



C RIMINALISTICS

E XCELLANCE AWARDS©



In recognition of Outstanding Performance in the Detection and Prevention of Crime

2005 FIRST QUARTER PATROL Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

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| Region 1 | Deputy Tim Taylor & K9 Awny Escambia County FL |
| Region 3 | Master Patrol Officer Kevin Jennings & K9 Draco Prince William County PD VA |
| Region 5 | Office John Neal & K9 Maximus Cincinnati PD OH |
| Region 6 | Officer Ed Foga & K9 Rocco Willingboro Township PD NJ |
| Region 7 | Officer Joseph Caputo & K9 Atlas New York PD NY |
| Region 9 | Officer Ben Noyes & K9 Justice Portland PD ME |
| Region 12 | Deputy Ed Picht & K9 Buck Wright County SO MN |
| Region 13 | Deputy Troy Simmons & K9 Dodger Shelby County SO TN |
| Region 14 | Deputy Jonathan Post & K9 Rainbow Pueblo County SO CO |
| Region 15 | Officer Les Lorene & K9 General / Officer Dave Donow & K9 Kato Bergen County PD NJ |
| Region 16 | Officer Joe Dobbs & Grinch St Louis Metro PD St Louis MO |
| Region 18 | Officer Brady Harrison & K9 Justice St Paul PD MN |
| Region 19 | Sergeant Scott Sanderson & K9 Rex Kalamazoo Public Safety MI |
| Region 20 | Officer Ted Hirsch & K9 Dan Famers Branch PD TX |
| Region 22 | Officer Jon Ware & K9 Drago Huntsville PD AL |
| Region 24 | Officer Jay Klausner & K9 Ronnie Lansing PD IL |
| District 2 | Sergeant G. Ernst & K9 Bruno / APO J. Groover & K9 Nero Savannah- Chatham PD GA |

PATROL CASE OF THE QUARTER Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

Region 5 John Neal & K9 Maximus Cincinnati PD OH

On February 5, 2006 at approximately 3:00 AM Officer John Neal and K9 Maximus responded to a holdup panic alarm at a four family apartment building on the east side of Cincinnati Ohio. Officer Neal and another officer entered the common hallway and knocked on the apartment door. Getting no reply the officers knocked again and could hear the sound of breaking glass. Officer Neal responded outside where he observed two subjects dash into the woods. The apartment's resident yelled out the window that he had just been robbed and the suspects were armed with guns. Officer Neal requested officers set up a perimeter and he and K9 Maximus started a track that preceded down the hill the suspects were last seen. K9 Maximus located a black hat and continued on through the woods crossing a railroad track. The track was leading the team east along the railroad tracks and turned back into the woods crossing a creek. The team continued on the track going back up the hill through the woods and lead to the rear of an 18 unit apartment parking lot. The parking lot was enclosed with a 7 foot fence but K9 Maximus continued to a section that had been broken down and jumped over the damaged fence still tracking now through the parking lot. The track was leading to the side of the large apartment house where K9 Maximus located a black ski mask. K9 Maximus still tracking lead straight to the common front door to the building trying to push the door open with his nose. Officer Neal open the door for his partner who continued tracking down the hallway, down some stairs to the basement apartments and directly to the three apartment doors and set up on the center door trying again to push this door open. Back up officers knocked on the door but got no reply and found the door locked. On investigating it was found that this was a vacant apartment and was to be left unlocked. Officers requested the key holder and the manager responded. Officer Neal unlocked the door and gave a K9 warning where upon a voice was heard " officer we're in here please don't let that dog go" the two suspect were ordered out and secured by the back up officers.

The suspects were taken into custody and secured in the police vehicle. Officer Neal and Maximus returned to where the ski mask was located and K9 Maximus was deployed on an evidence search. K9 Maximus air scenting jumping onto a four foot stone wall and began scratching at the base of a flower pot. Officer Neal lifting the pot located a chrome .32 caliber revolver. The two suspects were later positively identified by the victims and both suspects signed written confessions. Suspects are awaiting trial on charges of Aggravated Burglary & Aggravated Robbery.

2005 FIRST QUARTER DETECTOR Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

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| Region 1 | Officer Harry Barraclough & K9 Quintus Pensacola PD FL |
| Region 2 | Officer James Anthony & K9 Hooch Wilson PD NC |
| Region 3 | Deputy 1 st . Class Jeremy Mothershed & K9 Niko Harford County SO MD |
| Region 5 | Deputy Gerald Bemis & K9 Kain Montgomery County SO OH |
| Region 6 | Officer Kenneth Crockett & K9 Max Philadelphia PD PA |
| Region 7 | Officer Joseph Chorba & K9 Hudson Poughkeepsie PD NY |
| Region 9 | Chief Shawn C. Bernier & K9 Louey New Durham PD NH |
| Region 12 | Detective Mark Meyer & K9 Minde Airport PD Minneapolis / St Paul MN |
| Region 13 | Agent Tim Hawn & K9 Barko and Agent Shane Fisher & K9 Heidi Judicial District 21 Drug Task Force TN |
| Region 16 | Officer Mike Werges & K9 Riki Eureka PD MO |
| Region 19 | Officer John Walker & K9 Haro Livonia PD MI |
| Region 20 | Officer Bill Spence & K9 Oscar New Braunfels PD |
| Region 22 | Officer Cory Upton & K9 Cannon Huntsville PD AL |
| Region 24 | Officer Dan Drzymkowski & K9 Brutus Orland Park PD IL |

2005 FIRST QUARTER DETECTOR Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

Region 12 Detective Mark Meyer & K9 Minde Minneapolis / St Paul Airport PD MN

On January 12, 2005 at about 07:00 while working a Federal Express inbound parcel sort my attention was drawn to a suspicious package coming from Yuba, CA. The 17 lb package was placed with several other packages in a work station about 30 feet from the conveyor belt. I then brought K9 Minde into the work area and command her to search where upon she began to search the work area and packages. Upon checking the suspicious package K9 Minde gave her trained final response and sat at the package indicating a positive response to the odor of illicit narcotics emitting from it.

Obtaining a search warrant the package was opened and found to contain a second box wrapped with birthday gift wrapping. Inside this box was a third box containing a new pair of leather boots. On investigating the boots each was found to contain a total of four shirk wrapped bags of what appeared to be some kind of red cooking seasoning over a white substance. The bags were removed to the airport police office and tested. The four bags contained paprika and six pounds of crystal methamphetamine.

A controlled delivery for the package was now developed with the DEA, Anoka and Hennepin Drug Taskforce and the Airport Narcotics unit all playing a part. On surveillance officers observed a white female exit the targeted address with a box placing it into the truck of a Pontiac. This female left in the vehicle but turned back when the Federal Express truck passed her. The female now took delivery of the package signing for it in the drive way. The female again left and a controlled stop was conducted and a warrant obtained for the vehicle where another box of 6 lbs. of crystal meth was recovered.

Further investigation lead to a second female.

The recovered packages of methamphetamine were linked with a 5 lb. package of crystal meth that Detective Meyer and K9 Minde recovered in the summer of 2004. To date 10 suspects have been indicted in these two cases with more to come.

K9 Minde 10 - Bad Guys 0.

2005 SECOND QUARTER PATROL Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

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| Region 1 | Sergeant Ed Cook & K9 Eyko Leon County SO Florida |
| Region 2 | Mark Chappell & K9 Goldon North Carolina |
| Region 3 | Deputy 1st Class Bart Ruppenthal & K9 Bayco Frederick County SO MD |
| Region 5 | Sergeant Eric Bowling & K9 Rocky Lexington Metro PD KY |
| Region 6 | Officer Harry Vitello & K9 Aston Montgomery Township PD PA |
| Region 7 | Officer Joseph Chorba & K9 Hudson Poughkeepsie PD NY |
| Region 9 | Chief Shawn C. Bernier & K9 Louey New Durham PD NH |
| Region 10 | Deputy Brandon Ashford & K9 Harry Livingston Parish SO LA |
| Region 12 | Deputy Ed Picht & K9 Buck Wright County SO Minnesota |
| Region 14 | Officer Dan Ranous & K9 Riggs Evans County PD Colorado |
| Region 16 | Officer Dan Wunder & K9 Danny O'Fallon PD Illinois |
| Region 17 | Police Constable Cormack Smith & PSD Argo London Ont Canada |
| Region 18 | Officer Stan Belde & K9 Jagr Maplewood PD MN |
| Region 20 | Officer Ted Hirsch & K9 Dan Farmers Branch PD Texas |
| Region 22 | Officer Tommy Meeks & K9 Drako Chattanooga PD TN |
| Region 26 | Deputy Ken Sullivan & K9 Lucy Rankin County SO MS |

TOP PATROL CASE OF THE SECOND QUARTER Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

Region 18 Officer Stan Belde & K9 Jagr Maplewood PD MN

On June 14th 2005 Officer Stand Belde & K9 Jagr responded to assist in the search for a suspect who was armed with a compound bow and had pointed it at an occupant of a vehicle and then proceeded to smash out the vehicles windows.

The first responding officers had searched and recovered two guns and a compound bow from the suspects' home and were informed the suspect had fled out the back door prior to the K-9 teams' arrival.

The K-9 team and a back up officer began to deploy and issued a K-9 warning before they started their search at the back of the home where suspect was last observed. The area led into a large adjacent park and wooded area. The area was sealed off by perimeter officers who had witnessed the suspect fleeing when he attempted to evade the perimeter established. Perimeter officers report several sightings of the suspect, failing to stop, suspect continuing going deeper into the wooded area to avoid capture. The K9 team now on the track and eagerly pursuing the scent arrived at a pond. K9 Jagr entered the pond and could be observed with his head held high air scenting intently indicating that the suspect was near. Once the team got to the south side of the pond K9 Jagr began barking at heavy underbrush. Officer Belde gave another K9 announcement and waited for the suspect to surrender but suspect failed to respond. K9 Jagr was released and disappeared into the heavy underbrush and a struggle could be heard. Officer Belde again announced for the suspect to come out of concealment but only heard a splashing gurgling sound. Officer Belde fearing his partner was in trouble responded and found K9 Jagr had apprehended the suspect by his left shoulder. The suspect apparently waded back into the water and was now holding the K9 Jagr's head under water. Officer Belde jumped into the water and engaged the suspect and was able to free his partner. The suspect still resisting arrest grabbed K9 Jagr again forcing his head under water. The fight continued and K9 Jagr again took the suspect by his forearm and together Officer Belde and K9 Jagr were able to over power and handcuff the suspect.

The search had taken 90 minutes and was a continuing moving problem as the suspect continued moving into the heavy wooded area.

The area was contained by perimeter officers, the suspect ignoring several warnings that area was surrounded and a K9 would be deployed.

The 2005 Criminalistics Excellence Award™ is presented to Officer Stand Belde & K9 Jagr for their action that resulted in successfully neutralizing what could have been a tragic incident.

2005 SECOND QUARTER DETECTOR Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

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| Region 1 | Deputy Kristin Pond & K9 Laser Okaloosa County SO FL |
| Region 2 | Officer Scott Hendren & K9 Kojack Burlington PD NC |
| Region 3 | Deputy 1 st . Class Chris Gibbons & K9 Spencer Harford County SO M |

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| Region 7 | Detective Brian Gallagher & K9 Odin New York City PD NY |
| Region 9 | Warden Mark Merrifield & K9 Aspen Maine Warden Service Maine |
| Region 10 | Deputy Christopher Bane & K9 Scooby Caddo Parish SO LA |
| Region 12 | Deputy Carrie Donazski & K9 Grissom Hennepin County SO Minnesota |
| Region 14 | Deputy David Stevens & K9 Max Colorado |
| Region 16 | Officer Brian Hale & K9 Paco Hazelwood PD MO |
| Region 18 | Officer Mark Elliott & K9 Paso Bloomington PD MN |
| Region 20 | Officer Damien Bethel & K9 Shaft Roanoke PD Texas |
| Region 21 | Deputy Scott Faiferlick & K9 Hank Dallas Country SO IA and Det. Dennis George & K9 Echo Polk County |
| Region 22 | Officer Ron Haley & K9 Black Jack Sipsey PD Alabama |

DETECTOR CASE OF THE SECOND QUARTER

Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

Region 21 Deputy Scott Faiferlick & K9 Hank Dallas County IA and Detective Dennis George & K9 Echo Polk County, IA
 On May 5th, 2005 Deputy Scott Faiferlick & K9 Hank responded to a call for assistance on a traffic stop at the 112 mile marker on eastbound I-80. The team was advised that a motor home had been stopped as officers suspected it contained a contraband substance a search was conducted but a hand search failed to locate anything of interest. Deputy Faiferlick and K9 Hank did an exterior scan of the vehicle with K9 Hank giving a strong general interest response crawling underneath the motor home. K9 Hank encountering restricted space under the vehicle and hot engine components backed out from under the vehicle. K9 Hank then became intensely interested in the drivers side at a side storage compartment door. K9 Hank worked to the passengers side of the vehicle and alerted to the passengers door. Nothing of interest could be located and led Deputy Faiferlick & K9 Hank to believe a concealed compartment was involved but after almost two hours of searching a compartment could not be found.

The motor home was moved off the Interstate for a safer and more thorough examination could be conducted. K9 Hank was again deployed and again gave a trained response to a contraband substance being present. Deputy Faiferlick requested that a second K9 team respond to assist in locating the elusive compartment. Detective Dennis George and K9 Echo responded to the scene. Detective Dennis George and K9 Echo were deployed on an exterior search of the motor home. K9 Echo interest increased as the team came to the front of the vehicle and K9 Echo gave a strong interest alert to the same locations that K9 Hank had given. K9 Echo worked to the underneath of the vehicle and observed K9 Echo on her rear legs in a intense trained alert. The officers at this time crawled under the motor home to observe K9 Echo still alerting intently and K9 Echo had to be physically removed from the location. Officer could then observe a metal sheet that was pried open and revealed two pounds of marijuana and 360 pounds of cocaine with a street value of \$16 million dollars.

The team work of all those involved in this traffic stop made this state record narcotic seizure possible. The further alert by K9 Hank on the first sniff of the vehicle giving a strong alert to the presence of contraband gave probable cause to further hold the vehicle for more processing. K9 Echo's pinpointing the exact location of the hidden compartment and her refusal to leave that location directing officers until they also found the compartment sealed the vehicle occupants' fate. When the vehicle occupants were interviewed they revealed they had been stopped twice and released after a search was completed. But that was before they encountered K9 Hank and K9 Echo.

2005 THIRD QUARTER PATROL

Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

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| Region 1 | Officer Douglas Kutchera & K9 Taz Tallahassee PD Florida |
| Region 3 | Corporal Matt Heimberger & K9 Mako Arlington County PD VA |
| Region 5 | Officer Brian Talsma & K9 Provi Evansville PD Indiana |
| Region 7 | Sergeant Daniel Valeri & K9 Benny New Windsor PD NY |
| Region 9 | Warden Dan Scott & K9 Roxie Maine Warden Service |
| Region 10 | Officer Toby Morrison & K9 Andor Shreveport PD LA |
| Region 12 | Deputy Jeff Ellis & K9 Tazer Mower County SO IA |
| Region 14 | Deputy Julie Mercer & K9 Yogi Weld County SO CO |
| Region 15 | Corporal Morales & K9 Ace Passaic County SO NJ |
| Region 16 | Officer James Petty & Ducco Berkeley PD MO |
| Region 19 | PSO Brad Misner & K9 Seedo Kalamazoo Dept of Public Safety MI |
| Region 20 | Officer Bill Knight & K9 Rokky & Officer Rick McDonald & K9 Zeno Plano PD Texas |

Region 21 Deputy Chris Langenberg & K9 Lazer Johnson County SO IA
Region 24 Tactical Officer Mike Lazowski & K9 Maverick Lansing PD MI

2005 TOP PATROL CASE THIRD QUARTER **Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards**

Region 5 Officer Brian Talsma & K9 Provi Evansville PD IN

August 25th. 2005 Officer Brian Talsma was dispatched to the Roadside Inn to assist two other officers on a felony warrant for narcotic trafficking, cocaine. While waiting for the other officers Officer Talsma took a tactical observation position to observe room 175, the room suspect was to be in. The suspect was observed leaving the room and walking towards the parking lot. Officer Talma elected to approach the suspect and drove up to his location.

The suspect was stopped and was found to be using a metal pipe as a cane and was nervous as Officer Talsma asked him for some ID as he provided a different name than suspected. When officer questioned suspect further about room 175 the suspect stammered and began backing away. Officer Talsma ordered the suspect to stop stepping towards the subject. The suspect swung the metal pipe at officers head, officer ducked, the suspect charged the now off balanced officer driving him backwards onto the hood of the car. Officer Talsma managed to land a blow to the suspect regaining his feet but suspect charged the officer again both falling to the ground with subject trying for the officers gun that was still in the officers holster. The officer managed to free the suspects grip on his service gun and was able to activate the remote door release releasing his partner K9 Provi as suspect was again trying to remove the officers' gun. K9 Provi latched onto the suspect by his right shoulder that made the suspect release his hold on the officers' gun. The fight continued with suspect striking K9 Provi with his fist to Provi nose grabbing again for officers gun. K9 Provi now grabbed suspect by the front of his left thigh where upon the suspect shouted, "OK I give up! Just get that dog off of me!" Officer Talsma managed to untangle himself from the suspect and as other officers arrived and assisted in hand cuffing the suspect.

The suspect was transported to the hospital treated and released to be booked for Felony Battery on a Police Officer and Resisting Arrest. Investigation showed this suspect had just smoked crack before the officer approached him in the parking lot but was not the suspect that was named on warrant.

2005 THIRD QUARTER WINNERS DETECTOR **Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards**

Region 1 DFC Lee Pressley & K9 Sammy Charlotte County SO FL
Region 2 Officer James Anthony & K9 Hooch Wilson PD NC
Region 3 Corporal Raymond Redden & K9 Winter Prince George's County PD MD
Region 5 Officer Brent Hoover & K9 Taz Evansville PD IN
Region 7 Officer William Branch & K9 JR Yonkers PD NY
Region 9 Deputy James E. Roy & K9 BB Penobscot County SO ME
Region 14 Officer J. Caudill & K9 Athos Rock Springs PD WY
Region 20 Corporal Jason Ricketson & K9 Barry Sulphur Springs PD TX
Region 26 Sergeant Paul Cox & K9 Dar Bay St Louis PD MS

2005 TOP DETECTOR CASE OF THE THIRD QUARTER **Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards**

Region 20 Corporal Jason Ricketson & K9 Barry Sulphur Springs PD Texas

September 4th. 2005 Corporal Jason Ricketson stopped a 2001 Chevrolet Impala at the 141 mile marker on eastbound highway 30 on traffic. On approaching the vehicle a strong odor of gasoline was detected. On conducting the interview with the vehicle occupants conflicting stories were obtained and nervous indications were observed. The officer was given consent to search and K9 Barry was deployed on an open air sniff around the vehicle. K9 Barry displayed a change of behavior at the rear of the vehicle and went into a final trained response at the rear quarter panel. Police supervisor Sergeant Cleve Williams was contacted and car was removed to the Sulphur Springs Service Center due to the suspected gasoline tank. On scooping the tank Sgt. Williams could observe a metal container inside the vehicles gasoline tank. The tank later revealed a container of 50 pounds of cocaine that had been vacuum sealed. It was also discovered that the outer gasoline tank contained a small pinhole on the side K9 Barry had given a positive alert to.

2005 FOURTH QUARTER WINNERS PATROL Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

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| Region 1 | Deputy Rob Wright & K9 Tag Leon County SO FL |
| Region 2 | Corporal Paul Kukucka & K9 Koda Montgomery County PD MD |
| Region 5 | Officer Elisha Orth & K9 Bear Cincinnati PD OH |
| Region 7 | Officer William Hernandez & K9 Duke NYPD NY |
| Region 9 | Officer Ben Noyes & K9 Justice Portland PD ME |
| Region 12 | Officer Robert Topp & K9 Saber Plymouth PD MN Detputy Tom Sigfrinius & K9 Ikar Hennepin County SO MN |
| Region 14 | Officer Jason Shutters & K9 Zorro Fort Collins PD CO |
| Region 15 | Officer William Logan & K9 Deuce Atlantic City PD NJ |
| Region 16 | PO Keith Lewis & K9 Rex O'Fallon PD MO |
| Region 17 | Handler Mike Eleftheriou & K9 Argus Hamilton Ontario Police Services Canada |
| Region 18 | Officer Mike McAlpine & K9 Dawson St Paul PD MN |
| Region 20 | Officer Brenda Martin & K9 Carlo Wylie PD TX |

2005 TOP PATROL CASE OF THE FOURTH QUARTER Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

Region 5 Officer Elisha Orth & K9 Bear Cincinnati PD OH

December 30th, 2005 The Cincinnati Police Department homicide detectives were working the Robbery Task Force during the holiday season patrolling in plain clothes in the Clifton area when they observed a street robbery in progress. The officers immediately responded to aid the victim identifying themselves as police officers and ordered the suspect to stop. The suspect opened fire on the officers with a .45 caliber semi automatic handgun. The officer returned fire and gave chase to the fleeing suspect. Despite being wounded in his right knee, Detective Trotta continued the foot pursuit long enough to get a detailed description of the suspect and to document the last location of the fleeing suspect.

K9 Officer Elisha Orth and K9 Bear responded to the assistance call within three minutes. Detective Trotta briefed Officer Orth on the description and last point suspect was observed. Officer Mike Brogan provided back up as Officer Orth and K9 Bear began tracking the armed suspect. K9 Bear quickly located a track that led south through the yards, the track crossed several fences taking a sharp turn west onto Parker street. The K9 team emerged on the street at the intersection of Parker and Sauer Streets. By this time perimeter officers begun flooding the area standing out of their vehicles but did not distract K9 Bear as he continued tracking despite these distractions and track contamination. A group of officers had to be moved before K9 Bear could track through their location down Sauer Street about a block . The track took a hard left crossing the street and an officer was observed standing at the corner of a building the team was tracking towards. This officer was moved and K9 Bear tracked down the driveway to the rear of a building. K9 Bear now more intent tracked to a second car diving underneath that vehicle. K9 Bear had grabbed a suspect by the left shoulder. Back up Officer Mike Brogan yelled observing the suspect still held the gun. The suspect was pulled from beneath the vehicle by K9 Bear while maintaining a firm grip on suspect left wrist. The suspect dropped the gun and K9 Bear was ordered to release the suspect. The suspect was treated by on scene paramedics and later transported to the hospital. The suspect was placed in custody on charges of two counts of Attempted Aggravated Murder of a Police Officer as well as Aggravated Robbery. Officer Eli Orth and K9 Bear finished their basic K9 training in April of this year. This case highlights the finely trained capabilities of a trained K9 team. Officer Orth & K9 Bear ability to work in a dangerous, stressful, environment as a team, while being distracted by other police, fire and media personnel who also contaminated the area. Officer Orth and K9 Bear bring great admiration upon their unit, their department, the USPCA and themselves. **A JOB WELL DONE.**

2005 FOURTH QUARTER WINNERS DETECTOR Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards

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| Region 1 | Officer David Hall & K9 Villian Fairhope PD AL |
| Region 3 | Officer Barry Byers & K9 Rex Greenbelt PD MD |
| Region 4 | TFC Lawrence C. Holdsworth & K9 Zeeke New Hampshire State Police HH |
| Region 5 | Sergeant Dave Molinet & K9 Ben Evansville PD IN |
| Region 9 | Deputy James Roy & K9 BB Penobscot County SO ME |
| Region 12 | Trooper Doug Rauenhorst & K9 Sonja Minnesota State Police MN |
| Region 14 | Deputy Kevin D. Lampe & K9 Renny Finney County SO KS |

Region 16 Officer Gary Eaves & K9 Argo Berkeley PD MO
Region 19 PSO Ted Green & K9 Gero Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety MI
Region 20 Officer William Knight & K9 Bobby Plano PD TX
 Officer Danny Hartschuh & K9 Zemo Plano PD TX
Region 21 Deputy Scott Faiferlick & K9 Hank Dallas County SO IA

**2005 TOP DETECTOR CASE OF THE FOURTH QUARTER
Criminalistics Excellence Quarterly Awards**

Region 12 Trooper Doug Rauenhorst & K9 Sonja State Patrol Minnesota

December 29, 2005 at 07:36 hours Trooper Rauenhorst was on patrol near I-35 nearing the Steele Freeborn county line when he observed a Ford Ranger with vehicle equipment violations. Trooper Rauenhorst stopped the vehicle and spoke with the two occupants. While Trooper Rauenhorst was involved in conversation he found a strong odor of an air freshener emanating from the vehicles interior. The two occupants gave conflicting accounts of where they had been and where they were going. On investigating the driver further it was determined there was no insurance on the vehicle. A towed truck was summoned to impound the Ford Ranger. Prior to the impounding the Trooper was checking the vehicle and noticed brand new bolts in what appeared to have been recent work to the truck bed. Trooper Rauenhorst having several indications that aroused his suspicion ran K9 Sonja around the vehicle. K9 Sonja alerted to the back of the truck box sniffing intensely not leaving that location. K9 Sonja was removed from the indicated area and went to the location of some sand bags near the passengers compartment giving a strong indication and trained alert. On further investigation to locations of K9 Sonja an AK-47 rifle was located along with six magazines and ammunition. Inside the fuel tank was found 5 food saver heat sealed bags containing \$115,960.00 in cash along with a baggy containing 10.7 grams of cocaine. Suspects charged with Narcotics and weapons violations.