



*“In every walk of life, the Experts are looked to for their opinions.  
In our world, those Experts are always found at HITS”*

HITS- Handler Instruction and Training Seminar – For more than a decade, HITS has been the largest K-9 training conference in world. HITS has revolutionized the way the law enforcement K-9 industry receives it’s training. We’ve continued to bring scores of training topics together in a way that works for thousands of handlers from around the globe. The experts in each field come to HITS with fresh ideas about training and deploying your police dog. HITS will have more than 100 vendor booths to shop and browse through each day. We’re committed to bringing our fellow handlers the same training and the top of the line training equipment that we want for ourselves. When you come to HITS, you’ve committed yourself to learning more from the Experts who know police dogs. After all, it’s who we are and it’s what we do. You’ve been there, we’ve been there too. HITS training, for K-9 handlers, by K-9 handlers.

***Come to Orlando, Florida and be a part of the HITS 2022  
experience***

**WHEN:** HITS 2022 August 16 - 19, 2022, Orlando, Florida.

**WHERE:** Rosen Center Orlando

**ADDRESS:** 9840 International Drive,  
Orlando, Florida, 32819

**HOTEL:** Rosen Center Orlando  
9840 International Drive  
Orlando, Florida, 32819

**ROOM COST:** 119.00/night single to quad occupancy  
Reserve your hotel room on the HITS web site,  
[www.HITSK9.NET](http://www.HITSK9.NET)

**ATTENDEE COST:** 375.00 per person before June 20, 2022 After  
June 20, 2022, - 449.00/person. Register and pay



by credit card on our HITS web page  
[www.HITSK9.NET](http://www.HITSK9.NET)

## ***Schedule of Events***

### ***Tuesday August 16, 2022, 8:00 am – 8:00 pm Pre-Registration***

Visit the registration counters in the foyer of the Grand ballroom. Receive your ID badge, HITS Event Guide and all other free HITS items.

***Tuesday August 16, 2022 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm- Registration & Vendor Appreciation Night, Exhibit Hall.*** Registration will continue, receive your ID badge, HITS Event Guide and all other free HITS items.

6:30 pm – 7:30pm During Vendor Appreciation Night, Open bar for all attendees and vendors in the vendor area. Start HITS of right, meet the vendors and see what is new in the world of canine training and equipment.

***Wednesday August 17, 2022, Thursday August 18, 2022 and Friday August 19, 2022***

***THREE FULL DAYS OF INSTRUCTION 8:00 am – 6:00 pm each day***

The most diversified and educational law enforcement canine classes ever offered.

8:00am – 6:00 pm each day 5 classes offered simultaneously in five rooms.

10:00 am – 10:30 am Break

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Break

During our breaks stretch your legs and visit the vendors, also enjoy food and drinks in the vendor area.



## ***Thursday August 18, 2022 HITS Networking reception***

7:30 pm – 9:30 pm - Enjoy HITS signature networking reception in the vendor area. 2 hours of open bar and over 80,000 dollars' worth of raffle prizes given away. If you have never experienced our Networking reception, you don't want to miss it. You must be present to win.

## ***HITS 2022 INSTRUCTORS:***

### ***Eric Stanbro & Ted Summers***

#### **Scenario Based training for Patrol teams**

This presentation covers the complexities of taking certifiable standards and building deployable skill sets to build successful K9 teams. It will focus on core skills needed for both the canines and handlers. We will identify, isolate, address and teach multiple ways to address all of these skills.

#### **Meet Eric Stanbro**

A 23-year veteran of law enforcement. Previous assignment was full time K9 trainer for Canton Ohio as well as head trainer for the Police K9 Association, which consists of 40 K9 teams. He worked 4 dogs as a handler to include 3 as a member of a busy, inner city SWAT team. He worked patrol, undercover narcotics, as well as K9. He was a member of SWAT for 14.5 years. Assistant team leader, sniper, and handled K9s. His specialty was training hostage rescue and room entries as well as K9 integration. Additionally, he worked as trainer for west coast contract providing training for Naval Special Warfare (SEALs) Multi-Purpose Canine program in 2013 and 2014. Currently commissioned to Alliance Ohio Police Dept. Eric Owes Vaness K9 academy and co-owns and instructs for High Risk Police K9 and co-owns and-cohosts Working Dog Radio.

#### **Meet Ted Summers**

Ted has been involved in working K9's for over a decade in various forms from retrievers, to hunting terriers, to protection and police service dogs. His specialties are grip work and development, patrol and utility work, proper decoy work, detection training, and K9 policy and procedure, K9 selection and green dog testing, and Scenario Based Training. Ted is a certified Senior level PSA decoy. Ted teaches our decoy and handler schools and our



SWAT/SORT integration seminars as well as our decoy camp for police service trainers and handlers and does numerous camps for military special operations. Ted is the co-owner at Torchlight K9. Torchlight has K9 teams working in 18 states and 3 countries. Torchlight K9 hosts several CLEET accredited courses. Ted is also one of the co-hosts and Co owners of Working Dog Radio. Ted is also a co-owner and instructor for High Risk Deployment K9.

## **Daryll Pleasants**

### **Introduction to Combat tracking**

#### ***The aims of the lesson,***

To give you as a handler a greater understanding of operational combat tracking and the knowledge to orientate future training of your K9 towards an operational role.

#### ***To include,***

Understanding the scent picture, its movement and diffusion

Training a K9 tracker for operational deployment.

The importance of scent discrimination

Visual indicators of human disturbance, how to gather and process information about the quarry from the track that can be used to assist in the apprehension.

Recognizing and understanding proximity indicators in your dog.

Combat tracking formations.

## **Meet Daryll Pleasants**

Daryll Pleasants has over 29 years dog training experience. He served for the first half of his career in the British Army, within the Royal Army Veterinary Corps as a class 1 dog trainer and specialist K9 Instructor/operational handler. Following on from this after working in Africa for several years as a combat tracker he founded the wildlife organization Animals Saving Animals, its role to assist in the prevention of wildlife crime through providing specialist Anti-Poaching /tracker dogs and handler training to wildlife conservancies and national parks throughout the world. Daryll has provided combat tracking instruction to six countries in Africa, India, Europe and is presently working in South America. Most recently he has been assisting K9 law enforcement and special operations agencies with technical tracking instruction.



## **Dave Dourson & John Howard**

### **K-9 Nutrition: Is your dog on the right fuel and how do you know?**

Does your dog itch continuously, lose hair, have a dull-stiff or brittle coat or show signs of coat dander or flaking? Do you feed him 5-6-7-8 cups of food or more a day to maintain their weight? Does your dog's stool look like a cow patty, are they gassy? There is a reason for this and you don't have to look much further than the bag of food...

This is a fast paced, interactive class that teaches the student; how to read a nutritional label, define what "that" ingredient is. How to tell a good dog food from a bargain brand and understand how minerals and vitamins get depleted in a K9 Officer and pictures of what happens when you don't replace the nutrients. You don't fuel a high-performance car or motorcycle with low octane gas and expect it to reach peak perform and it is the same with



your K9 Athlete.... By the end of the class you will be armed with the ability to look at your canine and see the effects of poor diet and what changes you can do to correct them.

### **Meet Dave Dourson**

Dave is the co-owner and co-founder of Kinetic Performance Dog Food (KPDF). Dave has 30 years of experience in various blue-water business ventures that focused on filling a “need” that, many times, in the corporate world, are overlooked by CFO’s that focused on profit, over quality.

Dave and his partner, John Howard, met while working for a large, mid-west based, pet food company in 2009, witnessing firsthand the real factors that go into ingredient selection of most foods. With a desire to focus on animal health over profitability, the two left corporate America and started their own company in 2011. The pair spent countless hours working with various kennels across the United States on K9 nutrition with a goal of discovering the best ingredient formulation for working and sporting dogs.

Dave has conducted numerous seminars across the USA, Canada, Hawaii, Alaska and Great Britain for various divisions of the DOD, Homeland Security, USSS, Military, DEA, DHS/TSA, Intercom, State as well as hundreds of State and Local PDs teaching the Handler how to quickly identify nutritional deficiencies in their K9 partner.

### **Meet John Howard**

John is Co-Owner and Co-Founder of 3-Amigos Nutrition Group and Kinetic Performance Dog Food. John has nearly 30 years of experience in Sales, Marketing and Animal Nutrition and formerly managed the Pet Food Division of a large animal nutrition company. An owner and amateur bird dog trainer, John has been directly entrenched in nutrition for working and sporting dogs for more than a decade. John oversees all the Marketing and Nutrition activities for 3-Amigos and the Kinetic brand. When he’s not in the field with his Labrador Retrievers, you’ll most likely find him conducting nutrition seminars, working on new products or marketing programs, or writing nutrition articles for working and sporting dog publications.

## **Taylor Rahn**

### **Civil Liability and Use of Police Canines**

This course will cover the fundamentals of civil liability and the use of police canines as a force option. Students will learn common sources of liability as well as how to potential civil exposure for using canines. The course will include a survey of case law from around the country as well as discussion of specific lawsuits defended by the instructor. Students will also receive an overview of the civil litigation process and tips for persuasive explaining their use of force.



## **Meet Taylor Rahn**

Taylor is an attorney from Albuquerque, NM who specializes in representing law enforcement officers and agencies in civil litigation arising out of use of force. Ms. Rahn has successfully defended law enforcement officers and agencies in New Mexico state and federal court as well as the Tenth Circuit of Appeals. Ms. Rahn is a New Mexico Department of Public Safety certified professional lecturer on civil liability for officers and frequently lectures at academies and advanced training courses throughout New Mexico. Ms. Rahn is especially passionate about representing officers due to her close family ties to law enforcement.

## **Justin Rigney**

### **NePoPo**

By attending the NePoPo® class, you will be armed with tools and techniques on how to connect with your K9 partner on a deeper level, install a desire and passion in the animal who will execute learned behaviors under high distractions in the real world. The techniques learned in this class can be applied to any phase of dog training as well as any Police K9 application.

## **Meet Justin Rigney**

Justin Rigney has over 25 years of professional dog training experience and was a Law Enforcement Officer for 17 years, 10 of which he spent as a K-9 handler and trainer. His unique background and experience in civilian dog training as well as Police service dog training sets him apart from other trainers in his field. Justin's passion for dog training is evident as he has assisted thousands of pet dog owners in enhancing their relationship with their dogs, bridging the gap of communication with their beloved four-legged family members. Justin utilizes a proven, reliable, humane and clear, real world training system, which produces results and a dog who knows its job and loves its job. During his Law Enforcement career, Justin was fortunate enough to have been able to work three patrol dogs. Justin is a former member of the Davie Police Department and their K-9 unit where he was a handler for K-9 "Vader", a Belgian Malinois who was produced from his own breeding program. Going from watching Vader take his very first breath in life, to becoming a productive K-9 partner was extremely rewarding. K-9 "Bosko", an all black GSD (German Shepherd Dog) was responsible for hundreds of arrests and apprehensions of violent felony offenders and has been instrumental in the recovery of numerous articles of valuable evidence. Post retirement, Bosko obtained his Brevet in French Ring sport. His last patrol dog K-9 "Zeke" is a sable GSD who has been raised from a



puppy by Justin and his wife Alison. Zeke was a proven, JUSTIN RIGNEY vigilant and tenacious police service dog during his career. Most notably defending his handler during a deadly force encounter and officer involved shooting. Zeke will continue to work and compete in civilian dog sport. Justin was a Corporal and trainer for the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, which had 60 dogs department wide. During his professional dog training career he has trained with hundreds of Police K-9 teams, competed in Schutzhund, Ring Sport and other dog sports. He has also trained dogs for celebrities, professional athletes and thousands of pet dog owners. Justin graduated and has been awarded a diploma in the NePoPo Gold training system, the modern language of dog training by Bart Bellon. Justin was formerly the President of the Florida Law Enforcement Canine Association ([www.flecak9.com](http://www.flecak9.com)) and was one of the founding members. He was also a judge and instructor for FLECA. Justin has also been retained in civil litigation as an expert witness in K-9 training, use of force and deployment. He has had the opportunity to certify and train hundreds of Police K-9 teams. Justin continually pursues further knowledge of dog training in many different applications by training with some of the top canine trainers in the world.

## ***Paul Hammond***

### **Operational Based Explosive Dog Training & Importance of Search Intel**

Paul completed a 2yr Advanced EDD study at VWK9's Academy, in which 100+ Police, Military and Private Sector EDD dog teams were tested on an operational based training and Intel gathering exercise and the results will surprise you & reinforce why this speaker session is a must to attend. Correct operational based training and use of task intelligence is the number one factor for EDD team success during operational Tasks.

### **Body Worn Explosive Detection**

Understanding the difference between traditional Detection Dogs, People Screening Dogs and Mass Screening Dogs). All three have an important but very different role in canine operations, and canines should be trained uniquely for each discipline. The threat of a body-worn explosive and weapons attack is real, and understanding the types of detection dogs available and their correct training, use and deployment is key to detection success. This informative presentation is delivered by Paul Hammond, President of Vapor Wake® K9.

### **Meet Paul Hammond**

26+ years' Working dog experience,





22yrs of which seen continuous canine operations in hostile environments; 8yrs directing canine programs in support of high-profile government organizations including the US Department of State and the Department of Defense in Iraq and Afghanistan

15 years of continuous canine operations in Northern Ireland deployed with the British Military Army Dog Unit, during some of the most challenging & hostile times in its history; completing many high threat operational detection tasks, against live explosive devices.

Paul also completed 6yrs as a working dog adviser in support of the British Government Defense Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA), and more recently worked alongside Auburn University's Canine Research & Development Program on various US Canine Defense & Research projects.

Paul had recently returned from briefing the EU Working Dog Commission (representatives of 22 – countries) on Body-worn Explosive K9 Detection.

In addition Paul is the President of the Cargo Screening K9 Alliance® and Founder/Owner K9Employment.com (Handler Recruitment Agency).

## **Don Blair**

A New Look at Canine Detection Problem Solving

This two-hour course will reveal a new way of observing and deconstructing the chain of behaviors demonstrated during a single “detection” exercise. Utilizing this information will accurately identify the area(s) needing additional training. This gives the trainer/handler a guide for selecting specific training exercises targeting those areas needing improvement. This system is also of tremendous value when training and evaluating new canine detection teams by earlier identification of weak areas or areas desiring improvement. This course has numerous video clips of various detection dogs (explosives, narcotics, cadaver and other) to assist and facilitate learning.

## **Meet Don Blair**

**Donald E. Blair**  
**EXPERIENCE**

**Canine Intelligence Academy (CIA):** Founder and President  
1984 – Present

CIA offers consulting, training, seminars and workshops for working and sport K9 teams



including 1:1 training, law enforcement / military department level consulting, and weekend/week-long seminars in operant conditioning, detection work, tracking/trailing and protection/apprehension. Chicago Police K9 Contractor for all Vapor Wake K9 Teams and other K9 Government K9 Explosive K9 agencies

**Canine Therapy Corps:** Program Leader/K9 Team Trainer

2011 - Present

Oversee interactive canine physical therapy program with volunteer K9 teams. Train and advise and assist K9 teams with patient activities to facilitate recovery at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago/Shirley Ryan Ability Labs.

**Mass Transit Canine Services:** Owner/Partner

2014-2017

Train, maintain and operationally prepare explosive and narcotic K9 detection teams for Amtrak Police Department nationwide.

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2014-2017

Train, maintain and operationally prepare explosive and narcotic K9 detection teams for Amtrak Police Department nationwide.

**Scientific Working Group for Dog and Orthogonal Detector Guidelines**

**(SWGDOG):** Executive Board Member

2008 – 2015

Provided recommendations, oversight and consulting for the development of best practices for world-wide use for detector dogs.

**Strijder Group K9:** Cooper, Texas: Vice President Research & Development

5/2011 – 11/2012

Worked as a consultant to Auburn University's Canine Detection Training Center (Ft. McClellan AL) developing training curriculum, evaluating current policies, and canine evaluation of prospective detective and patrol dogs. Oversaw all aspects of the canine training program and was responsible for evaluating and rehabilitating under-performing dogs, or returned dogs with temperament or behavior issues.

Specialized assignments included

- Developed a Navy SEAL basic canine handler's course
- Development of an advanced course for traditional and vapor way canines
- Oversight of tracking patrol work, detection work and article search work
- Performed annual field certifications for explosive detection dogs
- Oversaw training that met certification for US Military Special Forces, US Capital Police, Transportation Security Administration, Federal Protective



Services and various state and local agencies.

**US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) – Canine Center, Front Royal, VA:**

Canine Training Specialist

7/2007 – 5/2011

Performed a variety of activities including:

- Scientific research study on canine detection of smuggled fire-arms (resulting in a new national training and certification process)
- Environmental enrichment study for kenneled working dogs
- Development of a canine behavior and temperament test
- Advised on a course of study on advanced field training on canine aggression and on canine detection of HU-210 (synthetic tetrahydrocannabinol)
- Human remains detection training and team evaluations
- Oversaw the CPB canine breeding program (GSDs and Labradors)

**Securitas Security Services USA, Inc. Chicago, IL: Canine Training / Consultant**

3/2007 – 7/2007

Provided advice and oversight of US canine operations with regard to narcotics, patrol and apprehension, kenneling, record keeping, training aid storage and handling. Specialized in the development of training protocols and provided trained teams for Chicago's metropolitan train systems. Coordinated over a hundred explosive searches in a variety of environments including Chicago's Soldier's Field, The United Center, several high rise buildings and mass transit environments.

**Canine Associates International, Leland, IL: Managing Director**

12/2004 – 3/2007

Responsible for the development of a proprietary canine training system for detection work. In addition, oversaw canine selection testing, and canine/handler evaluation criteria. Instructed and participated in a variety of training seminars including law enforcement, SWAT and anti-terrorism/narcotics courses. Traveled extensively overseeing CAI global canine operations including the deployment of teams to South Africa, Iraq, Afghanistan and Jordan.

**Customs Border Protection, Nogales, AZ: Canine Branch Chief**

10/2002 – 12/2004

Responsible for supervising and directing the Nogales Canine Section in all DHS/CBP anti-terrorism inspections and special enforcement operations. Detection work included explosive, narcotic, human, agricultural and chemical.



Managed enforcement operations involving off site call-outs and pre-primary, primary and secondary screening and inspection areas for various conveyances and passenger operations. Performed research and development projects and was a technical advisor to CBP and DHS management for Canine Enforcement Program activities. Implemented cost preserving activities that still maintained overall training effectiveness.

**Customs Border Protection/US Customs: San Luis, AZ: Supervisory Canine Enforcement Officer**

3/1999 – 10/2002

Responsible for the supervision and direction of the canine section of CBP inspections and special enforcement tasks including weekly/monthly performance evaluations. In addition, oversaw the conduct of various R&D projects involving temperature testing of ground cover materials and detection assessment of canines in the presence of ozone generators. Generated training courses on K9 selection and evaluation of K9 body language, and procurement protocols and entrance evaluation tests. Was called as an expert witness on canine detection skills, training and application to the US Attorney's office. Canine section in 2001 was the lead in narcotics seizures for the three year tenure.

**US Customs – Canine Enforcement Training Center, Front Royal, VA:**

Instructor/ Course Developer

8/1991 – 8/1999

Responsible for developing specialized training courses for detector dogs and their handlers. Topics included: canine procurement, principles of detector dog training, canine search patterns, developing green canines and handlers, canine department supervision. Was also responsible for monitoring, testing and evaluating field and classroom performance of canine enforcement teams, and assessed and reported on training effectiveness. Provided training to outside agencies in detection (narcotics, human remains, search and rescue, tracking/trailing). Provided training to foreign groups. Received numerous awards for training contributions.

**US Customs, El Paso, TX: Canine Enforcement Officer**

7/1989 – 8/1991

Responsible for inspections, law enforcement and canine handling/training across a variety of environments (airports, railroads, border crossings, etc). Provided technical and behavioral assessments of other teams including problem solving and expansion of training environments to improve effectiveness. Received multiple awards for narcotics seizures.



**Pueblo County Sheriffs Department, Pueblo, CO: Sheriffs Deputy / Canine Technician**

2/1989 – 7/1989

Responsible for law enforcement activities including handling a patrol/detection dog for narcotics, cadaver, building, article/evidence searches as well as tracking/trailing and apprehension work. Was selected to assist in the training of all department dogs. Generated department Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for canine deployments, use of force policy, specialized training requirements and overall use. Routinely provided testimony in court. Led the region (AZ, WY, CO and UT) for number of narcotics seizures and arrests made.

**Ignacio Police Department, Ignacio, CO: Police Canine Officer**

10/1988 – 2/1989

Served as the sole canine officer in the department responsible for law enforcement. Generated SOPs for canine applications, use of force policies and training/deployment. Actively deployed in narcotic, human remains and building searches; tracking/trailing and search and rescue activities. Received Letter of Commendation for currency and drug seizure.

**Durango Police Department, Durango, CO: Police Canine Officer**

1/1988 – 10/1988

Served as the sole canine officer in the department. Coordinated the start-up of a narcotics detection program and oversaw training in narcotics, cadaver, obedience, article search, tracking/trailing and apprehension. Generated department SOPs. Worked as an Assistant Instructor with Colorado State Patrol/Drug Enforcement Administration in the Criminal Interdiction Program. Qualified and competed in the National Police Dog Championships placing 11<sup>th</sup> out of 126 teams.

**La Junta Police Department, La Junta, CO: Police Canine Officer**

12/1984 – 1/1988

Served as a canine officer responsible for law enforcement. Was selected to assist in the training of the department's canines eventually serving as the head trainer. Developed and implemented a complete Police Dog Training Program. Assisted the Durango Police Dept in the creation of their canine program. Served as an Assistant Child Abuse – Sexual Assault Investigator and handled special investigations. Qualified and served as a member of the Special Weapons Team. Received several awards and letters of commendation.

## **EDUCATION**

Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado

Some College Coursework Completed



- 20+ Credits 1982-83
  - Major: Fish and Game Wildlife Management
- Trinidad State Jr. College, Trinidad, Colorado, Certification, 4/85  
Attended and graduated from the Colorado Peace Officers Academy

## **Cameron Ford**

### **Know your K9 with Canine Cognition Testing**

This class is based on the research Cameron Ford has conducted with Duke University. This class is for everyone, if you are looking to enhance how you select dogs or a you are handler and trainer learning cognition testing enhances your knowledge about the dog you have in front of you.

These Cognition tests (Brain Games) help you learn crucial information such as, is you dog strong in memory, is the dog a problem solver, how quick does it make inferences? Additional things these tests show are, does the dog easy follow gestural communication and what is your dogs laterality. If you are a Law Enforcement Agency or Security Firm, these tests help you select a better more trainable dog. In conjunction with the normal K9 selection and evaluation steps you already use, adding these K9 Brain games to your evaluation raises the percentage of dogs successfully picked to end up be working K9's. Using these tests have proven to increase selection percentages of the right dogs for your program and it has also proven to reduce training time needed to get dogs ready and on the road.

### **Detection using Cognition**

This class covers what Cognition is and how to best use it in Detection Dog training. We also cover

Classical and Operant Conditioning as well markers/bridges for Police K-9's. We cover how information is taken in by your K9 as well as how to best deliver the information you wish to train. We go over how to introduce these methods and how to use them in problem solving. In this class you will conduct hands on experiments where participants get to feel for themselves how to communicate and give information. All of this will allow you to become better handler and trainer for your dogs.



## **Meet Cameron Ford**

Cameron has been in K9 26 years first worked as a Military Working Dog Handler in the US Air Force (Stationed in Germany). During his time in Germany he was a Graduate of the German Police Dog Handler School as well as attended training at the Dutch Police Dog School in Nunspeet.

Cameron was later a Police Ofc. In FL SWAT and (FDLE K9 Team Trainer) in TX a Constable K-9 Unit Handler / Trainer, SWAT

From 2010 to 2014 worked as a Government Contractor K9 Program Mgr. overseeing training for large K9 contracts in the middle east.

2014 to 2018 Navy SEAL SR. Multi Purpose Canine Instructor (SEAL teams 1,3,5 and 7)

CA POST and NPCA (Detection and Patrol) K-9 team evaluator

Member of Duke University Canine Cognition Research Team

Researcher at Texas Tech University Canine Olfaction Laboratory

Presently Training Director for Silver State K9 LLC Podcast host for " K9s Talking Scents"

## **Ron Cloward**

### **Alex Geiger Case study, from selection to retirement**

This incident occurred in Grover Beach, California. We will go over the K9 selection process that should be used and what was used in this case. We will also break down the retirement process that should occur, but in this case it did not. The investigation and how it was a failure. The trial of the handler for murder and the outcome. There were many mistakes made that should be avoided. We will identify what should be done if an incident like this should ever happen again.

### **Basics and Beyond, K9 Unit Supervisor**

This class is for those handlers who would like to move into unit supervision, current



supervisors, and commanders. We will go over the basics of supervising a K9 unit. We will move into topics that include why programs fail, handler selection, K9 selection, records and more. This will be a fast-moving class with lots of information that can be shared with those in attendance. Bring your thumb drive as you will want to take some of this with you.

### **Meet Ron Cloward**

Ron Cloward is a retired police lieutenant from Modesto California. Ron worked three different police K-9s and was the Canine Unit Sergeant and trainer. When promoted to lieutenant, he remained the trainer and unit commander. Ron has over 30 years of experience in law enforcement canine. Ron's experience in K9 unit supervision and management provides hands on approach in training. Ron started his own K9 training company, TOP DOG POLICE K9 TRAINING & CONSULTING, in November of 2012. He conducts training around the country and is one of the few trainers that will bring the basic course to your agencies community. The business is based out of California, but conducts training around the country. His training programs are geared toward both handler and supervisor. Ron is also considered an expert in K9 operations and has provided expert witness work for many agencies.

### ***Tony Guzman***

#### **"The 4 parts of K9 Aggression Instinct and the Pack/Bonding Instinct"**

This class covers the 4 parts of K9 aggression instincts. This is to simplify the many questions that handlers and trainers have in properly identifying aggressions in their K9 partners.

This class will assist them in identifying the aggression to assist them in the selection of future working dog applicants and to resolve current issues they may have relating to behavior dispositions.

### **Meet Tony Guzman**

Since 1985, Tony has been International Trainer and Competitor in the areas of Police work, Narcotics and Explosives Detection, Home and Business Protection, Schutzhund & KNPV Police Training. He's been featured in numerous International television stations exhibiting him as one of the top dog trainers in the World.

Following are Some of Tony's accomplishments throughout the years





- Head Trainer of over 5000 dog and/or canine teams in obedience, protection, narcotics or explosives. Has prepared canine teams for certifications through Florida Department of Law Enforcement standards since 1987.
- Certified Instructor for the Miami-Dade Police Department Criminal Apprehension since 1987.
- Services over 100 Law Enforcement Agencies Nationwide and Overseas.
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- Trainer and Evaluator for the IFRI program, an Independent Scientific Validation of Canine Detection Teams. A joint project of the International Forensic Science Research Institute (IFRI) Florida International University (FIU) and the National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC) since 1999. Always setting the standards through SWGDOG.
- 
- Certified professional witness for the State of Florida.
- Trainer and Evaluator for the IFRI program, an independent scientific validation of canine detection teams. A joint project of the International Forensic Science Research Institute (IFRI) and Florida International University (FIU)
- Head Trainer for the DISIP K9 Unit of the Venezuelan Government. 15 explosive detection canine teams which were deployed for security purposes at the World OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries), meeting in Venezuela prior to September 11th, 2001.
- Contracted by the U.S - State Department, as head instructor for C.E.S.A. (Cuerpo Especializado de Seguridad Aeroportaria – Airport unit) explosive detection canine teams for deployment as Security of the Pan-American Olympic Games of 2003 in the Dominican Republic.
- Head Trainer for the C.E.S.A unit explosives detection program, selected by the United States Government, pioneering their explosives' detection program by training 2 supervisors and 5 canine teams in 2000.
- Head Trainer of the Dominican Republic DEA – DNCD, also selected by the United States of America State Department in 1999; pioneering their program for Narcotics Detection in the Dominican Republic. A program starting with only 5 canine teams and ending up with a total of 23 teams for deployment within 2 years.
- Contracted by the U.S. State Department to provide Police Service Dogs for Trinidad & Tobago.
- Trainer/Supplier of Canine Teams that were originally deployed at the Green Zone in Iraq, Dubai and Afghanistan in 2004 and 2005 contracted through Canine Associates International.
- In 1999, Head Trainer of the only dual purpose canine team in history of the United States Police Canine Association to obtain 200 points out of 200 for narcotics' detection and



Recipient of the “Fred Wheeler Award” (highest combined score in obedience and criminal apprehension).

- In 2002; Selected as one of four Americans to represent the U.S.A. in Slovenia for the World Championship Belgian Malinois Team with his Belgian Malinois “Ficco Vom Roten Falken”.
- Recipient of Singapore K9 Units – Certificate of Appreciation for enhancement of canine program in Holland after completing K9 seminar in the Netherlands.

Most of his dogs have placed in the top ten in the United States Police Canine Association Nationals and Regional’s in different categories for the last 25+ years.

Recognized and sought after for seminars by numerous Police Agencies in the United States and across the world and consistently sought by other canine professionals in his field for his advice on training techniques and the success of his methods.

- Featured on the cover of Dog Sports Magazine (October 1993 and April 1995 Issues) and Ray Allen Magazine (1996 issue).
- Featured in numerous local news articles in the Miami Herald, Sun Sentinel and various newspapers for accomplishments related to the many Police Agencies he has supplied and trained canines for during the last 25 years.
- Featured in numerous International television stations exhibiting him as one of the top dog trainers in the world. (You can view some of the media clips online)
  - WCBS News - Special Report; “A women’s best friend” a local report about women and their loyal canine partners in the areas of security and personal protection and the benefits of having a fully trained canine partner.
  - WSVN-Fox 7 news special report “How a well trained dog should behave”. The areas of canine training and proper handling.
  - Behind the Silver Badge – A special report on how and where Miami Dade County selects their dogs and canine handlers for the specialized unit.
  - Telemundo - Canines against Criminals; a special 3 day report showing the public how pólce dogs & officers are trained to protect the public against criminals and their fight against the drug wars; also how these loyal partners can be trained to protect families as well.
  - Primer Impacto –Special Report on Executive Protection and Police Dog Training
  - Control – Special Report on Police Dogs and Canine Detection Training
  - Ocurrio Asi – Special feature on Tony going to the world team competition and canine training.



## **Bob Suarez**

### **“The 4 parts of K9 Aggression Instinct and the Pack/Bonding Instinct”**

This class covers the 4 parts of K9 aggression instincts. This is to simplify the many questions that handlers and trainers have in properly identifying aggressions in their K9 partners.

This class will assist them in identifying the aggression to assist them in the selection of future working dog applicants and to resolve current issues they may have relating to behavior dispositions.

## **Meet Bob Suarez**

Certified IFRI Trainer/Evaluator for Narcotics, Explosives, Cadaver and Wildlife

Certified USPCA Trainer and President of Region 8 (East TN)

Certifying official for NNDDA in Patrol and Narcotics

Certifying judge for AWD in Patrol, Narcotics, and Explosives

Tennessee Post instructor for K9

USPCA President of Region 8 (East TN)

Trained or co-trained over 1,000 dogs in the areas of Patrol, SWAT applications, Jail Entry Applications, Tracking, Drug Detection, Explosive Detection, Accelerant Detection, Cadaver Detection, Wildlife Detection, Evidence Recovery, Building/Area Search, Agility, Criminal Apprehension, Basic, Advanced, and Tactical Obedience, Search and Rescue

Taught over 100 K9 handler's courses on Patrol, Drug Detection, Explosive Detection, Tracking, etc.

Lead instructor for several K9 seminars

Certified handler in Patrol, Drug Detection, Cadaver Detection, Explosive Detection, and Tracking under USPCA, NNDDA, AWD, FDLE, and IFRI

Licensed DEA K9 researcher

Narcotics investigation/K9 handler

SWAT operator certified

Certified dignitary protection detail officer

Certified and testified as an expert in reference to police service dogs in 6th Circuit Federal Court



Written K9 SOPs for law enforcement agencies  
Managed 10 team unit

## **Dr. David Adebimpe**

### **“PSEUDO Vs REAL” - A 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY RECLASSIFICATION OF SCENT-TRAINING AIDS BASED ON SCIENTIFIC STUDIES, TRAINING OUTCOMES & OPERATIONAL IMPACTS**

**David Adebimpe, PhD, DSc, CChem  
Lead Scientist, The ScentLogix™ Brand**

The adage, “the only thing 2 trainers agree on is what the 3<sup>rd</sup> one is doing wrong” is a well-known saying within the detector K9 community that is based on the real-life outcomes of scent-detection training practices used by scent-practitioners worldwide. Our collaborative investigations, carried out over a period of 10 years with hundreds of practitioners worldwide, in a study which constitutes the world’s largest and most diverse evaluation of scent training aids, reveal that the validity of this statement stems from practices that originate from a misclassification of scent training aids, a lack of quantifiable standards for training aid selection and application, and from an institutionalized misunderstanding that real materials make the best scent-training aids for the imprinting and maintenance-training of detector K9’s.

Using scientific data, videos, operational feedbacks and testimonials from our studies, this class will present a modern, 21<sup>st</sup> century classification of the varieties of scent-training aids available for imprinting, maintenance training and certifications of detector K9s, including the different types of training outcomes that can result from the use of each category of these aids available. Insights on how to produce detector K9’s with scent-and-detect capabilities that are superior to K9’s trained with our “default understanding” of scent training aids are also provided.

This is scent detection presented in a way that brings a new understanding to the essential characteristics of ideal scent training aids, clarifying some of the misconceptions found in training manuals and published scientific papers, and is a must-attend class for all active trainers and handlers!

## **Meet Dr. Adebimpe**

**Prof. David Adebimpe**, founder and CEO of Polymath Interscience, is a research scientist, philosopher and inventor who uses his cross-disciplinary skills and expertise to solve unique



problems that require the convergence of different scientific and technical disciplines and philosophies. With over 30 years of combined experience as a social psychology (UK), biochemistry (UK), nanotechnology (USA) and organic chemistry (USA) professor, including stints as a guest scientist with NIST and NASA, he is a subject matter expert and world leader in the convergent application of odorology, scent-engineering and the mechanics of mammalian olfaction, towards the development of scent-detection training aids and practical tools that enhance the olfactory capabilities of operational search-and-detect K9s.

As testimony to his capabilities, Dr. Adebimpe developed the first-and-only official inert replacements to the United States Marines' Canine Kits for Explosives Detection, the MN01/MN76 Canine ScentKit. He also invented the world's first non-hazardous training aids for the scent detection of a wide range of illicit and hazardous materials such as wide-ranging as TATP, HMTD, Dynamite, PETN/ETN, Nitrocellulose, Nitroglycerin, EGDN, PCP, MDMA, Mold, LSD, Bed Bugs, Tetryl and Fentanyl, as part of the "ScentLogix™ ScentKit Collection" which currently stands as the broadest collection of operationally-tested non-hazardous scent training aids ever produced for the imprinting and scent-training of working dogs in the detection of explosives, narcotics, guns, mines, ammunition, and currency. As a result of user ratings and K9 performances worldwide, ScentLogix™ ScentKits are now regarded as the world's first scent-reference materials developed for working dog imprinting, maintenance training and certification activities, as a "gold standard" of training aids, and as logically superior replacements to the practice of using target materials as training aids & certification standards.

Based on his knowledge of odor and olfaction, David serves as a consultant to numerous agencies worldwide, including the Department of Defense (USA, India, Mexico), the Federal Police (Brazil), The Department of Justice (Australia), Department of Customs (Indonesia, Singapore, Kazakhstan), in matters pertaining to detector-K9 scent kit utility, training and certification protocols.

His qualifications include a Doctor of Science degree, an interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Synthetic Organic Chemistry, Materials Science and Chemical Engineering, and a B.Sc. with Honors in Biochemistry with Psychology. Additionally, he has attended a number of FBI and US-DOJ certification programs in explosives detection and terrorist preparedness. He is a member of IABTI, a founding member of "SCENT-SOURCE" and serves on numerous national and international advisory boards. His current professional interests include "learning the art of applying a scientific knowledge of odor, scent engineering and biological olfaction, towards (i) the fabrication of gas sensors and "electronic noses," and (ii) improving the portfolio of practical educational tools, utility scents, and training standards for the detector K9 community."

Email: [david@polymathi.com](mailto:david@polymathi.com)

Website: [www.scentlogix.com](http://www.scentlogix.com)

[#ScentlogixGeneration](#)



## **Marcella Ridgway**

### **The Biology of Scent Detection**

What happens in the dog's nose and brain to allow the dog to detect and identify odor and locate an odor source? A basic understanding of the structure and function of the dog's olfactory system and factors affecting odor detection can help K9 handlers partner more effectively with their detection dogs. This class covers what happens in the dog to allow odorant molecules to be interpreted as scent and also addresses the diseases, medications and other factors that can interfere with the dog's ability to detect, localize and indicate odor.

### **Practical K9 Anatomy**

A basic understanding of K9 anatomy as it relates to dog gear and K9 handling practices can ensure that you get the optimal result from your equipment and handling techniques while minimizing the risk of injury to your dog. This class will cover applied aspects of K9 anatomy such as what body structures are impacted by various types of harnesses and collars, what collar placement is most effective for choke versus prong collars, what happens when you "choke out" a dog or use a gag stick, muzzling and other practical aspects of K9 anatomy pertinent to working dog management.

## **Meet Marcella Ridgway**

Dr. Marcella Ridgway has been a practicing veterinarian for 36 years and is a board-certified specialist in Small Animal Internal Medicine with areas of special interest in infectious diseases and canine occupational health. Currently, she holds the position of Clinical Professor in Small Animal Internal Medicine and service head of the Small Animal Internal Medicine Service at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, where she provides specialty veterinary care for dogs and cats in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital; clinical and didactic training in Internal Medicine for residents, interns and veterinary students; and continuing education for other veterinarians. In teaching veterinary students and in her continuing education presentations, she is working to develop veterinarians who have a better understanding of the roles fulfilled by working and performance dogs and thus are better prepared to provide exceptional medical care optimized for the individual dog and the particular demands of the



dog's job. She also provides instruction in K9 field first-aid for law enforcement and SAR K9 handlers. In addition to her professional endeavors, she is a SAR K9 handler (trailing) and competition obedience handler and instructor.

## **Dr. Kenneth G. Furton**

### **Canine Detection National Standards and Trends, Including Electronic Devices, Designer Drugs, and Hemp Products.**

Dr. Furton will cover the history, state of the art and projections for advances in the science of canine olfaction relating to drugs, explosives and human scent and the standardization efforts of the past 15 years starting with SWGDOG, evolving to OSAC Dogs & Sensors, National Standards from the Academy Standards Board and ultimately accreditation of certifying organizations. Ken will also explain the newest research results in the detection of Electronic Devices, Designer Drugs, and Hemp Products.

## **Meet Dr. Kenneth Furton**



Dr. Kenneth G. Furton is a Professor of Chemistry, Provost, Executive Vice President and COO of Florida International University. He is a leading scholar in forensic chemistry, specializing in canine olfaction. Dr. Furton is the founder of the International Forensic Research Institute and served as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for 7 years where he helped raise \$50 M in private gifts and dramatically increase grant awards totaling more than \$300 M. As Provost he has led the development and implementation of FIU's bold strategic plan BeyondPossible2020 resulting in significant increases in student success and research preeminence measures.



Dr. Furton has over 20 years of canine research experience and developed the IFRI canine certification program, which has evaluated more than 1,000 canine teams. He has chaired the Scientific Working Group on Dog and Orthogonal Detector Guidelines (SWGDOG) since its inception in 2004 and is currently the chair of the Organization for Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) Dogs and Sensor subcommittee and he chairs the Dog and Sensors Consensus Body of the Academy Standards Board. Dr. Furton is the author or co-author of more than 800 publications and presentations, including 15 patents and 2 books. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors. He has given hundreds of invited talks nationally and internationally and has testified as an expert witness in dozens of state and federal trials.

## **Bobby Roettger**

### **Building search - utilizing the canine in Tactical CQB with a team**

Training the k9, handler and team to work together as a pack tactically clearing buildings. Stressing the importance of the K9s ability to work in front, with and behind the team (The Pack Mentality) so team members can focus on the threats that arise. Talk about the importance of K9 selection for SWAT vs the road.

### **Meet Bobby Roettger**

Bobby served as a police officer for 9 years in Connersville Indiana where he was a member of the K-9 unit working a Dual Purpose Narcotic dog on patrol and as a team leader for SWAT. Bobby is an NNDDA certifier, a graduate of VLK Trainers Course and has been a guest instructor for VLK on numerous occasions from 2000 - 2003. In January 2004 Bobby became a full time trainer. Bobby has judged K-9 competitions and instructed seminars in several states to include Tennessee, North Carolina, Utah, Indiana and Ohio. Bobby has traveled to Afghanistan training Afghan handlers on VLK bomb dogs.

## ***Ken Licklider***

### **Obedience to Odor**

Class Description: This class will take handlers deeper into why detection dogs do what they do. Ken will delve into what "drives" are and how they are utilized. The term obedient to odor refers to the dog understanding that odor drives the reward, not the handler. This fast pace class will cover everything from odor imprinting, to reward, to search patterns and the why's





behind each of these components of detection dog training. Not only is this class highly entertaining, but most of all, it is highly informative.

### **Meet Ken Licklider**

SMSGT, USAF (Ret) Kenneth Licklider, is the Owner/Operator of Vohne Liche Kennels, Inc (VLK), a Service Disabled Veteran owned company headquartered in Denver, Indiana, with additional facilities in California and Holland. VLK is widely known as the premier Private Canine Training Facility and Detection Service Provider in the world and has been providing superior service for the past twenty-four (24) years.

SMSGT Licklider has forty (40) years canine experience, including seventeen (17) years serving in the United States Air Force (U.S.A.F.) in the canine career field. SMSGT Licklider served in the U.S.A.F. from 1977-1993 and served in the capacity of Law Enforcement Superintendent, Kennel Master, Police Service Dog Trainer, and as a Police Service Dog Handler. During his military career SMSGT Licklider competed in and won several military K-9 competitions and was as the recipient of numerous service medals.

Upon his retirement in 1993, SMSGT Licklider formed VLK. SMSGT Licklider is considered a subject matter expert (SME) and is world renowned for his scent work, which has been copied by Dutch Customs. He has been invited to speak and instruct by agencies throughout the United States and abroad and has traveled around the world teaching his methodologies. He currently has dogs and/or conducted training in forty-nine (49) states and more than thirty-two (32) countries, including Iraq, Afghanistan, UAE, several in Africa and the European Continent, Mexico, South Africa, Ghana, Turkey, El Salvador, Brazil, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Columbia, Saudi Arabia, Albania, Croatia, Kosovo, Guatemala, Guam, the Philippine Islands, South Korea, and Israel.

SMSGT Licklider has instructed thousands of students and has trained/worked with thousands of dogs in his career. He and his staff train more than five hundred (500) dogs per year. He currently has dogs in service with over five thousand (5,000) Military, Local, State and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies, Corporate Security, and Private Industry clients to include the United States and Foreign Customs and Border Patrol, Department of Homeland Security, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), the Federal Bureau Of Investigation (FBI), the National Security Agency (NSA), the United States Secret Service (USSS), the United States Pentagon Police, the United States Department of Defense (DoD), the United States Department of State (DoS), the United States Army Special Forces Command, the United States Marine Corp Special Forces Command, the United States Navy Seals, Lackland Military Working Dog School, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, NASA, CN Railway Police, Los Angeles,



Chicago, Illinois State Police, Honolulu, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, San Bernardino, Michigan State Police, Metro Detroit Airport Police (MI), Indianapolis, Oklahoma City, Kansas City, Memphis, St. Louis, Phoenix, several Federal and State prisons, Inter-Con, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Engility, Triple Canopy, Global Integrated Security, Aegis, DynCorp, Securitas, Battelle, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) the Peoria Air Show, the Cincinnati Bengals, the Electric Daisy Carnival, and Lollapalooza.

As an SME in the military and police service dog world, SMSGT Licklidge has been instrumental in the development of copious specialized canine programs, both nationally and internationally, to include the United States Army Combat Tracking Dog (CTD), the United States Tactical Explosive Detection Dog (TEDD), and the United States Special Forces Multi-Purpose Canine (MPC). He has developed course doctrines, programs of instructions (POIs), and System Training Plans (STRAPS) for several military canine programs and has served as a SME on several research and development canine detection studies.

SMSGT Licklidge is licensed through the Alcohol Tobacco and Fire Arms (ATF), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the State of Indiana to possess and store explosive and controlled substances. VLK has an approved magazine on-site for storage of explosives and approved controlled substance storage. He is a member of several police canine associations, is a founding member of the Scientific Working Group on Dog and Orthogonal Detector Guidelines (SWGDOG), and is a Co-founder of American Working Dogs (AWD). AWD is an American Working Dog Advocate with members from around the world. AWD publishes an internationally distributed magazine that is published quarterly. It is a vital resource of technology and information that hundreds of Law Enforcement and Government Personnel subscribe to as loyal readers. AWD/VLK also hosts an annual Seminar and Certification Trial (Olympics) at their Denver, Indiana location. The Olympics consist of four (4) action packed days of intense competition amongst the world's best canine teams from across the United States and abroad. This unique event is an opportunity for the civilian community to observe military, law enforcement, and private industry canine teams from local, state, and national entities, compete in events such as detection (explosive and narcotic), tracking, area search, building search, control, obedience, obstacle course, individual and three (3) man team events, and hard dog/fast dog

SMSGT Licklidge has designed and manufactures a line of towable canine transportation units/trailers. The VLK unit, through thoughtful design and masterful engineering has virtually outdated and made obsolete all of the current K-9 trailer and dog transport vehicles currently on the market. Not only does the VLK design resolve the deficiencies of other units, it sets a new standard for dog transport. VLK's largest client of their towable transportation units is the United States Military.



SMSGT Licklider and his staff can be reached at the corporate headquarters located in Denver, Indiana at 765-985-2274, via email at [Kenneth@vohneliche.com](mailto:Kenneth@vohneliche.com), via their website at [www.vohneliche.com](http://www.vohneliche.com), and via Facebook at Vohne Liche Kennels, VlK West, and VLK Europe b.v.

## Jeff Meyer

### Marker Training for Detection Dogs

Jeff Meyer's class on Marker Training for Detection Dogs will walk you through the process of establishing the marker training method for both the green dog as well as introducing it to a dog that is already trained in detection work. The step by step program that Jeff uses is effective and easy to implement as your new way of detection dog training method. In Jeff's class, you'll see how Marker Training for Detection Dogs will help speed up your training time. Listen as Jeff explains how the quickly the marker will make the essential connection for the dog between the odor, his response and the reward. This class will discuss the other benefits of Marker Training for Detection Dogs, to include lessening the dog's learning curve, aiding trainers who struggle with poor handler timing, helps reduce frustration for both the dog and the handler during training, removes issues with handler cuing, thus making canine communication clearer with the dog.

### E-Collar Training – Avoiding the Common Mistakes

This 2 hour block of instruction will highlight some of the most common mistakes we make as K-9 handlers when using the E-Collar in training. The technology and reliability advancements in today's E-Collars have far outpaced law enforcement training and education. As a result, the power of the E-Collar has not met its full potential for many handlers and trainers. Misuse and misunderstanding of the proper way to introduce and use and E-Collar as a communication tool will produce undesirable results in your dog's performance and train your dog to be 'Collar Dependent.' Join Jeff Meyer as he closes the fundamental gaps that have surfaced in across the training fields for E-collars.

### Meet Jeff Meyer

Jeff Meyer has been a police officer since 1989. Jeff has been involved in K-9 nearly all of his career. Currently Jeff is handling 2 detector dogs, a bomb dog as well as a currency dog for his department. Jeff has handled, certified and deployed dogs that have been used to find people, narcotics, explosives, guns, currency and evidence.



Jeff spent over 17 years in the Patrol dog section working several patrol dogs before being tasked with starting a new detection K-9 unit for his department. Jeff now is involved in training dog teams in all divisions for his agency.

Jeff is a Utah Post Teaching Judge and regularly teaches classes for teams all across the U.S. In addition, he has provided expert witness testimony on behalf of officers.

Jeff Started Police K-9 Magazine in 2005 and sold the title in 2014. Jeff is one of the partners of HITS K-9 seminars and the host for HITS k-9 Radio podcast.

You can reach Jeff at [Jeff@HITSk9.net](mailto:Jeff@HITSk9.net)

## **Mike Goosby**

### **Perimeters (Operations, as well as Command and Control) From the Boots on the Ground Perspective and K-9 Search Team Tactics**

The perimeter portion of the class will provide the student with instruction from the boots on the ground perspective on how to contain and capture suspects who have fled to evade arrest by effectively establishing a perimeter, communicating tactical broadcasts during foot pursuits, the responsibilities of responding units, what the suspect is thinking, his tricks to evading arrest, perimeter management, as well as command and control. The goal is to increase your dog's chances of getting out of the car and being utilized to search for outstanding suspects and increasing your dog's find ratio.

The K-9 search team tactics portion will cover K-9 search team configurations (patrol, all K-9, SWAT), the individual K-9 search team member responsibilities, effective REAL WORLD K-9 search team tactics, and K-9 search tactics for yard to yard and building environments. Mike will debrief actual K-9 incidents and provide information that will enable you to provide teach backs for members of your own department or agency.

## **Meet Mike Goosby**

Sergeant Mike Goosby is the Chief Trainer of the Los Angeles Police Department, Metropolitan Division K-9 Platoon. He is a nationally recognized expert in K-9 tactics, perimeter containment, command post operations (command and control), as well as off



leash control and K-9 search techniques. Mike oversees all aspects of K-9 and Handler training, maintenance, and K-9 selection for the LAPD K-9 Platoon, and has conducted, participated in, or coordinated over 7,500 K-9 or K-9/SWAT search operations.

## ***Jeff Schettler***

### **Urban tracking: defeating distractions and hard surface work.**

This class will focus on working the aspiring tracking handler into a successful urban environment. Often times the focus with training is tackling hard surface as the primary tracking issue. Hard surface is a relatively minor detail. The issues are distractions; scent, sight, and sound. Jeff will walk you through his methods to destroying distractions on urban track. Jeff currently trains police tracking dogs throughout the Americas, Europe, and Asia. His program is responsible for hundreds of urban tracking finds each year.

### **Tactical tracking: adding the team to the tracking dog.**

Jeff's tactical tracking program is the primary provider of high risk tracking training for our US military. Jeff wrote the book on tactical tracking and high risk tracking deployments. In this class, Jeff will be teaching the process of building a tactical team around the K9. It is not simply a matter of putting people with the dog and hoping it all works out. The process is technical and it is crucial that the dog and team work well together for the duration of any mission. The problem is that the average patrol dog does not tolerate a team on a track well and it needs to be taught what is expected of it. Furthermore, the team has to learn the proper way to support a tracking K9 as typical high risk tactics are not effective.

## **Meet Jeff Schettler**

CEO / Police and Military K9 Trainer / Author

**Jeff Schettler** is a retired police K9 handler who worked for the City of Alameda and County of Amador in California and was attached to the FBI's Hostage Rescue Teams' K9 Assistance Program for two years. This program was designed to locate and apprehend high-risk fugitives on the run. He is a certified military trainer graduating from the prestigious US Army's Leadership Academy also known as Drill Sergeant School.



Jeff has worked hundreds of trailing cases across the USA and is a specialist in the areas of tactical tracking applications. He is also considered an expert witness in tracking/ trailing. As an international K9 trainer, he spends 12 weeks a year training throughout Europe, South America, and Asia. His program is in use with numerous international police agencies as well as NATO military units.

Jeff's work has been seen on CNN, ABC, CBS, HLN, Unsolved Mysteries, and Mythbusters. Through the years, he has become a renowned author of the following books on K9 Tracking Work.

**Red Dog Rising**– A K9 Tracking Autobiography

**K9 Trailing; The Straightest Path**– A primer on starting a K9 team on human scent discrimination and trailing work.

**Tactical Tracker Teams**– A practical guide to surviving high-risk fugitive manhunts.

**Tao of Trailing** – The Tao of Trailing is my fourth and final book on the art of trailing or tracking human scent with police, search and rescue, or military K9.

Check out this video of Jeff's work <https://youtu.be/Mk66y3ihALY>

## Dr. Nathan Hall

### **Canine Sense and Scent Ability: Recent research on how canines learn and detect odors**

This class will cover a wide range of research studies and critically evaluate the current state of knowledge of detection science from the standpoint of peer-reviewed research. We will investigate how to improve threshold detection limits, how to improve training scenarios to match real-world scenarios, and introduce the basics of canine physiology and psychology that influence odor detection. We will also discuss how prior experiences with odors can influence perception and reinforce a foundational understanding of operant and pavlovian conditioning. At the end of the class, handlers should expect to meet the following learning objectives

#### Learning Objectives

1. Describe how previous experience with odors can influence odor learning and generalization
2. Describe how handler knowledge of the detection task can impact canine search behavior



3. Describe the physiological and psychological factors involved in odor detection

### Meet Dr. Nathan Hall



Dr. Nathan Hall, PhD, Assistant Professor of Companion Animal Science at Texas Tech University, Director, Canine Olfaction Research and Education Laboratory Department of Animal Science.

Dr. Hall is an Assistant Professor of Companion Animal Science at Texas Tech University and the Director of the Canine Olfaction Research and Education Laboratory in the Department of Animal Science. Dr. Hall earned his PhD at the University of Florida, specializing in the study of Behavior Analysis and canine olfaction. As a post-doc, he continued his studies at Arizona State University investigating the optimization of training to enhance canine's detection of Homemade Explosives. At Texas Tech, his work continues to explore canine olfactory perception and how experience influences odor perception. His lab also investigates predictors and correlates of problem behavior, behavioral predictors of working aptitude, and canine health. Throughout his career, Dr. Hall has published numerous peer-reviewed scientific publications and book chapters on canine olfaction and detection abilities.



## **Andrew Weiman**

### **Developing a Well-Trained Detector Dog Handler- Techniques and Scenarios for a Better Team**

We all know how routine and mundane our training days can become over time. This class is designed to highlight the specific training scenarios that center around the essential training techniques that elicit good handling and proper K-9 responses. The ideas presented in this training course will give you food for thought for improving your training and street reliability, rather than just keeping the status quo. This class will discuss various scenario parameters that produce identifiable deficiencies in both K-9 and handler performance. Improvement scenarios can then be worked to extinguish unwanted K-9 behaviors and improve handling skills, and both will improve performance reliability as a team.

### **Drug Canine Record Keeping & Court Testimony**

Testifying in front of the courts can be intimidating and stressful, especially if you're not prepared. You know how hard you've trained with your dog and you've done everything right for every case. But are you fully prepared to testify about your training and paint the picture of reliability for the courts? Andrew Weiman is an expert witness with decades of police dog handling and training experience. Join Andrew's class and listen as he presents the cornerstones of proper canine recordkeeping that help prove your dog's reliability. Andrew makes clear sense of both the purpose and the content of canine records. Defense attorneys look to discredit you and the dog by testing your basic understanding of canine learning and canine training. Come listen to the advice of an expert and take the power of knowledge as a shield of armor for every drug dog case you're a part of. There're many angles of attack coming against you in the courtroom by defense attorneys, don't go in unprepared and unaware. Let Andrew Weiman's decades of experience take your courtroom battle to a higher level.

### **Meet Andrew Weiman**

With more than 31 years of police experience involving various assignments in specialty drug investigation unit in south Florida, Detective Weiman has become a leading expert in the field. With 25 years of K9 experience since training his first drug dog with Canadian Customs, Andy has gone on to oversee the training of a variety of detector dogs to include teams that can find drugs, currency cell phones, tobacco and firearms.

Andy's education and experience with police dog training has steered his career path into developing an industry leading recordkeeping software program called PackTrack. His depth of





knowledge and understanding of state and federal laws regarding search and seizure has been an enormous asset to hundreds of K-9 handlers who attend his K-9 training courses. Andy's ability to teach detection canines was refined through over a decade of training for MCTFT Multi-Jurisdictional Counter Drug Task Force Training Center. Andy taught thousands of handlers all over the US and its territories. Andy has served on the editorial advisory board for Police K-9 Magazine and created HITS, the training conference known for its breadth of diversified K9 training lectures. Andy was a co-author of the book "Canines in the Courtroom" used by handlers, trainers, and supervisors as reference material for training courses.

Andy's expert opinions on drug dogs and recordkeeping will surely help bring the entire law enforcement K9 industry to a higher level of clarity. His countless court appearances and proven skills as an expert witness on the stand are clear testimony to the effectiveness of proper K9 recordkeeping as a means to establishing K9 reliability. As a K9 trainer and handler with the Broward County Sheriff's Office in Florida, Andy continues to educate others through his direct oversight of the training.

## **Jason Purgason**

### **A Strategic Approach to Problem Solving in Modern K9 Operations**

This class explores common problems faced by operational K9 teams that are encountered in both training and field operations. Whether it be detection, trailing or patrol related issues, handlers are often left without applicable solutions for resolving them. Some of the problems to be covered are the "out" and "recall", high, large and deep hides, trail loss and recovery and much more! This class will discuss and give examples of proven strategies for resolving issues and alleviating common frustrations felt by K9 handlers.

### **Meet Jason Purgason**

Jason is the President of [Highland Canine Training, LLC](#) which was founded in 2006 and is located in Harmony, North Carolina. Having earned his Police Canine Instructor's Certification in 2003, Jason has been training dogs for over 25 years. He has trained canines in the areas of Narcotics Detection, Explosives Detection, Human Detection, Police Patrol, Scent Discrimination



Tracking / Trailing, Termite Detection, Mold Detection, Human Remains Detection, Allergen Detection, Bat Guano Detection, Urban Disaster, Wilderness Search and Rescue. Jason has trained over 900 working dogs and handlers for detection, police patrol and search and rescue. Jason's work in the K9 detection training and patrol dog training has qualified him as a subject matter court expert.

Jason has been a sworn Police Officer since 1995 and served Reidsville Police Department in North Carolina for over 10 years as a Police Canine Handler, a K9 Unit Supervisor, Vice Narcotics/Interdiction Unit Supervisor and an Operator on the SWAT team. Using his professional background, Jason conducts police canine handler courses and seminars throughout the United States including Police and Military personnel at NASA and the Pentagon as well as for Special Forces units of the United States Military and for foreign Military and Police Departments. Jason has been an Instructor/Speaker at national and international K9 conferences for several years. Additionally, Jason provides oversight of all other trainers' courses offered at Highland Canine Training, LLC.

## ***Brad Smith***

### **High Risk K9 Patrol Operations and K9 SWAT Deployment - S.K.I.D.D.S. / CATS**

For those that have a misconception as to how beneficial K9's can be in a high-risk patrol operation or to a SWAT team this class is for you. We encourage all patrol officers, military, SWAT and supervisors to attend this class. You will learn how to utilize your dog to find the suspect quicker, yet safer, while maintaining your tactical advantage and officer safety.

We will discuss what to look for during your selection of a Tactical Patrol dog or SWAT dog as well as the handler. Learn how a properly trained patrol dog and the handler can be utilized during a in a high-risk patrol deployment or SWAT operation when it comes to tracking, barricaded suspects, approaches, entries, blind corners, room clearing, hallways, stairs, attics, crawl spaces, vehicle assaults, arrest techniques and even in a gas environment.

## **Courtroom Testimony**

### **Know the answers to the questions before their asked.**

Over the year's handlers have improved their training regimen, increase their monthly maintenance training, documentation, and have improved their report writing skills. The one



area that is still severely absent is their preparation for a deposition or testifying in a civil courtroom when it comes to answering the basic questions of your job. Know the hard questions any good plaintiff's attorney will ask you to be prepared to give the correct answer because you are a new question.

## **Meet Brad Smith**

Brad Smith retired from the West Covina Police Department in southern California in June 2010 after 30 years of service. Brad was a K9 handler and trainer for West Covina for 25 years and a SWAT dog handler for 18 years. Since 1999 Brad has been National K9 Chairman for N.T.O.A. and a K9 Subject Matter Expert for the California Association of Tactical Officers. Brad specializes in field tactics and officer safety. Brad designed and implemented a K9 SWAT & K9 Patrol Tactical School called S.K.I.D.D.S. and CATS [www.skidds.com](http://www.skidds.com). Brad is also owner of Canine Tactical Operations and Consulting [www.K9TacOps.com](http://www.K9TacOps.com) and the author of the book "K9 Tactical Operations for Patrol and SWAT." Brad has published over 80 articles for a wide variety of publications on K9 Swat Deployment and training. Brad can be reached at [Topdogwck1@aol.com](mailto:Topdogwck1@aol.com) or 626-523-4028.

## **Mike Ritland True Foundations**

Training the police K9 utilizing operant conditioning techniques and relationship building. Mike will discuss the OC "process" he uses to train police K9s in all aspects of tactical OB, tracking, and bite work for the real world. He will also cover troubleshooting training problems and thinking your way through them using the A + B = C method.

## **Meet Mike Ritland**

Mike Ritland joined the U.S. Navy in 1996 and served for 12 years as a U.S. Navy SEAL. After his service, Mike served as a Naval Special Warfare (SEAL) Multi-purpose canine trainer, and founded Trikos International. Trikos specializes in providing training consultation, working K9's to police departments, Federal LEO and government agencies.

He now has over 15 years' experience in importing, breeding, raising, and training multiple breeds of working dogs for a number of different working capacities. With his unique training approach, Ritland has trained hundreds of working dogs for combat and the real world, and



specializes in military dog training, police dog training and SAR K9 training. With this proven success, Mike and Trikos International have grown into a global brand, providing K9s for private individuals, and a host of government agencies, including:

- Department of Defense (DoD)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Transportation Security Administration (TSA)
- U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP)
- Police Departments across the U.S.

Mike Ritland also founded the Warrior Dog Foundation, a non-profit special operations K9 retirement foundation. The WDF provides a home for all working K9's to receive nothing but the best mental and physical rehabilitation.

All this experience prompted Mike Ritland to write three New York Times Best Selling books: Trident K9 Warriors, Navy SEAL Dogs, and TEAM Dog.

Most recently, Mike created the [MikeRitland.com](http://MikeRitland.com) Team Dog Online Training website launched. This platform provides online dog training to dog owners across the world. Current community members range from first time puppy owners to well established dog trainers, as there is something for everyone, and Ritland personally interacts with members on the site and answers their questions.

Mike Ritland currently resides in Dallas, Texas and dedicates his time daily to working with his K9s at Trikos International and the Warrior Dog Foundation.

## **Dr. Lauryn Degreef**

### **Odor Chemistry for Narcotics Detection**

*Dr. Lauryn DeGreeff*

*U.S. Naval Research Laboratory*

Irrespective of the target, all detection canines must learn to respond to an odor that is unique to that given target. However, the characteristics making an odor unique are not fixed, instead they can change with a number of factors such as environment, quantity, and containment, as examples. Understanding the variables that affect the quality and quantity of target odor allows the handler to better understand canine response and thus improve detection. This seminar will cover a compilation of research on both factors that affect odor in general, and those related specifically to narcotics. This will include factors that affect how the dog experiences target odor



that might not be regularly considered, such as mass versus odor quantity, differences between manufacturers, changes with time and environmental conditions, and challenges related to containment or wrapping. Finally, common misconceptions related to training aid storage and contamination will be covered.

## **Odor Chemistry for Explosive Detection**

*Dr. Lauryn DeGreeff*

*U.S. Naval Research Laboratory*

One way to better understand canine response to odor and improve detection is to understand the factors that affect or change odor. A compilation of research will be discussed that describes odor on a molecular level as it relates to detection of explosives. This will include how odor emanates from explosive materials and how the dog might perceive these odors. Factors that affect how the dog experiences the target odor that are not regularly considered, such as target mass versus odor quantity, differences between manufacturers, changes with time and environmental conditions, and challenges related to wrapping and burial, will be discussed. Specific attention will be given to the detection of homemade explosives as these present additional detection challenges not encountered with traditional explosives. Finally, common misconceptions related to training aid storage and contamination will be covered.

## **Meet Dr. Lauryn Degreeff**

*Dr. Lauryn E. DeGreeff* has worked in the field of canine detection science for more than 10 years. She began her career studying under the direction of Dr. Kenneth Furton at Florida International University, where she received a Ph.D. in Chemistry with an emphasis in Forensic Science in 2010. Her research focused on the sampling and delivery of human odor, living and deceased, for the purpose of canine detection. Following the completion of her doctorate, she carried out research as a post-doctoral fellow at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Counterterrorism and Forensic Science Research Unit under the advisement of Dr. Brian Eckenrode. Her research focus was detection and determination of volatiles from human scent and odor and human blood by analytical instrumentation for the development/improvement of canine training aids and training methods. Dr. DeGreeff began her research at the Naval Research laboratory in 2012 with research efforts focused on the characterization of explosives for instrumental and canine detection. She has since developed and patented a canine training tool for training on mixed odors, which has recently been brought to commercial market, and she is currently studying the effects of training on the canines' ability to generalize or discriminate like odors. Dr. DeGreeff has published a number of journal articles, has presented her research at numerous national and international conferences, and holds two patents.



## **Arthur “Ted” Daus**

### **2020 Drug Canine Legal Updates**

Nationally recognized for prosecuting drug trafficking cases, Ted Daus tells it like it is. What a perfect opportunity for K-9 handlers to learn straight from the prosecutor what he needs to hear from you on the stand when presenting your drug cases to the jury. Ted navigates his way through the latest courtroom decision about police detection dogs and takes us along for the wild and sometimes crazy ride. Ted’s abilities as a communicator will keep you on the edge of your seat as he opens everyone’s eyes to what’s been happening in the courtroom and what the future looks like for drug detection K-9 teams across America.

### **Meet Arthur “Ted” Daus**

Ted Daus is an assistant state attorney with the Broward County State Attorney's Office in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He has been a prosecutor for the past 23 years, the last 18 of which he has been assigned to the Drug Trafficking Unit for the State Attorney's Office. Ted graduated from Nova Southeastern School of Law in 1991. He has extensive experience as a lecturer on search and seizure for D.E.A., U.S. Customs, various Florida Police Departments, the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association, the Police K-9 Training Institute, Police Canine Consultants and the Canine Development Group. He lectures regularly all across the country to National Canine Organization such as U.S.P.C.A., N.P.C.A. & N.A.P.W.D.A. He is an adjunct professor of law for Nova Southeastern University Teaching Trial Advocacy and coaching national mock trial teams. He was until recently, the legal editor and writer for Police K-9 Magazine and lectures every year at their national canine conference “HITS”. He is the current nationwide legal advisor for the National Police Canine Association headquartered in Arizona. Most recently, Ted was counsel of record for both United States Supreme Court K-9 cases, Harris & Jardines, argued before the court on October 31st, 2012.



## Armin Winkler

### Complete Muzzle Training for Reliable Street Performance

Muzzle training can and should be an integral part of K9 training. Unfortunately, it is underused in many agencies and often trained in a manner that makes dogs not function well with a muzzle. This class lays out a program that builds muzzle work into all aspects of K9 training, not just to make the dog function more effectively while wearing the muzzle but to enhance all aspects of functional apprehension training.



### The New Age of K9 use in Tactical Team deployments

As the world of law enforcement becomes ever more dangerous, the value of K9 use in special response team operations has never been greater. This class outlines a training approach that reduces the limitations of traditional K9 usage by SWAT style teams by integrating them fully into the team's tactics and movements. K9s are great assets for operators if they become part of the dynamic operations of the team. The days of the "holstered tool" are gone when the dog learns to be a 4-legged operator working fully integrated with the entire team. This class will open many eyes to never considered possibilities.

### Meet Armin Winkler

Armin has spent the majority of his life working dogs in the civilian and law enforcement fields since the mid-1970s. He has operated his own K9 security business in Canada. Armin is a published author who has written and published K9 training articles all over the world. Armin operates Rivanna K9 Services in Virginia where he provides training services as an Applied Animal Behavioral Scientist to his clients. He is a certified law enforcement instructor through the Justice Institute of British Columbia and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. Armin provides in depth training programs to SOF military K9 units as well as LE agencies. He has advised and consulted with all US Tier 1 SOF units. As well as many SOF units



across the globe. Armin was the headline instructor at the 2018 and 2019 SOF K9 Conference in Warsaw, Poland. Armin's hands on style and decades of prolific decoy work have earned him great respect and influence as his innovative concepts and techniques are utilized by the world's top K9 units.

## **Shay Maimoni**

### **“Dog’s Language & Canine Behaviors ”**

Is a dog wagging his tail means he's happy? What does your dog yawn mean? Can you really understand your partner's language? If you are a detection dog handler, patrol dog handler or the k9 unit trainer. It is important for you to know how to read a dog. Understanding dog communication is crucial. Dogs communicate with their body language and using all the senses to interpret tactile, auditory, olfactory, and visual. In this class, you will learn how dogs “TALK” to each other and with you which will help you get a better bond and communication with your K9. Your canine behaviors can be innate, Learned and conditioned by everything the K9 is exposed to and every moment you are interacting with your k9 or, your K9 interact with the environment he learns new behaviors. Once you learn how to condition, counter condition and use techniques to modify the bad behavior, enhance the behavior you want, and manipulate those behaviors, you will be able to do a better job, enjoy training with your dog and reduce frustrations while training. Being able to modify behavior is an art by itself and I'm confident you will feel an increase in your abilities as a K9 professional.

### **“Manipulating Canine Drives to Enhance your Dog’s Performance”**

Everyone in the dog industry and especially in the working dogs' industry is talking about the K9 “DRIVES”. Many trainers are always debating on the drives terms and what each drive really means. Knowing the drives is not enough. In this class, you will learn the theories of the drives, how to use the proper terms (proper for me) for the drives, but most importantly is to know how to manipulate those drives to improve your training and become a better K9 team. Manipulating the drives and know when, and how to create intense drives, and/or how conditioning a pause in a drive can get it to explode to levels you've never seen. Manipulating drives for bite work, Muzzle work, Detection and even tracking. If you are a dog handler or trainer for detection, Tracking or patrol, this is the class you don't want to miss.

\* If you take “Canine Behaviors & Dog's Language” class you will have a strong foundation for this class.

## **Meet Shay Maimoni**





Shay Maimoni, is the founder and Lead Trainer at Israeli Special Tactics K9 and the director of training at Woof Dogs “We Speak your Dog’s Language” and Woof Dogs-school for dog’s trainers located in Palm Beach County, Florida. Shay has over 20 years of K9 training experience, which started with the IDF (Israeli Defense Forces), Air Force. Shay had conducted hundreds of hours in research and observation of canines and analyzing their behaviors. Speaks and trained a number of countries K9 units in the subjects of, Dog’s language and Behaviors, Decoy developments, and Tactical obedience with live fire. Shay has developed a unique Muzzle Fighting system which is already being applied successfully around the world. Shay had conducted hundreds of hours in research and observation of canines and analyzing their behaviors.

## **Scott Clark**

### **K-9 Officer Down**

“Officer Down”- Two words that evoke discomfort and confusion in any officer’s mind. This is becoming a Trend in today’s world of Policing. A complex scenario has turned into an extreme challenge for the K-9 Handler and back-up officers involved. How will the deployed K-9 team handle this scene that is rapidly unfolding in front of them? This course is devised to train, educate and support both K-9 handlers and all other officers in your agency. This course will cover real life practical applications and scenarios, providing you with a better understanding of the difficulties involved in a K-9 handler down situation. In addition, this course will provide you with numerous options and strategies so that your agency can put a concrete plan in place if this were to occur in your agency. By the end of this course, handlers and officers will be more secure and prepared in the event an “Officer Down” issues arise.

### **Meet Scott Clark**

Scott Clark, Owner and Founder of High Drive K-9, has been a Police Officer for the City of Coral Springs Police Department, Broward County, Florida since January 1999. Since 2001, he has been assigned to the K-9 Unit where he currently serves as an active K-9 Handler & Head Trainer. He has been working and training patrol and detection dogs since 2002. He is a current certified State of Florida FDLE K-9 Team Instructor and FDLE K-9 Team Evaluator. In addition, Scott is the K-9 Unit Head Trainer, Multi-Jurisdictional K-9 Head Trainer, SWAT K-9 Team Leader, Trainer and SWAT K-9 Handler, Firearms Instructor, HK MP5/MP7 Instructor, Sig Rifle Instructor, and has trained numerous K-9 Teams in South Florida and Across the Country. Scott has a vast knowledge in Canine Behavior, Decoy Development, Bite Building, K-9 Tactics, K-9/SWAT Tactics and has countless K-9 & SWAT Deployments. Scott obtained his Bachelor’s



Degree (B.A.) majoring in both, Criminal Justice and Psychology, from the University of North Florida.

## Bill Lewis

**Leadership Challenges in the K9 Unit.** This presentation considers the question “Is good leadership really necessary in a K9 unit?” Sergeant Bill Lewis II (Retired) will discuss the necessity of good leadership within a K9 program and provide some suggestions for leadership development within a K9 program for both supervisors and handlers drawing on his experience in part from 9 years as a K9 supervisor and 18 years as a SWAT team leader.



**Defending Your Patrol K9 Program.** This presentation by Sergeant Bill Lewis II (Retired) provides some insight into media, administrative, and public attacks against K9 programs and ongoing attempts legislatively and otherwise to severely restrict or eliminate the use of police patrol dogs. These questions, among others, will be posed; Are your deployment outcomes and training consistent with your policy? How much time can a dog stay on a bite? When does excessive force start during a K9 bite? Are all injuries by a police dog considered serious bodily injury? Are on-leash searches safe? How can statistics help defend your program?

## Meet Bill Lewis

Bill Lewis II is a retired police sergeant and former K9 handler from the Oxnard (CA) Police Department with over 40 years of police, SWAT and K9 experience who continues to stay actively involved in the police K9 community as an instructor, author, consultant, certifying official, and expert witness. He is the author of the “Reasons We Get in Trouble” periodicals, instructor for “Canine Liability 360” and “Canine Supervision 365,” and operates the web site TacticalK9USA.com as a free online K9 resource.

## George Carbocci & Paul Sada

### Tactical Air Support for K9

This is a complete overview of the utilization of Law Enforcement Aviation Units with K-9 in everyday patrol tactics. This will include effective terminology that can be utilized to



communicate constant and crucial situational awareness from the aircrews to the handlers and other troops on the ground. It will also include an all-encompassing look into the aircrew's tasks and responsibilities to better understand how your teammates in the air are working to assist the officers on the ground. The course will cover some universal operating methods for all handlers, even if you don't have an Aviation Unit as part of your agency.

## **Meet George Carbocci**

George Carbocci began his law enforcement career in 2006 as a road patrol deputy. His eagerness to learn and proactive enforcement led him to be part of high liability units. He is currently assigned to the Broward County Sheriff's Office, Aviation Unit as a Tactical Flight Officer (TFO) and fills in as the unit OIC when needed. His duties include operating all the mission equipment on board, HRST-master duties and is also the lead trainer for the TFO's. He is also the unit's liaison to the agency SWAT Team, narcotics units and regularly meets with the canine units throughout the county.

George has been a member of the agency's V.I.P.E.R. Unit which focused on violent crime investigations to include firearms and Gangs. In addition, George was assigned to a narcotics unit, handled a narcotics detection canine, and served as a Task Force Officer with the U.S. Marshals with a focus on sexual predators / offenders.

Throughout his career, George has been awarded numerous awards and commendations, including the Gold Cross, and Life saving awards.

In his time in Aviation, George assisted in developing a training standard for new incoming TFO's and has and continues to provide training to the agency regarding the relationship between Aviation and the Patrol division.

## **Meet Paul Sada**

Paul Sada has more than 17 years of experience as a Law Enforcement Officer. He is a state certified instructor in several high-liability disciplines. Paul is regularly involved in training and tactical operations within his agency as well as other outside agencies. He is currently a Tactical Flight Officer in the Aviation Unit at the Broward Sheriff Office. His duties include operating a FLiR camera, mission coordinating, HRST-master duties, and assisting in formulating the Airborne Use of Force Program for his unit. This position requires regularly coordinating tactical response to daily missions with SWAT, K-9, Fugitive, and several units of this kind.



Paul has been a member of a Dive Rescue Team conducting several Rescue and Recovery missions. Paul has worked as operator on the Emergency Response Team and served as an Undercover Narcotics Investigator. He has been involved in many federal operations to include being a part of the Capital Asset Dignitary Protection detail with the Secret Service for POTUS and VPOTUS.

Throughout his career, Paul has received numerous awards and commendations, including the Life Saving Award, the prestigious National Sheriff's Association Medal of Valor, and certificate of appreciation from the Florida Senate, to name a few.

Paul's specialized training and professional experience has given him the veracity to help develop training curriculums for various law enforcement organizations to include participating in the development of the current statewide defensive tactics curriculum taught to all Law Enforcement Recruits in the State of Florida. As a Training Instructor in the private sector, Paul has co-hosted a variety of tactical and safety seminars for community partners, hospitals, colleges/universities, private sector organizations, and business corporations.

Stretching beyond law enforcement, his passion for training developed out of his continued thirst for knowledge. From the ballfield to the mats, Paul is a former collegiate athlete, playing NCAA baseball in New York and Miami, and has training in various martial arts disciplines, including in Jiu-Jitsu, Aikido, and Tae Kwon Do. Believing that knowledge is power, Paul's training regimen mirrors that of a "collegiate athlete" understanding the discipline required to become an "expert" in his field.

## **Blake Broadhurst**

### **High Liability K9 Deployments and Deadly Force Encounters**

This course is an advanced class for K-9 handlers that are interested in evolving their deployment skills applicable to real-world performance. The course introduces a learning strategy as well as techniques to build a structured, efficient, and safer way of conducting an active K-9 takedown of a resisting suspect. The techniques taught are based on common K-9 deployments and on deadly force encounters involving K-9 apprehensions. In this course we debrief numerous apprehension scenarios, instruct on team tactics, and develop a handler's decision making and defensive tactics skills to reduce the amount of force used by a handler which in turn decreases the use of excessive force. The course will consist of the following topics, K-9 defensive tactics, real world K-9 team takedowns, K-9 choke defense and close quarter combat techniques.



## **Meet Blake Broadhurst**

Blake Broadhurst is an active police K-9 handler and instructor for the Orlando Police Department. He has served as a police officer for 14 years, spending 12 on specialty units to include SWAT, FTO, drug interdiction team and crime suppression units. He has been involved in over 150 solo uses of force during his career, ranging from hand-to-hand combat to deadly force encounters. His defensive tactics background is in Goju Martial Arts and kick boxing. Blake holds instructor certifications in defensive tactics, basic K-9 patrol, and as a federal active shooter instructor. He also has developed multiple police training programs that focus on improving officers' tactics and decision-making processes during responses to resistance. Blake is the owner and lead instructor for Mav1 Tactics as well as the author of K-9 Tactical Team Takedowns and Choke Defense Tactics manual.

***MORE TO COME!***