

GOVERNING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION

CONTRABAND CANINES

The purpose of this test is to evaluate the ability of a canine to detect and find cellphones, tobacco and other contraband commonly found in a jails, corrections or other environments. All certifications are good through December 31st of the following year. (ie: if you certify on April 1st, 2023, your certification will not expire until December 31st, 2024) Rules found in the General Guidelines for Detection Certification will apply unless specifically stated in this section.

This test is designed to be done if possible, within the confines of the actual work area. Other appropriate facilities can be used for testing at the discretion of the Chief Judge. Cellphone/Electronics testing is a separate test from the Tobacco/Opioid Medication testing. The two cannot be combined.

Judges will not carry cellphones, electronic devices or any tobacco products in the testing venues.

1. TESTING:

A. This test will consist of two venues based on the needs of the participants.

a. For DOC/Correctional type settings – One venue will be 5 cells/housing. 5 other appropriate and similar sized rooms can be used for this testing in lieu of using actual facility cells. The other venue will be three general access areas.

b. For school/office/business type settings – One venue will be three rooms (classrooms, offices, etc). The other venue will be three general access areas. (hallway, gym room, meeting room, etc) *Approved 11-9-2025

B. The following substance/amounts may be used based on the needs of the participants or region.

FOR **CELLPHONE/ELECTRONIC DEVICE** DETECTION DOGS: Testing may be conducted using only cellphones, cellphones and sim cards, or what is determined to be acceptable by the Chief Judge based on the odors below and the training of the participants.

Cellphone batteries- 1 up to 5 batteries in one hide
Thumb drive type storage device
Cellphone - Cellphone alone

Cellphone- Cellphone in a case with a charger.

Sim Cards - (in cells only) no less than 5 cards in one hide. Sim cards are to be used in Cell searches only. The 2nd hide in the cell search may be one of the other listed items. The Cellphones and Batteries used in this test must be fully (recently) charged.

FOR **TOBACCO/OPIOID/THC/MEDICATION** DETECTION DOGS: Testing may be conducted using only tobacco products (various ones from this list should be tested) or opioid medications only, as determined by the Chief Judge based on the training of the participants.

Loose tobacco - in a tin, baggie, etc. No less than 5 grams and no more than 3 oz.

Chewing tobacco – no less than one tin. No tobacco pouches. One pack of cigarettes or 1 cigar

One cigarette- (in cells only)

Nicotine Pouches – no less than three

THC vape pens – with cartridge. *approved 11-9-2025

Odor determined by and approved by the local region, used by facilities as an opioid withdrawal medication such as Buprenorphine or Suboxone. The amount should be kept realistic. See below.

- A single cigarette can only be used in Cell searches only. The 2nd hide in the cell search may be one of the other listed items.
- Amounts for the Opioid medication - For sublingual films (strips) – no less than three 8 mg/2mg films will be used. (Buprenorphine / naloxone combined) Pill form - Minimum of 12 mg and a max of 32 mg. (Buprenorphine/naloxone combo), typically called suboxone.

B. Care should be taken to ensure that the dog cannot retrieve or come in physical contact with the hidden substance or item.

C. The items or substances should be in place 30 minutes before the first search.

2. SCORING:

- a. A maximum total point score of 200 is possible. Certification (passing) is 140 points, which is 70%. Dog must find three of the four hides to certify. See score sheets for areas of evaluation.

CELL, **CLASSROOM, OFFICE** OR HOUSING SEARCH PHASE

- A. **For a DOC Setting: Five (5) cells (or similar smaller sized rooms) will be searched. For cells, these should be cells that house no more than 4 occupants. The cells/rooms should contain items typically found in occupied cells or in a utilized room. (i.e. beds, desks, etc) Two hides will be placed in two of the five cells. No two hides will be in one cell. One of the two hides will be either the single cigarette (if testing for tobacco) or the sim cards. (if testing for cellphones) Testing should be done with NO inmates or occupants inside the cells.**
 - a. There will be a 12-minute time limit, with a warning at the 10-minute mark for the DOC cell searches.
- B. **For School/Office/Business type settings, three rooms should be used. (classrooms, offices, etc) The time needed for this search may be adjusted as with the general detection areas. Additional time as needed if offices or classrooms are used. For school/office type settings: any of the other available odors may be used as determined by the chief Judge. *Approved 11-9-2025**
- C. The order of searching will be determined by the Chief Judge.

GENERAL AREAS (other than cells and classrooms) INDOOR or OUTDOOR

- A. This phase will consist of the K9 searching three (3) areas. Each room will be a minimum of 200 square feet and should be a room that would be consistent with areas where prisoners would be allowed. Examples would include dayrooms, exercise rooms, visitation areas, kitchens, etc. There will be a time limit of one and one half (1.5) minutes for every 100 square feet. Large rooms can (optional) be sectioned off with a makeshift or temporary barrier to reduce it to the 200 square foot minimum. The unused part of this room cannot be used as one of the three required searchable

rooms. (i.e. A large room can be divided off to create a 200 ft search area, but the rest of the room cannot be used for the trial) If an outside yard(s) is used, it should still be approximately 200 square feet, but should not be just a blank area. (it should contain weight equipment, tables, chairs, etc – Not an empty area)

1. Other appropriate and similar rooms can be used for this testing in lieu of testing on the prison/jail grounds.

B. The rooms or area must be furnished.

C. There will be two hides within the three areas.

D. There will be a two (2) minute warning given before the expiration of time.

C. The handler can use the allotted time to search the areas at their discretion.

Chief Judges are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the paperwork.

Mail or E-mail completed trial paperwork to include: (within 30 days of the trial)

- Original Master score sheet
- Judges and Scorekeepers list with events judged
- The high-low sheets showing the scores of all judges.

Upload trial paperwork on the National web page. OR

E-mail to: secretary@uspcak9.com