Q & A's in conjunction with minutes from telecon 10-20-05

Q: How does the payment for the post mission vet check work? The directive doesn't specify—
A: The Directive states "Post-mission medical screening for any US&R canine deployed to and operated in the Louisiana or Mississippi operational areas is a fully reimbursable cost related to the deployment." This means a Task Force can pay the costs related to these screenings, and then claim reimbursement for them in their Hurricane Katrina reimbursement claim.

Q: Will the Premier Collar being sold on disasterdog.org be allowed at FEMA canine evaluations?
A: No—its considered a training collar as it can give a correction

Q: When will certificates be issued?
A: All past due certificates thru June 05 have been issued. They were hand-delivered to the TFLs at the August meeting In NV. Any requests for missing (or corrected) certificates need to go through the Task Force.

Q: Will Type I's need to pass an FSA to test and recert?
A: Yes, beginning 1-1-06, the FSA will be the qualifying pre-test for certification. It's only once every three years and it will keep us training the basics. Due to manpower and site shortages, a Type I pretest is still not required, but certainly encouraged. An FSA is suggested to be good for six months, but a Task Force can require one at any time.

Q: Does the FSA score sheet need to accompany the application for certification?
A: No, just check the box on the app, as we do now for a pretest.

Q: After 1-1-06, if you fail a recert, will you lose your certification?
A: Yes, until you pass your recert.

Q: If I take a Type II before the end of the year and fail, do I lose my Type I status (which is still good for a year). And if I pass the Type II, am I dually certified—keeping my Type II for a year if I fail my Type I recert?
A: HUH?
 (Seriously, whenever you test, you are determining your status at that time—if you test early and fail, you lose your certification. If you take a Type II and fail, you lose everything and would have to start over. It's not justifiable to retain an advanced status if the first step to that point can't be passed.)