

**MEMORANDUM**

U.S. Department of Homeland Security



**FEMA**

**DATE:** May 26, 2005

**FOR:** Rory Rehbeck, Chair  
Search Working Group

**FROM:** Canine Sub-Committee

**SUBJECT: Canine Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes**

Please find the attendance and agenda items addressed on the recent Canine Sub-committee conference call:

<b>MEETING DATE(s) &gt;&gt;</b>		5-26-05	Call # 88	
<b>MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE</b>				
Teresa MacPherson		Chair		
<b>Member</b>	<b>Y/N</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Y/N</b>	
John Dean	Y			
Mike Marks	Y			
John Gilkey	Y			
Cathy Schiltz	Y			
Bruce Berry (SWG)	N			

**AGENDA ITEMS/DISCUSSION**

- Conference Call Minutes
- Evaluator Conference Call
  - System Updates-Teresa MacPherson
  - Mapping/Search Markings/Confirmed Victim-Mike Marks
  - Agility-Cathy Schiltz
  - D & C-Cathy Schiltz
  - Bark Alert/Long Down-Cathy Schiltz
  - Rubble-John Dean
  - Briefing/Debriefing: Debra Tosch
  - Questions from Handlers-John Gilkey
- Evaluators—new
  - Database additions-John Dean
- Mentor Program-John Dean and Cathy Schiltz

**PROPOSED ACTIONS**

- Minutes from 4-28-05 conference call approved.
- Discussion: Evaluator Groups
  - Will be discussed on Evaluator Conference call
- Opportunity to be a lead for Type II tests
  - Will accept Type I-only lead applications
  - Will be on Roster as Type I or Type II Lead
- Discussion: Should we make the evaluator conference calls mandatory for lead evaluators?
  - Will be brought up on Evaluator Conference Call
  - Will be mandatory after the next evaluator conference call
- Evaluator Applications accepted:
  - Craig Raddelman-FLTF2
  - Teresa MacPherson-VATF1: Lead status approved
- Evaluators-New Type I
  - Lette Birn-NM-TF1 handler
  - Lee Prentiss-MA-TF1 handler
  - Bob Sessions: PA-TF1 handler
  -
- K9 PFD's
  - John Dean will move this along
- Bruce Berry will send the current mapping and search mappings to committee members

- Evaluator Conference Call:
  - Mapping
    - Only on full access
  - Agility
    - No turning in tunnel
    - Stop and turn must be on the obstacle, not the egress
    - Handler cannot tap obstacle to initiate action
  - D&C
    - If dog crosses start line at any time, must start over
    - If handler touches dog after starting, must start over
  - Bark Alert/Long Down
    - Should be distraction free per DSCREP
  - Rubble
    - Emphasis on commitment to scent source, not the act of leaving
    - Evaluated more strictly on Type I than Type II
  - Briefing/Debriefing
    - Testers want to know what evaluators expect of them
      - Mapping: should include what areas your dog covered and areas they did not
      - Include testing suggestions for all handlers
      - Give all search recommendations at end of search vs at every find
  - Conference call was cut short so will do the remaining evaluator topics via email