



US&R GENERAL MEMORANDUM - 2014-053

July 25, 2014

FOR: National Urban Search & Rescue Response System
Task Force Representatives

FROM: Dean Scott, Section Chief
Operations Section
Urban Search and Rescue Branch

SUBJECT: US&R General Memorandum 2014-053 – TX-TF1 CSSCE Announcement –
October 18-19, 2014

Texas Task Force One (TX-TF1) is hosting a National Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) Response System (the System) Canine Search Specialist Certification Evaluation (CSSCE) in College Station, Texas on October 18th and 19th, 2014. There will be no registration fee for this evaluation. Task Forces will be responsible for their members' travel, lodging and per diem expenses. The CSSCE is open to System candidates who have passed an FSA and are seeking to certify, or re-certify, as FEMA Canine Search Specialist Teams.

Space is limited to 24 candidates and applications must be submitted to Debra Tosch at: Debra@SearchDogFoundation.org by September 18, 2014. The attached logistics letter includes event specific information and the application. For additional information, contact the individual(s) identified on the logistics letter.

This meeting is within scope of the FY2014 Readiness Cooperative Agreement. Funding for registration, travel and related costs to send System members are allowable expenses, provided the individual's task force has budgeted for this expense.

Task Force Representatives are asked to coordinate this information as appropriate with their Task Force Training Managers.

Attachments:

TX-TF1 CSSCE Announcement and Application

cc:

US&R Strategic Group
US&R Advisory Group
US&R Branch Staff
FEMA Regional/International ESF #9 Representatives



Texas Task Force 1

Urban Search & Rescue

DATE: July 24, 2014

TO: Task Force Leaders, FEMA US&R National Response System

FROM: Jeff Saunders, Operations Chief, TX-TF1

SUBJECT: Canine Search Specialist Certification Evaluation

Texas Task Force One will host a Canine Search Specialist Certification Evaluation at College Station, TX on October 18-19, 2014. The following logistical information is supplied to assist in your planning to send candidates from your Task Force. There will be no application fee to participate in this evaluation. Task Forces who send participants will be responsible for supporting their member's travel, lodging and per diem expenses.

The Certification Evaluation is open to candidates who have passed an FSA and are seeking to certify or re-certify as FEMA Canine Search Specialist Teams.

The application for this evaluation is attached.

Please forward the completed application (typed, signed and emailed) to:

Name: Debra Tosch
E-mail: Debra@searchdogfoundation.org

Space is limited to 24 applicants. Due date for applications is **September 18, 2014**

Receipt of application will be confirmed by email.

Accepted applications will be confirmed by e-mail on September 19, 2014. If space is available, applications may be accepted after the due date.

Transportation to/from the airport, hotel and evaluation site is the responsibility of the candidate.

There will be a mandatory orientation meeting at 1900 hrs on the night before the evaluation at the Emergency Operations Training Center (map and directions will be supplied to those testing).
Transportation to/from the airport, hotel and evaluation site is the responsibility of the candidate.

Airports: George Bush International (Houston), Austin-Berstrom International (Austin), Easterwood Field (College Station)

Lodging:

Courtyard Marriott
3939 Hwy 6 S
College Station, TX 77845
979-695-8111
Group code is **FCTFCTA**



Room rate is \$97/night plus taxes.
Deadline to reserve is October 3, 2014.

Candidates are expected to provide their own personal protective equipment appropriate for rubble pile entry. **Teams without such equipment will not be allowed to participate in the evaluation.** Portable kennels will be provided at the test location but kennels needed for transportation and use at the hotel will be the responsibility of the candidate.

Questions may be directed to:
Susann Brown
979-458-0857
susann.brown@teex.tamu.edu



FEMA

**DHS/FEMA National US&R Response System
Application for Certification Evaluation/Certification Preparation**

(Please Type)

(Delivery and receipt of this application does not guarantee acceptance. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure acceptance or denial of this application)

CE/CP Date:	CE/CP Location:
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Recert: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Number of Prior Attempts:	Date of FSA:
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Has the Team Taken a CP Within the Last 12 Months? Yes No

Applicant's Personal Information

Name:	Task Force:
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Address:

City:	State:	Zip Code:
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Contact Phone:	Email Address:
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Emergency Contact:	Emergency Contact Phone:
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Canine Information

Name:	Breed:
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DOB:	Date of Rabies Vaccination:
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My dog and I are physically sound and are currently under no restrictions. I understand and accept that the decisions of the evaluators are final. I affirm that I have read, understand and will abide by the DHS/FEMA/US&R Code of Conduct and understand that violation of said rules and Code of Conduct may result in loss of certifications, loss of evaluator status and/or referral to the appropriate authorities. I further affirm that I understand that abuse of the canine is not permitted at any time.

Applicant Signature:	Date:
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The above team is in compliance with the DHS/FEMA policy on aggression, successfully completed a TF administered FSA and is approved to participate in this evaluation.

Task Force Approval

Program Manager/Training Coordinator	Canine Coordinator
_____	_____
(Signature)	(Signature)
_____	_____
(Printed Name)	(Printed Name)
Date:	Date:
Address: _____	Address: _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Email:	Email:
Phone:	Phone: