



Background

WCSO K9 was first established in 1998, when the WCSO purchased three dual-purpose K9s. Today, the WCSO K-9 Unit has six Law Enforcement (6) dual-purpose and Corrections (1) single-purpose, nationally certified teams. The WCSO K-9 Unit has maintained the national certifying standards established by National Narcotic Detector Dog Association (NNDDA) for all disciplines. They go through hundreds of hours of extensive training to assure they are prepared for duty.

Mission

Our K9 teams help our patrol and corrections divisions by being a force multiplier. They work to ensure the safety and security of the jail by making sure contraband doesn't get into the facility. The WCSO K9 unit acts as a force multiplier for our patrol units in an effort to keep our public safe. Our K9s are trained and skilled locating tools. They put these skills to work to detect and locate any narcotics or evidence that has been discarded or hidden. They are used to track and locate missing or endangered children or elderly persons as well as the location and apprehension of suspects. Numerous agencies within Williamson County, including the United States Marshall's Task Force, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) have grown to rely on the skills of the WCSO canines. They also play a large role in our community engagement program by attending events so that the public can learn about how these service animals serve their community every day.

K-9 & HANDLER COSTS - INITIAL, RECURRING, AND REPLACEMENT

Initial Costs

Police Service Dog	\$	14,600
Vehicle K-9 Insert		8,932
Cost of K-9/Handler Equipment:		965
Dog Kennel/Dog House		990
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TOTAL	\$	25,487

Recurring Costs - Estimated - (6 - LE K9 & 1 - Corrections)

Average Annual Cost for handler/K9s for training	\$	15,000
Cost of Dog Food		5,460
Veterinary Cost including preventive		10,745
Tick Defender/Bathing supplies		1,544
Cost of K-9/Handler Equipment:		3,199
"Hot Dog" System (Data)	\$180 ea	1,080
Memberships/Certifications		3,620
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Boarding	\$38 a night	as needed
K-9 Ballistic Vest - Life span 5 yrs	\$1,200 ea	as needed
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TOTAL	\$	40,648

Cost per dog - \$5,806.86

Disclaimer: The above cost are an estimate based on Historical Data