



US&R GENERAL MEMORANDUM - 2014-068

September 8, 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 2014-068 – VA-TF2 CSSCE Announcement –
November 1-2, 2014

Virginia Task Force Two (VA-TF2) is hosting a National Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) Response System (the System) Canine Search Specialist Certification Evaluation (CSSCE) in Virginia Beach, Virginia on November 1st and 2nd, 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 28 candidates and applications must be submitted to Debra Tosch at: Debra@SearchDogFoundation.org by September 29, 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 FY2013 and FY2014 Readiness Cooperative Agreements. 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:

VA-TF2 CSSCE Announcement and Application

cc:

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



Virginia Task Force 2

Urban Search & Rescue



513 Viking Drive, Suite 9
Virginia Beach Virginia 23452
Office: 757-385-6680
Fax: 757-431-4161

DATE: September 4, 2014

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

FROM: Captain Ray Irizarry, VATF2 Canine Coordinator

SUBJECT: Canine Search Specialist Certification Evaluation

Virginia Task Force Two will host a Canine Search Specialist Certification in Virginia Beach, VA on November 1 & 2, 2014. The following logistical information is supplied to assist in your planning to send candidates from your Task Force.

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 recertify as FEMA Canine Search Specialists.

The application for this evaluation is attached.

Please forward the completed application to:
Debra Tosch – debra@searchdogfoundation.org

Space is limited to 28 applicants. **Due date 09/29/14. To facilitate timely travel arrangements, the accepted teams will be notified 09/30/14, but applications will be accepted after the due date, if space is available.**

Receipt of application will be confirmed by e-mail.
Accepted applications will be confirmed by e-mail.

Testing teams are expected to attend an orientation meeting Friday, October 31 and Saturday, November 1 at 1800 at the Fire Training Academy, 927 S. Birdneck Rd, Virginia Beach, VA.

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



Virginia Task Force 2

Urban Search & Rescue



513 Viking Drive, Suite 9
Virginia Beach Virginia 23452
Office: 757-385-6680
Fax: 757-431-4161

Airport – Norfolk International Airport (ORF)

Lodging – DoubleTree Hotel
1900 Pavilion Dr.
Virginia Beach, VA
23451-5551

PH. 757-422-8900

Rates - \$99.00 per night, please tell the front desk the room is for the FEMA K-9 Test for the discounted rate.

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 event.** Portable kennels will also be the responsibility of the candidate.

Questions should be directed to:
Captain Ray Irizarry, VATF2 Canine Coordinator
ririzarr@vbgov.com



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: