



February 22, 2016

K9s4COPS INC.

501 (C)(3) Non-Profit
TIN 27-8659405

To Whom This May Concern,

On behalf of K9s4cops, we would like to congratulate Hidalgo Sheriff's office's grant for a canine. Your canine handler and trainer may now schedule a viewing and selection of canines at our vendor Houston K9 Academy.

I have included the contact for the owners Jason and Yasmin "Jaz" Stanze below.

Once your canine has been selected, please forward all appropriate grant paperwork to K9s4cops.

Welcome Aboard!

Sincerely,


Kristi Schiller
Founder/Chairman

K9 Academy
6321 Bissonnet Street
Houston, Texas 77074
281.841.3579

Send paperwork to: Chris@K9s4COPS.org



HIDALGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SHERIFF J.E. "EDDIE" GUERRA

February 17, 2016

K9s4COPs
5858 Westhelmer, Sulte 700
Houston, TX 77057

Re: Acceptance of GrantK9s4COPs:

In accepting a Grant from K9s4COPs, we agree to receive a police service dog from your grant only for the purposes for which the grant was made and in accordance with Section 501(c)(3), Section 4945 and other applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. We also accept and agree to the conditions of your K9s4COPs Grant Terms and Condition, a copy of which is attached to this letter.

We agree to provide you with progress reports of information as often as required, either by K9s4COPs or under the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, with respect to any grant made by K9s4COPs to this organization. K9s4COPs may have full and complete access to our files and financial records relating to the grant and/or our tax status. We also agree to notify you of any changes in our tax status before or during the period the grant is being used.

We understand that grants made to us by K9s4COPs may be discontinued, modified, or withheld, if, in K9s4COPs sole judgment such action is necessary to comply with the requirements of the K9s4COPs Grant Terms and Conditions and law.

An authorized official of this organization signs this acceptance of the Grant Terms and Conditions, including but not limited to the indemnification provisions. An authorized official is an official with my organization who has authority to legally bind the organization. We have also completed the attached organization contact information form to expedite the delivery of the grant.

Very truly yours,


J.E. "Eddie" Guerra, Sheriff
Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office



HIDALGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SHERIFF J.E. "EDDIE" GUERRA

February 17, 2016

K9s4COPs
5858 Westhelmer, Suite 700
Houston, TX 77057

I am writing this letter to support my organization's grant application to receive a police service dog(s) from the K9s4COPs foundation.

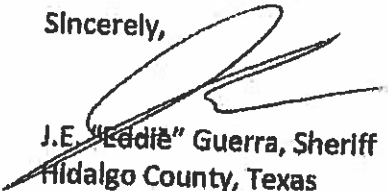
I certify that our organization's grant application has been presented to me and that I am satisfied the statements contained therein are true and correct.

Our organization can provide for the financial expenses of a police service dog(s) and has the equipment and experience necessary for the support and maintenance of our granted dog(s).

I give the proposed K9s4COPs grant application for a police service dog(s) my fullest support. I sign this letter as an authorized official with the authority to represent my organization and accept liability for all representations made herein.

Please contact me at (956) 383-8114 if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,


J.E. "Eddie" Guerra, Sheriff
Hidalgo County, Texas
Hidalgo County Sheriffs Office

JEG/rs



The Application Process

This application is a request for a police service dog that is brought before our Executive Board for consideration. This application process does not guarantee a police service dog will be placed with your organization. We take great care in our selection process to ensure the grant of a police service dog is being placed with an agency that has the financial capability to care of the police service dog and has the experience necessary to utilize this highly trained asset to the greatest extent possible.

K9s4COPs will follow up with your organization by email or phone for additional information and/or documentation to better evaluate your request.

Please complete the application and attach any letters or additional information you deem necessary to support your request to the email or address listed below.

Email: Info@K9s4COPs.org
Mail: K9s4COPs Inc.,
5858 Westheimer, Suite 700
Houston, TX 77057
Phone: 713-523-2677

All completed applications will be submitted for consideration to the Executive Board. K9s are granted on a quarterly basis. If your agency is chosen as a grant recipient, K9s4COPs will contact you and advise the next step in the process. If your department is not selected as a grant recipient, your application will remain on file for 18 months. After 18 months, we ask that you submit another application with up to date information.

For more details please check out the Grant Criteria page.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION:

Organization Name: Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office

Street Address: 711 East El Cibolo Road
City, State and Zip: Edinburg, Texas 78539
County: Hidalgo County

Primary Contact for Questions on this Application: Sr. Deputy Javier Solis

Daytime Phone: 956-222-9417 E-mail Address: Javier.Solis@hidaigoso.org



Section 1 Law Enforcement Agency and Community

The following questions help our organization understand the agency and community requesting a POLICE SERVICE DOG (K-9).

- 1.) Which law enforcement agency is requesting a POLICE SERVICE DOG (K9)?
Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office
- 2.) What is the name of the city or county making the request?
Hidalgo County Texas
- 3.) What is the population of the city, and/or county you will be patrolling?
815,996 (2013 census)
- 4.) What are the square miles of the city and/or county you will be patrolling?
Total square miles 1,583
- 5.) Is there a POLICE SERVICE DOG (K9) unit in your law enforcement agency?
Yes
 - A. If so, how long has the unit been operational?
Our current canine unit has been active since 2005
- 6.) Is this request for a POLICE SERVICE DOG to launch a POLICE SERVICE DOG (K9) unit in your agency?
No. The request for a police service dog is being made to fill in a vacancy for a recently deceased police dog.
 - A. If so, does anyone with the agency have any past experience with K9 in law enforcement? Or where do you plan on receiving your initial training?

Our agency does have a certified police canine trainer who is a national certifying official for the National Narcotic Detector Dog Association. The initial training for this dog will be with the Harris County Sheriff's Office Academy.
- 7.) What is the size of your law enforcement agency?
300 deputies (Approx. 100 assigned to patrol), 500 Detention Officers and about 100 civilian staff.
- 8.) How many POLICE SERVICE DOG (K9) officers in your unit?
Currently we have 7 dual purpose certified handlers and 1 single purpose certified handler.
- 9.) How many POLICE SERVICE DOG (K9) officers have dogs?
Currently only 7 of our 8 handlers have a police canine.
- 10.) What is the time frame dictating the need of the POLICE SERVICE DOG?
We need to replace our fallen canine as soon as possible.



11.) Are there any neighboring agencies with POLICE SERVICE DOG (K9) units? If so what is the distance?

Several of the municipalities within our county do have canine units and most of the distance is within a 20 mile range.

12.) If you have a K9 unit, how much training time is allotted per month to train?

Currently our canine unit is allotted a weekly 10 hour day to train which allows 40 hours a month for training. They are also given one 40 hour week once a year for advanced training and problem solving.

13.) Will your department provide a letter of support to K9s4COPS, outlining what they will provide for the K9 and the handler? For example food, housing for dog, vehicle equipment, training, or training time for the handler. Please submit with application.

Yes. Currently our agency already provides the above mentioned for every canine team.

14.) Has a POLICE SERVICE DOG (K9) ever died in your department for any other reason than in the line of duty or health or age?

One police service dog did manage to escape from a home kennel and was subsequently killed by traffic. As a result, an investigation was conducted which found no wrong doing by the handler and the incident was classified as an accident. No other police dog has ever died from unnatural or job related causes.

15.) Has your department raised funds for your K9 Unit? If so, how much?

No. Our police canine program has a yearly budget of approximately \$11,500 dollars.

16.) Would your department be willing to participate or put on your own fundraiser for K9s4COPS?

Yes



Section 2 Type of POLICE SERVICE DOG (K-9) Being Requested

We do not train K9s or accept dogs as donations. We do require award recipients to use our kennel(s) of choice when selecting their K9. Our kennel(s) of choice are able to provide a broad selection of K9s for our clients. Training will be through our kennel(s) of choice or through an approved provider, which has been vetted by members of our Advisory Board and approved by the Executive Board. We go through lengthy measures to ensure that recipients are satisfied with their K9 selections and they receive all necessary documentation including K9 health check-ups, required certifications and K9 passports.

All award recipients are required to make arrangements to obtain their K9 and complete the required training within 90 (ninety) days notification of award, otherwise the recipient will forfeit their award.

Although most agencies request dogs titled Single or Dual purpose dogs, to avoid confusion we have listed the different disciplines of training received through certification of credible vendors. Please keep in mind that this process is about selecting the right dog for the right job. One dog cannot do everything so please consider the basic needs of your community when selecting the training of your dog.

Definitions:

A Single purpose dog is trained in one of the following disciplines:

1. Green Dog (untrained)
2. Imprinted with Scents
3. Patrol – trained in handler protection
4. Human odor, which is the ability to search missing people or suspects
5. Narcotics Detection
6. Explosives and Bomb Detection
7. Cadaver
8. Search and Rescue
9. Arson – Accelerant detection

A Dual purpose dog is trained in more than one discipline and they are the following:

1. Patrol and Narcotics
2. Patrol and Explosives

Please Make Selection of Specific Needs for Your Community

1. What discipline type of SINGLE purpose dog are you requesting? Please choose one:
 - a. Patrol – may be trained in handler protection, or in human odor, which is the ability to search for people, missing, or suspects
 - b. Narcotics Detection
 - c. Explosives and Bomb Detection
 - d. Cadaver
 - e. Arson – Accelerant detection
 - f. Other (please explain)



2. What discipline type of DUAL purpose dog are you requesting? Please choose one.
 - a. Patrol and Narcotics
 - b. Patrol and Explosives
 - c. Other (please explain)
3. Is your organization requesting assistance with the purchase of a green dog and your certified in-house trainer will do the training? If so, and there is a trainer with your agency. Please list experience and qualifications.

No. Our handler will be attending the Harris County Sheriff's Office Academy

4. Are you requesting more than one (1) dog? If so, please list the disciplines each dog must have. NO
5. Does your organization have a preference for a particular breed? Explain the reason for the particular breed.

We prefer Belgian malinois, dutch shepherds, or german shepherds due to their agility and drive for the type of work required. Our terrain requires an agile dog with speed, and endurance due to the unique weather associated with South Texas.

6. Do you have a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) or mandatory certification that the dog must have?
 - a. If yes, please specify:
 - b. If no, K9s4COPs recommends NNDDA (<http://www.nndda.org/>) certification. Is that acceptable?

Our canine program adheres to the standards set forth by the N.N.D.D.A.

7. Do you have a medical and welfare system set up for patrol dogs?

Yes. Our current contracted vet service is Four Paws Animal Hospital in Edinburg, Texas under Dr. Justin Cerell, D.V.M.
8. Does your organization provide for the financial expenses of patrol dog maintenance? If so, please explain.

Yes. Our canine program has a yearly budget of about \$11,500 dollars. Everything required to keep the health and maintenance of our police dogs is provided to the handlers at the expense of the agency and county. This includes food, vet services, medications, equipment, training, and other associated expenses.



9. Do you have equipment necessary for maintenance of the dog (i.e. leashes, collars, harnesses, crate, a built in cage for the car, heat alarm, etc.)?

Yes. Police Dog equipment is purchased and replaced yearly and as needed due to wear and tear. Every vehicle has a professional canine insert installed and currently 3 vehicles have heat monitoring systems.

Section 3 Handlers and Trainers

Because we take great care in placing our POLICE SERVICE DOGS (K9) with qualified organizations, we want to ensure they will be cared for by experience certified handlers. Please tell us about your POLICE SERVICE DOG (K9) handler's certifications and POLICE SERVICE DOG (K9) experience.

- 1.) How many years of law enforcement service does the handler possess?

15 years

- 2.) How many years of POLICE SERVICE DOG (K9) Unit service?

7 years

- 3.) What training or certifications does the handler hold?

Narcotic Detector Dog Handler Course, Patrol Service Dog Handler Course, Tracking Handler, S.W.A.T. Operator, Crisis Intervention, Tactical Patrol, TACDOG Course.

- 4.) What type of POLICE SERVICE DOG (K9) handler program re-certifications do you attend?

All our handlers attend a yearly 40 hour TCOLE approved in-house course along with a yearly recertification course through the National Narcotic Detector Dog Association.

- 5.) What experience does the handler have working a dog on the street?

The selected handler has worked on patrol for the last 7 years assisting in various aspects of police canine work to include tracking and apprehension of criminals, assisting our narcotic unit with detection of drugs, highway criminal interdiction, and assisting various federal police agencies such as DEA, FBI, and U.S. Marshal Service.

- 6.) What type of dog has the handler worked with [single, dual, cadaver, etc.]?

The handler had been working with his canine partner who was a dual trained police dog certified in patrol, narcotic detection, tracking, and evidence recovery for the past 7 years.



- 7.) There is also the need for maintenance or sustainment training. Please explain how your organization will provide for this continued training?

Our agency has a certified police canine trainer who is responsible for the weekly training of all police canine teams within the agency. A ten hour day is designated weekly for every canine team to attend allowing all teams to have 40 hours a month designated specifically for canine training. The canine trainer is responsible to ensure that all teams are in compliance with the standards set forth in our policy and procedure canine manual. All training is under the direction of the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Training Academy who is an accredited facility recognized under the Texas Commission of Law Enforcement. (TCOLE)

If there is more than one handler, please use the following space to explain.

There will only be one handler designated to handle the police dog.

Section 4 About Your Organization

Please provide any additional details you believe would assist K9s4COPs in understanding your agency's need for patrol dogs.

Our county is located directly on the border between the United States and Mexico. Our county houses one of the most utilized drug corridors which Mexican cartels are constantly fighting to control. Over the past several years our county has been witness to the violence and bloodshed which is a direct result of the cartel wars in Mexico. Several of our communities sit directly on the Rio Grande River between the Mexican and U.S. border. Our agency has been at the forefront of an ongoing battle to help protect and secure our borders. Our police canine units have been instrumental in helping fight this ongoing war on crime. Our canine unit assists several municipalities who do not have police canines. We also assist federal police agencies such as the D.E.A., F.B.I., and Homeland Security.

**K9s4COPs Grant Agreement
Contact Information Form**

Please complete this form and turn in with your signed Grant Agreement.

1. Authorizing Official – Individual with the organization that has authority to legally bind the organization.

Name: Ramón García, County Judge

Street Address: 100 E. Cano St. 2nd Floor

City: State: Edinburg, Texas **Zip:** 78539

Daytime Phone: 956-318-2600

Cell Phone: 956-318-2600

E-mail Address: countyjudge@co.hidalgo.tx.us

2. Highest of Level of Command (If not Authorizing Official) – Individual who is commander of the law enforcement agency.

Name: J.E. "Eddie" Guerra, Sheriff

Street Address: 711 E. El Cíbolo Road

City: State: Edinburg, Texas **Zip:** 78542

Daytime Phone: 956-383-8114

Cell Phone: 956-383-8114

E-mail Address: Sheriff.guerra@hidalgo.org

3. Public Relations Officer – Individual who will be executing any media requests.

Name: JP Rodríguez, Sergeant

Street Address: 711 E. El Cíbolo Road

City: State: Edinburg, Texas **Zip:** 78542

Daytime Phone: 956-289-0452

Cell Phone: 956-289-0452

E-mail Address: josep1.rodriguez@hidalgo.org

4. Point of Future Contact – Individual who will be completing semi-annual reports.

Name: Frank Guerrero, Lieutenant

Street Address: 711 E. El Cíbolo Road

City: State: Edinburg, Texas **Zip:** 78542

Daytime Phone: 956-383-8114

Cell Phone: 956-793-4807

E-mail Address: frank.guerrero@hidalgo.org

K9s4COPs Grant Agreement Terms and Conditions

The grants made by K9s4COPs may be discontinued, modified, or withheld, if, in the sole discretion of K9s4COPs such action is necessary to comply with the requirements of the K9s4COPs Grant Terms and Conditions, necessary to comply with federal, state, or local laws, or it is in the best interest of the police service dog.

This grant and notice of approval are also subject to your performance of the following terms and conditions:

1. Arrangements to select and pick up K9 from a K9s4COPs approved vendor must be made by the following K9s4COPs Roll Call or the department forfeits the grant.
2. Report will be submitted to K9s4COPs annually, stating the current health of the police service dogs granted including veterinary records.
3. Report will be submitted to K9s4COPs semi-annually, stating what is being accomplished in the community/school district by the police service dog granted.
4. Report will be submitted to K9s4COPs with the current name of handler and if there is ever a change in the handler.
5. Your organization consents that representatives of K9s4COPs may have access to your files and records for the purpose of auditing health verifications, safe vehicle transport and investigations as it deems necessary with reference to the police service dogs granted.
6. K9s4COPs may, at its expense, monitor and conduct an evaluation of operations, safe transport retrofitted with a proactive environmental and temperature management and alarm system.
7. Your organization shall immediately give written notice to K9s4COPs if your organization ceases to be exempt from Federal income taxes under the provisions of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or if the purpose and mission of your organization substantially changes.
8. By making this grant, K9s4COPs assumes no financial or legal obligation to provide future or continuing support to your organization.

9. Your organization agrees to assume all liability for all acts of the service dog, as permitted by state law. Further, your organization hereby releases and agrees to release, defend, indemnify, and hold K9s4Cops, Inc. and its employees, officers, directors, agents, representatives and volunteers ("Indemnified Parties") harmless from and against all claims, demands, causes of action, suits, damages, liabilities, losses, and expenses including court costs and reasonable attorney's fees, and all loss, damage, personal injury, or death resulting to K9s4Cops, Inc., its employees, officers, directors, agents, representatives and volunteers, and any third parties, arising out of or in connection with the activities to be undertaken by the service dog for the benefit of your organization. THIS INDEMNITY, RELEASE, AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT APPLIES REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE CLAIM, DEMAND, LOSS, INJURY OR LIABILITY IS CAUSED, IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY AN INDEMNIFIED PARTY, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION CLAIMS ARISING OUT OF OR RESULTING, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, FROM THE INDEMNIFIED PARTY'S SOLE, JOINT, COMPARATIVE OR CONCURRENT NEGLIGENCE, STRICT LIABILITY, OR FAULT, BUT NOT GROSS NEGLIGENCE OR WILLFUL MISCONDUCT. THE PARTIES ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS STATEMENT COMPLIES WITH THE EXPRESS NEGLIGENCE RULE AND IS CONSPICUOUS.

10. In the event that K9s4COPs wishes to issue a news release concerning the grant, a copy of the proposed release will be submitted to your organization prior to the release.

11. Police service dogs granted shall be returned to K9s4COPs under the following circumstances:

- a. in the event that your organization loses its tax-exempt status under Federal tax laws or substantially changes its purpose and mission.
- b. If your organization fails to comply with any portion of the conditions here within agreed upon, police service dogs granted shall be returned to K9s4COPs.

The foregoing terms and conditions are intended to help us satisfy the requirements of the Tax Reform and Relief Act of 1969. Revision of these terms may be necessitated from time to time to meet the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, regulations or tax rulings, or other requirements of law.

February 23, 2016

Ramon Garcia, County Judge
County of Hidalgo
Hidalgo County, Texas