

MEMORANDUM

U.S. Department of Homeland Security



FEMA

DATE: April 28, 2005

FOR: Rory Rehbeck, Chair
Search Working Group

FROM: Canine Subcommittee

SUBJECT: Canine Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Please find the attendance and agenda items addressed on the recent Canine Subcommittee conference call:

MEETING DATE(s) >>		4-28-05	Call # 87
MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE			
Teresa MacPherson		Chair	
Member	Y/N	Member	Y/N
Debra Tosch	Y		
John Dean	Y	Rory Rehbeck (SWG)	N
Mike Marks	Y		
John Gilkey	Y		
Cathy Schiltz	Y		
Bruce Berry (SWG)	N		
Dean Scott (FEMA)	N		
Rex Ianson (SWG)	N		
Tony Sirgedas (SWG)	N		

AGENDA ITEMS/DISCUSSION

- Conference Call Minutes
- Update of System Member Rosters
- Review of March test -- CA
- Review of April Test-- CO
- Review of April CSST -- IN
- Evaluators—new
- Mentors—new
- K9 PFDs
- 2006 schedule
- Equivalency Request
- Mentor Program
- Evaluator Conference Calls
- Certificates of recognition
- Mapping
- Q & A's
- Next call

PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Conference Call Minutes
 - o Minutes from 3-10-05 conference call approved.
- Update of System Member Rosters
 - o Revised rosters to reflect incoming and outgoing system members
 - o John Dean approved as Vice-Chair of CSC
 - o Debra Tosch approved as Secretary of CSC
- Review of March test -- CA
 - o Oakland did a good job hosting the test
 - o An issue of unprofessionalism was discussed
 - o Agility-should stop and turn on obstacle-not the support
 - o AAR-Chief evaluator can either copy and mail or send electronically
 - o **AARs—property of hosting TF, copy to CSC**
 - o When filling out AARs, include names of those mentioned in disputes
- Review of April Test—CO
 - o Airports were closed causing test rotation to be revised
 - o Two out of nine passed the Type II
 - o Five out of eleven passed the Type I
 - o Addressed problems brought up concerning this test
 - o **Policy change-cannot evaluate and test the same weekend**
- Review of April CSST -- IN
 - o Went very well.
 - o STMs had modules.

- o Identified 4-6 additional hours that could be put into the course for STMs.
 - o Good feedback. Instructor cadre was a good mix.
- Evaluators—approved
 - o Cindy Fajardo WATF1 STM
 - o Susan Martinez TETF1 Handler
 - o Tom Haus CATF1 STM
 - o Bruce Berry NMTF1 STM
- Mentor application accepted from Lee Dunn COTF1
- K9 PFDs
 - o Testing should be completed in two weeks
- 2006 schedule
 - o Discussed locations of tests/cert preps and evaluators
- Equivalency Request
 - o Request from potential COTF1 handler for CSST equivalency –**all equivalency requests must be routed through a TFL to the Regional Training Rep of the Training Working Group**
- Mentor Program (JD)
 - o Teaming up mentors and TFs so there is consistency (Training partners)
 - o Have several packages to submit to TF based on needs
 - o Regions come up with training partners
 - o Mentors go to TF rather than waiting for TF to come to mentors
- Evaluator Conference Calls-- Next set
 - o June 1, 2005 noon, EDT
 - o June 9, 2005 2100, EDT
 - o Shadows to be included
 - o Topics TBD
- Certificates of recognition
 - o Public Affairs Working Group is working on a template for past working group members.
- Mapping
 - o Suggestion to add to CSST has been done
 - o Discussed that mapping is only on full access pile. Rehab dog and handlers and then have 20-30 minutes for mapping so they can do it better by taking their time.
 - o Cathy/Mike will create check-off list for mapping
- Q & A's
 - o Can I bring my own map sheets?
 - Yes, as long as it is the FEMA approved map sheet or it will need to be transferred to the FEMA approved map sheet.
 - o Where does the total number of floors in a building go and where does the number that you searched go? Do I need to know this for the test?
 - You do not need to know this for the test. It would go under the incomplete or the completed search.
 - o Can I use a GPS for mapping in Type I?
 - Yes, but it is not required.
 - o Do I put the TIME IN under the name of our TF in the building marking system X?
 - Yes you do, but it is the search marking system, not the building search marking.
 - o Can my dog wear a coat during the long down if its cold?
 - Yes
 - o On the limited access pile, if I return to my start point after finding my first victim, my I go back to the first victim location again?

- You can only access the pile if the dog alert
 - o Review: Though the CSC suggests in the Policies that a pretest is good for 6 months, a pretest can be mandated by a TF at any time for any reason.
 - o Review: Dog must execute stop and turn on the actual obstacle (not the support)
- Next call
May 26th, 12:00pm EST