

VIRGINIA POLICE WORK DOG ASSOCIATION

NARCOTIC DETECTION TEST

This test is designed to determine the proficiency and reliability of dogs in the detection of narcotics. As defined by the NAPWDA narcotic detection rules for testing, the minimum acceptable level required to pass is 91.6%. The basic narcotic odors (and their derivatives) that can be tested in are marijuana, cocaine, heroin and methamphetamine and are not to exceed five (5) **different** narcotic odors. The general rules for testing narcotic detection dogs will be as follows:

- 1.) The "Reward toy or object" used during a narcotic detection certification test, to reward the dog upon finding a narcotic hide, **WILL NOT** contain any narcotics or narcotic odor/residue.
- 2.) **All odors attempting to be certified in WILL be hidden in ALL areas tested in.**
- 3.) All searches will include a minimum of one (1) blank uncontaminated area to be searched, e.g. vehicle, room, luggage, locker, area, etc.
- 4.) **Testing will be conducted in at least three (3) areas.**
Areas of concealment are:
 - a.) Vehicles, mandatory (inside and outside count as one (1) area.).
 - b.) Buildings, mandatory.
 - c.) Any other designated areas.
- 5.) A "**team miss**" is defined as any incorrect response by the K9 team.
- 6.) **Only one (1) miss total overall** of all odors attempted to be certified in, will be permitted for a successful "pass" certification. *If the testing K9 team has more than one (1) team miss, which is a failure, then the K9 team MUST RETEST in ALL PHASES AND in ALL ODORS that they are seeking accreditation for.* Revised 11-22-03
- 7.) Narcotics successfully certified in will be listed by their "Laboratory" names on the certification certificate.
- 8.) **Pseudo narcotics WILL NOT** be used for certification tests.
- 9.) The Master Trainer will place the aids in locations unknown to the team. Hides may be high or low.
- 10.) The amount of narcotic substance used for testing will not be less than one (1) gram. Adopted 06-22-97
- 11.) When testing in three or more odors of narcotics, a *minimum of one (1) hide of each odor attempted to be certified in* **WILL** be hidden in "Building" searches **and** in "Other" searches, tested in.
- 12.) When testing in three or more odors of narcotics, there will be a *minimum of one (1) hide of each odor attempted to be certified in*, hidden **INSIDE** the vehicle and a *minimum of one (1) hide of the SAME ODOR*, hidden on the **OUTSIDE** of the vehicle, *thus making a TOTAL* of two (2) *hides* of **EACH ODOR** attempted to be certified in for the vehicle portion of the narcotic detection certification test. There will be at least one (1) blank uncontaminated vehicle searched/used during this test.
- 13.) *If only one (1) odor is attempted to be certified in*, there **WILL** be a *minimum* of twelve (12) *total finds*, consisting of a *minimum* four (4) hides in building search, *minimum* four (4) hides in "Other" searches, and a *minimum* of four (4) hides - two (2) *inside* and two (2) *outside a vehicle*. There will be at least one (1) blank uncontaminated vehicle searched/used during this test.
- 14.) If two (2) odors are attempted to be certified in, there **WILL** be a *minimum* of twelve (12) *total finds*, consisting of a *minimum* two (2) hides of each odor in building search, *minimum* two (2) hides of each odor in "Other" searches, and a *minimum* two (2) hides of each odor - one (1) of each odor *inside* and one (1) of each odor *outside* a vehicle. There will be at least one (1) blank uncontaminated vehicle searched/used during this test.
- 15.) Time limits on searches will be at the discretion of the Master Trainer and so long as the Master Trainer determines that the team is still working.

**** NOTE: There will be a break between the narcotic building searches and the narcotic vehicle searches.****

*****The safety of the detection dog will be the sole responsibility of the handler, (such as overdose).*****

All tests given the Narcotic Detection Team will be on a pass/fail basis. The Master Trainer will determine if the team will be certified upon the completion of the test. **The handler and dog will be considered as a team and it is the team who will be certified. If the dog changes handlers, a new team exists and the team will need to be certified.**

This certification will be valid for one (1) year from the date of issue as defined in Certification Validity paragraph. **There will be no fee charged for VPWDA certification testing. A fee may be imposed to cover expenses of travel, lodging and meals only, if necessary.**

This section reviewed and revised 06-24-05.