



EVIDENCE SEARCH CERTIFICATION

Test: Evidence Search Certification

Search Capabilities: Capable of locating physical evidence in a crime scene. Capable of self-sustaining for 24- hours operations.

Task Book All items in Evidence Search Certification Task Book must be demonstrated for certification.

TESTING STANDARD

EVIDENCE SEARCH

Canine team capable of locating articles with human scent in the environment.

Search area 100' X 100' or 10,000 square feet in a natural environment with vegetation high enough to conceal testing items.

Articles appropriate for search: generally smaller articles made of metal, plastic, glass, paper, wood, cotton or leather. Examples are as follows:

- Keys
- Cell phone
- Kleenex/receipt/cash
- Firearms/ammunition
- Credit card/Driver's license
- Tools- hammer/crowbar/screwdriver
- Knife



- Drug paraphernalia
- Clothing
- Ancillary certification: discharged ammunition shell casings without human scent

GUIDELINES FOR THE EVALUATION:

- Handler must have taken and passed a Crime Scene Preservation and Ethics course.
- Four articles are placed in a natural area 100'x100' or 10,000 square feet and allowed to age 30 minutes.
- Vegetation should be tall enough to conceal articles.
- Area should be clear of all trash or other articles that may contain fresh human scent.
- Articles are pre-scented each for 1 minute.
- Articles are thrown into area, as to not create a trail to the objects.
- Natural boundaries should be used as flagging with human scent would interfere with placed articles.
- Dog must complete an identifiable and unsolicited final trained response on each article.
- Handler must correctly identify the final trained response prior to visually observing the article.
- The team must correctly identify 3 out of 4 articles in the area within 20 minutes.
- Handler must demonstrate proper evidence handling skills.
- Dog must not destroy evidence.
- Ancillary test: recently discharged ammunition shell casings (without fresh human scent) will be used as one article at request of Handler and must be found by team.

Evaluators- Two evaluators necessary.

Retesting- If any of the field tests is scored “Unsatisfactory”, that test may be repeated once that same day at the discretion of the evaluators,

If the second attempt is also “Unsatisfactory”, the entire field evaluation must be repeated.

Recertification- Certification expires after two years, with a one-year grace period to achieve recertification. Recertification test is the same as original certification test. Only one evaluator necessary.