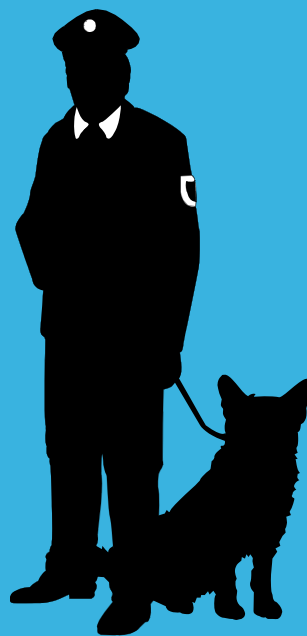




# 10 STEPS TO K9 INTEGRATION

PRESENTED BY SERGEANT BILL LEWIS II (RETIRED)  
TRAINING AND CONSULTING TEAM, LLC



## STEP 1

# Team commitment

**“Is this something we  
really want to do?”**

**“Is this something we are  
committed to achieve?”**

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## STEP 2

# Administrative support and a commitment by SWAT Command & Team Leaders

- Must fully understand and accept their roles and responsibilities.
- Liability: SWAT supervisors become “K9 supervisors” when a K9 team is deployed under their supervision during a tactical operation or trains with the tactical team.

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## STEP 3

# SOP's Operational Guidelines Training Plan

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## STEP 4

# Selection process

Who do you pick? Do you have a say?

- Handler(s)
  - Team player / PFQ / Peer input
  - Ability to control the dog
- Dog(s)
- Trainer(s) and/or Instructor(s)

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## STEP 5 – EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS

**CA POST & NTOA recommend  
basic safety equipment for  
handlers deploying with SWAT  
recommended. [SAME!]**

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## STEP 6

# Welcome to the team!

- Explain team goal for integration
- Explain integration process
- Introduce K9 team(s)

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## STEP 7

# K9 team orientation

- Discuss the liabilities and risks associated with deploying a police dog in a tactical operation
- How dogs work; nose, ears & eyes
- A demo; observe dog(s) work and begin to learn how they will best serve the team
- Sociability and familiarization drills

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## STEP 8

# Training

“If you don’t train together,  
don’t deploy together!”



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## STEP 9

# Deployments

Where teamwork and training are put to the real test.

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## STEP 10

# Debriefs

- Operational
- Training

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