

**Blaine County Sheriff Search and Rescue K 9 Unit
Human Remains Detection Land
Knowledge & Performance Certification Standards**

Purpose:

To participate in a professional volunteer program involving Emergency Rescue Services for the public in a missing person context.

Policy:

Prior to being evaluated and approved as a field ready team, each individual must have fulfilled the necessary requirements as deemed by the Blaine County Sheriff Search and Rescue K-9 Unit Standard Operating Guidelines.

Levels of Certification:

Fulfilling the standards listed will qualify the team as HRD Land certified in Blaine County Search and Rescue. If a team has passed the NASAR Canine HRD evaluation, they will automatically qualify for the same Level for Blaine County Search and Rescue.

Canine Human Remains Detection Land (Other): This is a Human Remains Detection examination and certification with a material source of between 16 and 30 grams inclusive. This examination is comprised of 3 search stations. These stations are elevated, surface, and buried.

Canine Human Remains Detection Land (III): This is a Human Remains Detection examination and certification with a material source of between 5 and 14 grams inclusive. This examination consists of 4 search stations. These stations are elevated, surface, buried, and vehicles

Canine Human Remains Detection Land (IV): This is a Human Remains Detection examination and certification with a material source of between 5 and 14 grams inclusive. This examination is comprised of 3 search stations. These stations are elevated, surface, and buried.

A candidate team may test to any or all of the examinations for which they have met the prerequisite requirements. Each examination shall be conducted as a separate test. If a candidate team tests for more than one certification, each shall be evaluated independently of the other.

PRE-REQUISITES:

The handler must show proof of completion of the following courses or programs.

1. Produce training records indicating success in blind problems over a period of at least 6 months with a minimum of 12 logged training sessions during that time period.
2. Successful completion of a crime scene preservation class taught by a State or POST certified law enforcement instructor, prior to testing.
3. Successful completion of a HazMat Awareness course that meets or exceeds 29 CFR 1910 (SARA Title III) and taught by a person who meets the requirements as shown in 29 CFR 1910.
4. Successful completion of a Blood Borne Pathogens training course that meets or exceed 29 CRF 1910 and taught by a person who meets the requirements as shown in 29 CFR 1910.

Standards for Evaluation:

- There will be one or more evaluator(s). At least one of the evaluators must be independent of BCSAR K 9 Unit.
- Selection of an evaluator(s) shall be by agreement of the BCSAR K-9 Unit Commander and Sheriff's Office BCSAR Commander.
- All evaluator(s) are answerable to the BCSAR K-9 Unit and may be dismissed by same. However, all test results are final and may not be reversed by BCSAR K-9 Unit.
- Evaluator(s) will use the BCSAR K-9 Unit HRD Certification Score Sheet.

- All teams testing will be given fair and equal test situations. Teams will not test on the same day on a previously used site.
- No team with a female dog in heat will be allowed to test with other teams present.
- Any protest of the test scenario must be presented and considered prior to the test, e.g. presence of smoke, fuel or female dog in heat cycle.
- Candidate handler and canine partner will be allowed two attempts to pass each test.
- A certified team must re-test every 3 years to maintain certification.

Field Test:

Individual Practical Stations: Each search area will be equal to 40,000 square feet. (200 ft. by 200 ft.). The scent sources will be placed from 1-2 hours ahead of time. Cross tracks will be laid through the area after the scent source has been placed. Animal remains should be present in at least one of the search areas if practicable.

- Surface Station – The alert must be within 36 inches of the scent source, the handler has 30 minutes to complete this station.
- Buried Station – The scent source will be buried 6-12 inches deep with four additional blank holes dug in the search area. The handler has 30 minutes to complete this station.
- Elevated Station – The scent source will be hung 5-6 feet high, the K9 must alert within a 5-6 foot diameter area from directly below the scent source. The handler has 30 minutes to complete this station.
- Vehicle Search Station – There will be five vehicles parked in close proximity with scent source located on one vehicle. The handler has 12 minutes to complete this station.