** - The handler will send the dog from a safe location to locate and physically apprehend a decoy whose position is unknown to the team and has been in position for no less than 10 minutes. The Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official shall direct equipment used by the decoy. Once Handler commands canine to apprehend decoy the canine must located the decoy, apprehend, and hold the decoy until such time as the handler calls the canine off of the apprehension or manually removes the dog from the apprehension, as directed by the Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official.
- **Active Alert of Non-Visual Decoy (suspect)** - The handler will send the dog from a safe location to located and physically apprehend a decoy whose position is unknown to the team and has been in position for no less than 10 minutes. The decoy should wear no equipment, but adequate safety measures shall be taken to ensure decoy safety. Once Handler commands canine to apprehend decoy the canine must located the decoy and provide an active alert to the decoy's concealed location due to the inability of the dog to reach the decoy to physically apprehend the decoy. The canine must remain at the location and the handler must call the location of the concealed decoy.

Visual Apprehension Setting

The canine team and decoy are present and aware of each in this setting. This may be an open field, industrial area, commercial area, or similar, but does not fall into the requirements of a Building search or Area Search Setting.

Building Search Setting

Not an apprehension setting or area search setting. This is a structure that consists of a minimum of 4(four) rooms of any designated size that has the ability to conceal or contain the decoy(s) in each. The canine team is not aware of the decoy's location inside this setting. The canine team will deploy from a safe location outside of the structure.

The handler must remain outside of the area, unless the canine has cleared the area being entered by the handler, the handler elects to use a long line for deployment, or the evaluator terminates the phase.

If, handler elects to use a long line in the building search setting the team must demonstrate efficiency in use of this technique. Long line may not be longer than 50 foot and no shorter than 10 meters. Team must systematically clear each area and at no time may handler be closer than 10 feet from dog during deployment time.

Area Search Setting

Not an apprehension setting or building search setting. This is an outside area that the Certifying Official or an Evaluation Official sets at no designated size, but that has the ability to conceal or contain the decoy(s). The canine team is not aware of the decoy's location inside this setting. The canine team will deploy from a safe location outside of the setting.

The handler must remain outside of the area, unless the canine has cleared the area being entered by the handler, the handler elects to use a long line for deployment, or the evaluator terminates the phase.

If, handler elects to use a long line in the area search setting the team must demonstrate efficiency in use of this technique. Long line may not be longer than 50 foot and no shorter than 10 meters. Team must systematically clear the area and at no time may the handler be closer than 10 feet from dog during deployment time.

Certification Brief Forms:

Patrol Teams Brief

CCUNK9C-BF-07

Certification Attempt Forms:

Patrol

CCUNK9C-AF-10

SUMMARY OF CHANGE

DATE OF CHANGE	SECTION	DESCRIPTION
07/13/2022	Certification Standards	Added: Firearms Detection standards.
09/12/2022	Certification Standards	Added: Firearms Detection Brief Form
09/12/2022	Certification Standards	Added: Firearms Detection Attempt Form
04/09/2023	Certification Bylaws v2.1	Certification Bylaws v3.0 created. A Table of Contents and Summary of Change section was added. Formatting of document to support Table of Contents (Title and Headings). Header was changed to reflect v.3.0 and effective date. Logo was updated to current logo. "TEAM" section was changed to "K9 Team". "Certification Event" section was modified forbid private certification events.
04/09/2023	Certification Standards: Drug Detection	Added: If a handler requests specific odor(s) be removed from testing the removed odor(s) must be documented in the notes section of both certification attempt forms.
04/09/2023	Certification Standards: Explosives Detection	Added: If a handler requests specific odor(s) be removed from testing the removed odor(s) must be documented in the notes section of both certification attempt forms. Changed: "Buildings" to "Boxes" Changed: "Emulsion" to "Emulsion"

04/09/2023	Certification Standards: Tracking: Specifications	Changed: “Change” to Changes” Added: The 20 minutes sit time will start at the time the tracklayer starts laying the track.
04/09/2023	Certification Standards: Patrol	Changed: “Patrol Canine Team Certification” to “Patrol”
04/09/2023	Certification Standards: Firearms Detection	Removed all time requirements.
04/09/2023	Certification Standards	Added: Electronic Storage Device Detection Standards
04/09/2023	Certification Standards	Added: Electronic Storage Device Detection Brief Form
04/09/2023	Certification Standards	Added: Electronic Storage Device Detection Attempt Forms.
04/09/2023	Attempt Forms	All Attempt Forms logo updated to reflect current logo. Grammatical errors corrected. Form Numbers Updated.
04/09/2023	Brief Forms	Grammatical errors corrected. Form Numbers Updated.
04/10/2023	Certification Standards: Firearms Detection	Added: “Weapon should not have been fired more that 72 hours prior to use as an odor.” Added: “and should contain a minimum of 5 live rounds or any caliber.”
04/10/2023	Certification Standards: Electronic Storage Device Detection	Added: “All efforts will be made to minimize or eliminate all human scent from all required odors. To accomplish this wear Nitrile Gloves or use tongs when placing all Required Odors for testing.”