

MPCA Trainers and Certification as Trainers

Definitions:

Trainer: He or she whom is an active member of the Missouri Police Canine Association and is qualified in teaching and administering training in one or more of the following fields:

- A. Narcotic Detection – which includes building, area, and vehicle.
- B. Tracking – which includes urban and rural tracking.
- C. Explosive Detection – which includes building, area, and vehicle.
- D. Controlled Aggression – which includes area searches, building searches and handler protection.

The Trainer will also be qualified and responsible for certifying prospective K-9 Teams in his or her field. Upon successful completion of the testing (certification), the Trainer will issue to the prospective K-9 Team a certificate which will be valid for a period of one (1) year.

Apprentice Trainer: He or she whom is an active member of the Missouri Police Canine Association and is currently in the process of certifying as a Trainer in Narcotic Detection, Tracking, Explosive Detection or Controlled Aggression.

Qualifications on becoming a Trainer:

To become eligible for trainer, the Apprentice Trainer must first be an active member of the Missouri Police Canine Association for a minimum period of two (2) years. The Apprentice Trainer must next pass the following testing and certification process for each field he or she wants to become trainer in:

1. The Apprentice Trainer will spend a minimum of eight (8) hours with three (3) different MPCA Trainers, totaling a minimum of (24) hours, conducting actual training in his or her particular field. This training can be done at seminars, annual workshops, training of new K-9 teams, maintenance training of working K-9 teams or assisting in annual certification. Each of the three (3) Trainers shall submit a written evaluation and recommendation of the Apprentice Trainer (including the total hours spent working with the Apprentice Trainer) to the President of the Missouri Police Canine Association or his / her Designee.
2. Upon successful completion of the evaluation and / or field training phase, a Written Test will be administered to the Apprentice Trainer by the President of the Missouri Police Canine Association or his / her Designee. The Apprentice Trainer must satisfactorily pass the written test.

3. Upon successful completion of the written test, the Apprentice Trainer will be administered an Oral Test by three (3) Certified MPCA Trainers (not one of the evaluating Trainers, if possible). A written recommendation shall be submitted by one of the Trainers involved in the Oral Test to the President of the Missouri Police Canine Association or his / her Designee.

The Written and Oral Tests will be administered only at the MPCA Annual Workshop. Upon successful completion of all phases, the President of the Missouri Police Canine Association or his / her Designee will chair a board consisting of all MPCA Trainers attending the particular MPCA Annual Workshop no later than the fourth (4th) day of the workshop. The meeting will be closed except for the Apprentice Trainer. The letters of evaluation / recommendations regarding the Apprentice Trainer's field training, oral test, and written test will be reviewed and discussed if needed. Upon a majority yes vote of the votes cast, the Apprentice Trainer will be certified as Trainer for the Missouri Police Canine Association.

The letters of evaluation / recommendations regarding the Apprentice Trainer's field training, oral and written tests, and minutes from the board meeting will be kept in a file by the Secretary of the Missouri Police Canine Association.

The certification / testing of trainers does not apply to current MPCA Trainers (prior to January 1, 2006). However, for those current Trainers who train in one or two particular fields and decide he / she would like to become a Trainer in another field, the Trainer would be required to complete the testing and certification in the particular field as listed above as an Apprentice Trainer. An example would be a current MPCA Narcotic Detection Trainer who would like to become a MPCA Trainer for Controlled Aggression.