

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 13-02

October 2, 2013

TO: Metropolitan Division Personnel

FROM: Commanding Officer, Metropolitan Division

SUBJECT: CANINE SEARCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

This Order addresses the K-9 Platoon's operational responsibilities for providing K-9 search announcements. The K-9 Platoon personnel are responsible for adherence to the guidelines specified within this Order. This Order amends the *Search Announcement and Warning* section of the K-9 Procedures and Guidelines Handbook.

Search Announcement and Warning

At the start of a K-9 search, the K-9 officer directing the search shall give, or cause to be given, a K-9 search announcement and warning that a K-9 will be deployed. The announcement and warning is intended to notify persons within the search area of the intent to use a K-9, to afford the suspect(s) an opportunity to surrender and to give residents an opportunity to enter their homes or businesses, or to contact an officer on the perimeter and leave the area.

Prior to initiating a search, the on-scene K-9 supervisor or K-9 officer (when no K-9 supervisor is on-scene), shall ensure that the Incident Commander is notified that the K-9 search announcement is about to be given. Once the announcement is made the K-9 supervisor or K-9 officer shall ensure a broadcast is made on the tactical frequency being utilized for the incident, to inform personnel assigned to the perimeter that the announcement has been made and a K-9 search is about to commence.

If the frequency used for the incident is a simplex frequency (not recorded), then a broadcast shall also be made on the Metropolitan Division base frequency (a recorded frequency).

NOTE: For purposes of proper context in the recording of the frequency, the location of the incident shall also be broadcast.

The K-9 supervisor or K-9 officer (when no K-9 supervisor on-scene), directing the search, shall confirm that the announcement and warning is audible and understandable throughout the contained search area. This shall be done by confirming with perimeter officers that they could hear and understand the K-9 search announcement given from either the ground or from the on-scene Air Unit.

Confirmation shall be satisfied by verification from officers on the perimeter that the announcement was heard on opposing ends of the perimeter. In the event of a building search, verification of the announcement can be made by containment personnel on the opposite side of the contained building.

NOTE: In case of a large perimeter, more than one announcement may be necessary in order to satisfy the requirement that the announcement is audible throughout the contained area.

The name of the officer broadcasting the search announcement(s) and warning, the Air Unit broadcasting (if applicable), the languages used, and the perimeter officer(s) confirming the announcement(s) shall be recorded on the K-9 Deployment Report.

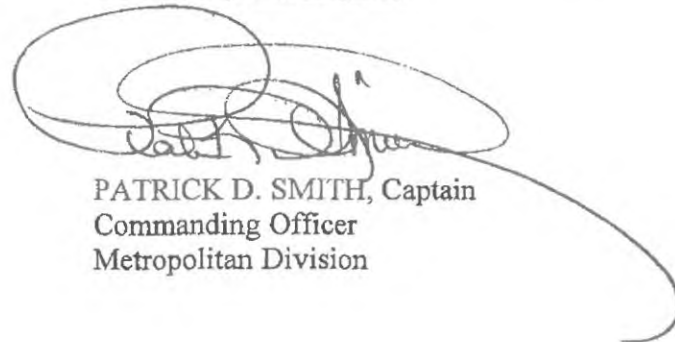
When exigent or unique circumstances make the announcement and warning unreasonable or impractical, the K-9 supervisor may, with concurrence from the Incident Commander, authorize the K-9 search without the announcement being given. The exigent or unique circumstances supporting the exception to the search announcement and warning shall be documented in the appropriate reports.

Secondary K-9 Search Announcements

In the event a K-9 search team encounters a structure within the greater boundaries of the perimeter, a secondary K-9 search announcement will be given prior to deploying the K-9 into the structure. The announcement should be made in such a manner that it would be reasonable to believe that the announcement could be heard inside the structure.

NOTE: For purposes of compliance to a secondary search announcement, a structure is defined as any permanent or temporary structure that an officer would reasonably believe to be inhabited by a person(s).

In the event it would not be practical or tactically feasible to conduct the secondary K-9 search announcement, the lead K-9 officer coordinating the search shall notify the K-9 supervisor and the Incident Commander as soon as practical. The exigent or unique circumstances supporting the exception to the secondary search announcement and warning shall be documented in the K-9 Deployment Report.



PATRICK D. SMITH, Captain
Commanding Officer
Metropolitan Division