

Explosives Detection Curriculum

General Outline

The handler course will be a 3-week course of training including both lectures (PowerPoint presentation) and practical instruction, based out of Tarheel Canine Training Inc. We shall cover the following topics with each handler with the goal that each handler will learn the mechanics of conducting searches with an explosives detection K9 and be able to continue to improve performance, and learn to avoid common problems encountered in maintenance of trained dogs. Remediation procedures will also be covered.

I. Introduction

- A. Demos of Trained Dogs
- B. Introduction of Dogs to Handlers
- C. Commands used:

Search for Explosives: Scan, Detail, Free Search
Check - Up High, Sit, Down, Stay, Come, Heel

II. Keeping the Training Aids & Keeping Records

- A. Contamination Issues
- B. Sterilization procedures
- C. Preparation of Training Aids
- D. Training Records

III. Scent Theory

- A. Explosives Recognition
- B. Detection Science Basics
- C. Scent Pools and Scent Cones
- D. How the dog Processes Odor
- E. Reading the dog

IV. Training Theory

- A. The multiple imprint
- B. Hide and seek game
- C. Splitting the odors
- D. Removing visual cues
- E. Removing the training aids
- F. The Alert - Aggressive
- G. The Alert - Passive
- H. The Alert – Troubleshooting
- I. Scans, Directed Searches, Free Searches
- J. Basic Obedience for Detector Dogs

V. Training & Practical Deployment

- A. Vehicles
- B. Checkpoints
- C. Random Searches at Checkpoints
- D. Tractor Trailers & Large vehicles
- E. Rooms & Buildings
- F. Warehouses (Scans)
- G. Boxes, parcels and suitcases
- H. Scenario - Based Exercises
- I. Maintenance Training Issues
- J. Remedial Training

VI. First Aid and Dog Care

VII. Legal Issues & Case Law

Training will be conducted at Tarheel Canine Training Inc. and will include the following additional locations:

- A. Training Center of Tarheel Canine: Training Room, Agility yard, Parking Lot, Dormitories
- B. Residential Houses, garages, outbuildings
- C. Sanford Police Department Vehicle Impound Lot
- D. Sanford School Bus Garage
- E. Sanford Lee County High School
- F. Various Storage warehouses in Sanford NC
- G. Emergency Services Training Center of Lee County (Formerly Lee County Airport) - Vehicles, Open Areas, Airplane hangars, Airplane Fuselages.

Raleigh-Durham Airport Maintenance Facility in conjunction with RDU Airport Police K9 Unit - Warehouses, Buses, Earth Moving equipment

[police-k9-training/k9-course-descriptions](#)