



Texas Task Force 1

FEMA Canine Search Specialist Certification Evaluation 12 Month Training Objectives

Name: _____

Evaluator: _____

K9: _____

Date: _____

Progress Check #1

Goal Date	Actual Date	Skill	Task	Comments
Wk 8				
Yes	No			
		Obedience	Immediate down (or sit) while K9 is off lead and approximately 10 feet away, perform 3 times	
		Obedience	Heels on loose lead changing direction and changing pace, right turn, left turn, about turn, halt, normal, fast, slow. No distractions.	
		Obedience	Off lead recall from 40 yards. K9 runs rapidly to handler	
		Obedience	Down and stay for 2 minutes handler in site 10 yds away. Lead off, next to dog	
		Bark Alert	Helper call out from closed barrel 25 yds away. Bark within 2 seconds of arrival. 10 secs of continual barking or barking and digging.	
		Directionals	Demonstrate one base from 5 yds, with distractions (people standing near handler), 10 sec. stay	
		Agility	Controlled Walk off-lead on elevated plank (3 feet high): K9 moves slowly and confidently across plank.	
		Agility	3 ft. plank, 'Stop' (sit, down, wait) 3 times. Off-lead. Can cross plank up to 3 times.	
		Agility	Demonstrate going through open tunnel with no turns	
		Agility	Horizontal wooden ladder	
		Search	K9 enters into various holes and tunnels within the rubble	
		Search	1 pop-out on rubble (victim out of hole, calls dog, hides, no further enticement). Handler and dog start on the pile. Bark for 5 seconds. Handler can move/talk to dog after 5 sec's of bark. 5 minute search	
		Bark Latency	Barks within 5 seconds of arrival at victim	
		Handler	Demonstrates comfort and agility on rubble	
		Handler	Demonstrate reward system for K9	
		Handler	Has the various commands to use for agility, search and directionals	
		Handler	Knows rules of FSA Direction and Control, Bark Alert, Obedience and Agility	
		Handler	Actively participates in training by being a helper and watching other dogs	



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Progress Check #2

Goal Date	Actual Date	Skill	Task	Comments
Wk 14				
Yes	No			
		Obedience	3 minute down stay handler out of site, dogs 6 ft apart. Leash off and beside dog	
		Obedience	Heels on loose lead changing direction and changing pace, right turn, left turn, about turn, halt, normal,	
		Obedience	Stop on recall from 20 yds away. Dog shows immediate change of gait then a stop.	
		Obedience	Heel through Figure 8 on loose lead, posts 10 ft apart, dog 4 feet from posts, no aggression	
		Bark Alert	Cold Shot, Barrel 25 yds away, victim in place 10 minutes, bark within 2 sec. No toys in barrel, handler reward after 20 sec bark (continual barking or barking and digging).	
		Bark Alert Distractions	Call out, 10 yds away, 3 barks then victim reward, distractions placed 10 ft away from dogs path. Food distraction	
		Directionals	Demonstrate 2 bases from 15 yds, with distractions (people standing near bases/handler), 10 sec. stay	
		Agility	6 ft. high plank, K9 precedes handler. 'Stop' (sit, down, or wait) 2 times. Turn on command. K9 can cross plank up to 3 times.	
		Agility	Demonstrate crawl	
		Agility	Demonstrate unpleasant surface	
		Agility	45 degree Little Giant ladder to 4 ft height (ladder approx. 6 ft long)	
		Agility	Wobbly surface	
		Agility	Demonstrate control through agility course	
		Search	2 Victims. V1: Cold shot, victim concealed in hole, observers on rubble, barks for 10 seconds. Handler off pile for V1 and on for V2. 10 minute search limit (victim reward). V2: Call out, bark for 5 seconds. 5 min search limit (victim reward).	
		Bark Latency	Barks within 5 seconds of arrival at each victim location	
		Commit to Source	Once locates scent source, canine stays at source location and barks at least 3 times. Handler is able to pinpoint source location.	
		Search	K9 works independently of handler	
		Search	K9 ignores observers on pile	
		Handler	Handler will draw a map of the search area. Divide area into quadrants and note wind direction, landmarks, victim location, approximate distances, areas not searched, other areas of canine interest, recommendations.	
		Handler	Knows rules of FSA Search	
		Handler	Demonstrates proper care of canine and performs medical assessment during or after search	



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Progress Check #3

Goal Date	Actual Date	Skill	Task	Comments
Wk 20				
Yes	No			
		Obedience	6 Minute Down, handler out of site with distractions (ie: people walking near dogs, talking, barking dogs several feet away)	
		Obedience	Heels off-lead thru milling crowd, changing direction and changing pace, right turn, left turn, about turn,	
		Obedience	Heel through Figure 8 on loose lead, posts 8 ft, dog within 2 feet, no aggression	
		Obedience	Stop on recall from 25 yds away. Dog shows immediate change of gait then a stop.	
		Bark Alert	Cold shot with 30 seconds of FBILHS (continual barking or barking and digging), barrel 25 yds. away, barks within 2 sec. Victim reward.	
		Bark Alert Distractions	Call out, 10 yds away, 3 barks, distractions placed 5 ft away from dogs path. Animal scent, food and clothing distraction	
		List Distractions		
		Directionals	Demonstrate 3 bases 25 yds apart, with distractions (people walking near handler). Wait of base for 15	
		Agility	45 degree Little Giant ladder to 6 ft height	
		Agility	Demonstrate stop and turn on one obstacle (not plank)	
		Agility	Demonstrate slick surface	
		Agility	Demonstrate tunnel, one turn, partially blocked exit	
		Agility	Demonstrate control through agility course	
		Search	2 -3 victims, observers on rubble. Cold shot. Handler can access after 1st find. Canine works independently. 20 minute search limit. Can have victim reward on one find.	
		Bark Latency	Canine barks within 5 seconds of arrival at victim location	
		Commit to Source	Once locates scent source, canine stays at source location and barks at least 3 times. Handler is able to pinpoint source location.	
		Handler	Demonstrates knowledge of FSA Test handler testing strategy	
		Handler	Demonstrates proper care of canine and performs medical assessment during or after search	



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Progress Check #4

Goal	Actual	Skill	Task	Comments
Wk 24		Field Skills Assessment		
Yes	No			
		Obedience	Human Aggression Test	
		Obedience	K9 Aggression Test - Figure 8	
		Obedience	Off Lead Heeling through a crowd	
		Obedience	Emergency Stop	
		Obedience	5 Minute Down, handler out of site	
		Bark Alert	Cold Shot/ 30 second FBILHS	
		Directionals	Demonstrate all bases, 25 yds apart, minimum of 5 second wait until directed by handler	
		Agility	6 Foot Elevated Plank	
		Agility	8 Ft Ladder at 45 degrees	
		Agility	Demonstrate ability to stop, turn canine on an obstacle	
		Agility	Wobbly Surface 3 foot high	
		Agility	Tunnel darkened with one turn	
		Agility	Optional element: Slick, see saw, moving plank, crawl	
		Agility	Demonstrate control through agility course (above items plus required items)	
		Search	Handler conducts complete interview	
		Search	K9 searches Independently	
		Search	FBILHS for two victims	
		Bark	Canine barks within 5 seconds of arrival at victim location	
		Commit to Source	Once locates scent source, canine stays at source location and barks at least 3 times. Handler is able to pinpoint source location.	
		Handler	Informs Evaluator of Location of Scent at K9 Alert	
		Handler	Performs K9 medical assessment after search	
		Handler	Understands the rules of taking the FSA test	
		Handler	Demonstrates proper care of canine and performs medical assessment during or after search	



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Progress Check #5

Goal	Actual	Skill	Task	Comments
Wk 32				
Yes	No			
		Obedience	K9 on 5 min down stay with handler 10 yds away. People and K9's on lead walking between dog and handler.	
		Bark with Distraction	Bark barrel (call out) at least 10 yds away. Distractions placed next to barrel. Bark within 2 secs and bark 5 secs. Victim reward. Distractions include: large amounts of food, clothing, animal urine/feces or	
		List Distractions		
		Search Distraction	Call out with distractions buried near victim location. Bark within 2 secs and victim reward on first bark.	
		List Distractions		
		Applied Directionals	K9 given search command then stopped and redirected to a victim. K9 stopped on command and follows directional command. Bark indication with victim reward. Must be set up so K9 not in scent when stopped/redirected.	
		Search	2 areas, both Full Access. One no victim, one with at least 1 victim. Cold shot on both. Handler able to determine no-victim pile.	
		Bark	Barks within 5 seconds of arrival at victim location	
		Commit to Source	Once locates scent source, canine stays at source location and barks at least 3 times. Handler is able to pinpoint source location.	
		Handler	Handler will do a complete briefing before beginning search, including search strategy.	
		Handler	Identifies and marks victim location	
		Handler	Demonstrates proper care of canine and performs medical assessment during or after search	
		Handler	Handler will draw a map of the search area and location of victims. Divide area into quadrants and note wind direction, landmarks, victim location, approximate distances, areas not searched, other areas of	
		Handler	Demonstrates knowledge of strategy for Full Access pile	
		Handler	Knows the rules for Full Access pile	



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Progress Check #6

Goal Date	Actual Date	Skill	Task	Comments
Wk 40				
Yes	No			
		Obedience	Heels off-lead changing direction and changing pace, right turn, left turn, about turn, halt, normal, fast, slow. Distractions - Milling crowd, food, animal scents, trash, clothing	
		Obedience	K9 on a down stay within 10 feet of handler during briefing of search problem	
		Bark with Distraction	Bark barrel, cold shot, at least 10 yds away. Distractions in line with barrel and 10 ft from barrel. Bark within 2 secs and bark 5 secs. Victim reward. Distractions include: large amounts of food, clothing,	
		List Distractions		
		Limited Access Search	Cold shot with 2 to 4 victims. Set up so that 2 victims are at least 25 yds apart and at least one victim buried 5 feet below surface. Initial victim cannot be visible from start point. Victim reward on first bark. Victim reward on first bark on at least one victim. Distractions in and on the rubble (see list below)	
		Possible Distractions	Buried distractions: food, toys, residual human scent, live animals, dead animals, household trash, sounds. Visual distractions on pile: people working on pile, helmets, clothes, other dogs searching and barking (at least 50 ft away). List is not limited to these items.	
		List Distractions		
		Bark	Barks within 5 seconds of arrival at victim location	
		Commit to Source	Once locates scent source, canine stays at source location and barks at least 3 times. Handler is able to pinpoint source location.	
		Applied Directionals	Handler is able to stop and redirect K9 to search an area of the pile. K9 not in scent when stopped and redirected.	
		Handler	Handler will do a complete briefing before beginning search, including search strategy.	
		Handler	Identifies and marks victim location	
		Handler	Demonstrates proper care of canine and performs medical assessment during or after search	
		Handler	Handler will draw a map of the search area and location of victims. Divide area into quadrants and note wind direction, landmarks, victim location, approximate distances, areas not searched, other areas of canine interest. Handler may access entire search area.	
		Handler	Demonstrates knowledge of strategy for Limited Access pile	
		Handler	Knows the rules for Limited Access pile	



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Progress Check #7

Goal Date	Actual Date	Skill	Task	Comments
Wk 48				
Yes	No			
		Obedience	K9 on a down stay within 10 feet of handler during briefing of search problem	
		Bark with Distraction	Cold shot on barrel from at least 30 yds. Distractions in line with barrel and 5 ft from barrel. Bark within 2 secs for at least 10 secs, victim reward. Distractions include: large amounts of food, clothing, animal	
		List Distractions		
		Full Access Pile	Minimum of 2 victims up to 4 victims. 1 victim buried at least 5 ft below surface. Cold shot on all victims. May have victim rewards on half of the victims. Distractions on or in pile (see list below).	
		Possible Distractions	Food, toys, residual human scent, HR training aids, live animals, dead animals, household trash, sounds, people working on pile, helmets, clothes, other dogs searching and barking nearby (at least 50 ft away).	
		List Distractions		
		Bark	Barks within 5 seconds of arrival at victim location	
		Commit to Source	Once locates scent source, canine stays at source location and barks at least 3 times. Handler is able to pinpoint source location.	
		Applied Directionals	Handler is able to stop and redirect K9 to search an area of the pile. K9 not in scent when stopped and redirected.	
		Handler	Handler will do a complete briefing before beginning search, including search strategy.	
		Handler	Demonstrates proper care of canine and performs medical assessment during or after search	
		Handler	Handler will draw a map of the search area and location of victims. Divide area into quadrants and note wind direction, landmarks, victim location, approximate distances, areas not searched, other areas of canine interest. Handler may access entire search area.	
		Handler	Demonstrates knowledge of strategy for Full Access pile	
		Handler	Knows the rules for the Full Access pile	



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Certificate Preparation/Practice Test

Goal Date	Actual Date	Task	Comments
Yes	No		
		Attend a Certification Preparation Training or Practice Test after FSA and prior to testing.	