Carolina Canine Academy LLC

Handler’s Certification Form

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dog’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dog’s Age: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What certification are you doing? (Circle One)

Single Purpose Narcotic Dual Purpose Narcotic

Have you certified before? (Circle One)

Yes No

Carolina Canine Academy

Single-Purpose and Dual-Purpose Standards and Certification Test

**Prerequisites**

All K-9s Certifying through Carolina Canine Academy LLC must posses a Class 1 or Class 2 Certification through the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and be currently employed by a Law Enforcement Agency within the State of South Carolina. Part time and reserve officers are acceptable.

**Your certification will be valid for 1 year from today’s date.**

Prior to certifying, a handler must have completed the following,

* 4 Week or a 12 week (Single Purpose K-9 Handlers Class or Dual-Purpose Handlers Class).
* Pass the written exam provided by Carolina Canine Academy LLC (CCAK9).

-OR-

* Have completed a handler’s course with a different company/agency for either single or dual-purpose K-9s.

Regardless of your intentions of certifying either Single Purpose Narcotics or Dual-Purpose Patrol K-9. Your K-9 will be subjected to a temperament test.

Temperament Test

The temperament test is utilized to ensure that the K-9 has some level of sociability. This test is critical in today’s world of K-9 and is used to not only waive the liability from CCAK9, but also the department and team itself.

The canine must be able to be approached by the certifying official. Although the certifying official will not touch the K-9, the K-9 must **not** do the following to pass:

* Attempt to bite, lunge, or bark uncontrollably at the certification official.
* We will also monitor your K-9 throughout your testing. Your K-9 must not become aggressive towards the handler and certifying official throughout the testing process.
  + For example, your K-9 cannot bite you during searching exercises.

Patrol Certification Standards

Our Patrol test incorporates obedience, area or building search for human odor, and face attack with both a verbal recall and verbal out.

Prior to any handler running through the Patrol certification. The certifying official must allow/do the following,

* Proper setup of the venue needed for today’s certification. This includes proper space and equipment.
* Answer any questions given by the handler prior to starting to ensure a successful understanding of the task at hand.
* Ensure safety of the overall testing procedures.

**Decoy Selection**

A decoy with proper training in the utilization of being a decoy will be provided. A decoy will utilize a bite suit ONLY. No arm sleeves, and or wedges, or other bite “toys” and equipment will be used.

**Grounds for Failure**

K-9 teams will not certify if the following holds true,

* The dog does not perform the required obedience tasks as required.
* The K-9 becomes aggressive towards the handler and or certifier.
* The K-9 does not physically come back to the handler during the first face attack scenario after given the recall command.
* The K-9 does not verbally out within a reasonable amount of time.

**If you Fail**

Any Patrol team that fails any part of the certification will be given the following options.

**A retest during today’s date**. This retest is only for K-9 teams that perform poorly due to handler error and NOT K-9 training error. For example, if your K-9 does not verbally “Out” within a reasonable amount of time is considered as a K-9 Training issue and NOT a handler issue. Handler errors can include, the leash being tangled around the K-9, wrong commands given at the time of the certification testing procedures, or handlers physically unable to perform the task at hand.

**A retest on a later date**. If your K-9 needs more training within certain areas of certification. Your K-9 may be rescheduled on a later date and time to certify.

**Testing Phase**

Testing will include obedience, open area or building search for the decoy, the face attack with both a verbal recall prior to the dog biting and the verbal out. Handler teams must pass all four certification scenarios to certify.

**Obedience**

**Goal –** Being in control of your K-9 will prevent your K-9 from biting a person when it is not supposed to. Also, being in control of your K-9 will allow you to perform other tasks at hand as a police officer. For example, downing your K-9 next to a suspect after he has been bitten and has given up allows you to place handcuffs on the suspect. Obedience will be tested both on and off leash.

**Heeling on and off leash**

The K-9 team will conduct a simple heeling routine as shown and designated by the certifying official. This routine must encompass a right, left, and about face turn as well as walking in a straight line. The routine must be done both on and off leash.

**Failure**

The K-9 team will not pass the heeling part of the testing if the following holds true,

* The K-9 does not stay with the handler in the heel position.
* The K-9 acts aggressively towards the handler and or certifier.
* The K-9 does not perform proper left, right, and about face turns.

**Sit**

The K-9 team will command their K-9 to sit. This will be also done both on and off leash.

**Failure**

The K-9 team will not pass the sitting part of the testing if the following holds true,

* The K-9 does not sit within a reasonable amount of time after given the verbal command to do so both on and off leash.

**Down**

The K-9 team will command their K-9 to down. This will be also done both on and off leash.

**Failure**

The K-9 team will not pass the downing part of the testing if the following holds true,

* The K-9 does not down within a reasonable amount of time after given the verbal command to do so both on and off leash.

**Stay**

The K-9 team will command their K-9 to stay. This command will be given to the dog while it is either in the sitting position or down position. The K-9 MUST “stay” for a period of longer than 2 minutes but no longer than 5 minutes.

**Failure**

The K-9 team will not pass the stay part of the testing if the following holds true,

* The K-9 does not stay in the “Stay” position after commanded to do so either in the sit or down position.
* The K-9 break the “stay” command prior to 2 minutes.

**Face Attack**

**Goal –** This test is utilized to ensure that the K-9 certifying can engage and apprehend the decoy by biting him. This test is broken up into 2 parts and they are as follows.

**Face Attack with Verbal Recall**

The K-9 handler will give the command to attack, bite, or whichever command the handler has designated to bite. As the dog runs towards the decoy, the handler must then give the command to the dog to come back to the handler.

**Failure**

The K-9 team will not pass the face attack with verbal recall part of the testing if the following holds true,

* The K-9 does not come back to the handler after give the command to recall.
* The K-9 bites the decoy.

**Face Attack with Verbal Out**

The K-9 handler will give the command to attack, bite, or whichever command the handler has designated to bite. The K-9 must engage and bite the decoy and then be verbally outed by the K-9 handler.

**Failure**

The K-9 team will not pass the face attack with verbal our part of the testing if the following holds true,

* The K-9 does not engage the decoy.
* The K-9 does not verbally out within a reasonable amount of time.

**Area Search or Building Search for Man**

The certifying official will designate the proper area in which the test will be performed. The area search for the designated persons will be conducted in either a large field with grass or cover that is large enough to hide the persons from the K-9 team forcing the K-9 to use it’s nose for searching and not visually seeing the decoy.

At the start of the scenario, the handler will give the command to his/her K-9 to begin searching. The K-9 must actively search and find the largest concentration of human odor. The K-9 must then engage and bite the decoy.

**Failure**

The K-9 team will not pass the area search for man or building search for man if the following holds true,

* The K-9 does not engage the decoy.
* The K-9 “walks” or does have a change of behavior to the human odor.
* The K-9 fails to find the decoy within a reasonable amount of time.

Once all tasks are successfully completed. The K-9 team will be given a certification of successful completion that lasts for 1 year.