

Pepe, Border Collie Handler: Patrick Gilliland, TX TF1 FEMA Certified Type II, August 1998

Pepe certified as a mission-ready wilderness dog at 13-months and became TX TF1's first certified disaster search dog in 1998. Pepe helped locate missing subjects in over 100 search incidents in Texas from 1994 to 2003. He searched partially collapsed buildings as well as rattlesnake infested ranchland of west Texas. He also worked the tornado that struck Fort Worth in March 2000 and deployed to the World Trade Center in September 2001. Pepe got to shake hands with President Bush in Dallas to thank TX TF1 for its efforts at the WTC. He also assisted in the Columbia Space Shuttle recovery efforts in February 2003.