

To: Constable Atanacio "J.R." Gaitan

From: Deputy Constable Javier Solis

Date: 2-23-22

Reference: Police Cadaver Dog Donation

Greetings Constable Gaitan,

I am writing to inform you that I wish to donate a police canine to the Hidalgo County Constable PCT 4 Office for the utilization of human remains detection. These dogs are commonly known in the law enforcement profession as "cadaver dogs". These dogs are utilized by law enforcement agencies as a means to gather evidence and develop probable cause in homicide investigations, during the investigation of missing individuals, and most recently during recovery efforts post natural disasters such as major floods and hurricanes.

Our region in South Texas does not have a "cadaver dog" within any local, county, or state agency south of Austin, Texas. Most agencies in our region have to rely on the assistance of the United States Border Patrol, which only has one cadaver dog, or hire private companies whenever these situations arise. I want to donate a police canine to Hidalgo County Constable Office PCT 4 so that our agency may be able to provide this service to our region.

The canine is a 6 year old male Belgian Malinois named Kalix. The dog is certified to locate the odors of human remains both above and underground and under partial water submersion. He is trained to detect the odors of human blood both old and new, human bone, human decomposition tissue, and human decomposition fluid. The canine has a fair market value between six to ten thousand dollars.

I am willing to donate this dog to your office and to Hidalgo County without any expectation of remuneration or compensation. The only thing I ask is that the dog be returned to me in case of injury, retirement, or any separation of myself from employment with Hidalgo County and that I be the designated handler for Canine Kalix upon his commission being activated as an official law enforcement canine for Hidalgo County Constable Office PCT 4.

Cadaver dogs not only help with investigations but they bring a much more humanitarian aspect to law enforcement which is bringing closure to families of victims. I look forward to helping you bring this service not only to Hidalgo County but to all of South Texas.

Respectfully,


Deputy Constable Javier Solis #421

CC Chief Deputy Horaldo Sanchez