Common Dog Breeds Utilized

- German Shepherd
- Belgian Malinois
- Labrador Retriever
- Bloodhound
- Terriers (Not So Common!)
Training Practices for Law Enforcement Dogs

- Gain Dogs Trust; Confidence Courses, feeding and grooming, etc.
- Start slow and let dog tell you when he is ready to progress through training.
- Reward desired responses, withhold reward for undesired responses. (*No corporal punishment to illicit response from dog.*)
- Repetition, Repetition, Repetition!
Dogs Anatomy

Sense of Smell: At least 100 times more scent receptors than humans.

Skin Folds: Help trap scent and direct it to the nose to increase scent picture.

Jaw Pressure: Bite dogs lock onto a suspect and obtain compliance through pain and intimidation.

Size: Dog breed must fit use.
K9’s Duties

- **TRACKING**: Suspects, Lost Children, Lost Elderly (Alzheimers) Persons.
- **AREA SEARCHES**: Evidence such as guns, knives, clothing, any item with human scent.
- **DETECTION**: Wild game meat, drugs.
- **APPREHENSION**: Bite dogs.
Securing Scene and Area

- Keep Non-Essential Persons OUT!  *Once someone enters a scene, their scent is there to stay.*
- Set up command post where media may be directed to.
- Coordinate and synchronize resources.
- Offer handler relevant information such as maps, witnesses, manpower, etc.
- Understand this is essentially a continuous crime scene until advised otherwise.
Post Scene Response

- Formal debriefing if possible. Be sure to include media, mayor, municipal agency heads.
- Inform employees to as much an extent as possible so they can help answer the publics’ questions.
- What did we do well?
- Where can we improve next time?
**Conclusion**

- Timing is everything: Call handler ASAP.
- Offer support in any form possible for units on scene.
- A secure scene is a dog friendly scene.
- Meet with area K9 handlers periodically to prepare for the eventuality of a K9 search.
- *THANK YOU* all for your time, Q&A.