



# Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

## MEMORANDUM

**FOR:** Search Working Group  
Chair

**DATE:** 9-6-03

**FROM:** Canine Working Group

**SUBJECT:** Canine Working Group Meeting Minutes

Please find the attendance and agenda items addressed at the recent Canine Work Group conference call:

MEETING DATE(s) >>		9-4-03	Call Number 64	
MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE				
Bruce Speer [chair]				
Member	Y/N	Member	Y/N	
Ann Wichmann	Y			
Anne Trout	Y			
Teresa MacPherson	Y			
Shirley Hammond	Y			
Bruce Berry (SWG)	N			
Dean Scott (FEMA)	N			

**Canine  
Work Group Meeting Minutes  
Page Two**

**AGENDA ITEMS/DISCUSSION**

- Minutes
- Evaluator Conference Calls
- TFL Meeting Report
- Certificates

## **PROPOSED ACTIONS**

### **■ Minutes**

- The minutes from conference call dated 8-1-03 were accepted and will be posted.

### **■ Evaluator Conference Calls**

- The calls are set for 9-10, 11, & 12.

Agenda:

Rotation roster and payment system.

Test Set-up

New changes in DSCREP

Aggression

Score sheets

Evaluating Vs Coaching

- It was suggested that in the future the calls are not set up for consecutive days, thus allowing for those out of town for a period of time.

### **■ TFL Meeting Report**

• Bruce Speer represented the Canine Subcommittee along with Rory Rehbeck (SWG). A written poll was taken and the results showed that the TFLs are very supportive of a comprehensive screening and training program for their K9 teams.

- It was reiterated that no non-system personnel may participate in FEMA sponsored events until Legal Issues advises otherwise. Exception--Those Task Forces that use non-system personnel as volunteer "helpers" for their evaluations were advised to be aware of the possible tort liability and workers compensation issues. If they choose to continue to do so, they were advised to use liability waivers.

### **■ Certificates**

- All teams that have recently successfully completed the Type I or Type II evaluation will receive certificates as soon as a decision is made concerning a possible new logo. This is a result of the shifting of FEMA to DHS.

## **NEXT CALL**

- Evaluator Conference Calls 9-10, 9-11 & 9-12 -03

