

Plaistow Police Department



Update for the BOS on the K- 9 Program
June 6th 2016

PLAISTOW K9 PROGRAM HISTORY

- K-9 program has a long standing history with the Department since 1980
- In 1987, the program was re-established by the Department with the approval of the BOS
- In 1988, the program was brought back to life with Sgt. Alec Porter as the K-9 handler
- The program has been successfully run for the past 28 years

WHY USE DOGS?

- Most dogs work on a toy-reward system or food-reward system
- Dogs are trained by association
 - Ex. Smell gas =toy/food
 - Some dogs can alert to over 20 different substances
- Dogs can pick up traces of substances that electronic devices cannot detect
- Dogs sense of smell is so great they can detect a substance with less than a thousandth of a drop

K-9 PROGRAM HISTORY

1980 – 1984 - Sergeant

Rex

Towser

1987 – 1993 – Schultz

1993 - 2002 - Rajah

2003 – 2009 – Stryker

2009 – 2015 - Kraken

The average K-9 will be in service with its handler for 7-10 years



TRAINING

- K-9 training is 16 weeks long
- Certification is obtained through the NHSP K-9 Program or at the Boston Police K-9 Academy



TRAINING SCOPE

Basic Patrol

Obedience

Tracking

Lost/Missing Persons

Article/Evidence Searches

Building/Area Searches

Criminal Apprehension

Warrant Entry

Narcotics Detection

Marijuana

Cocaine

Heroin

Ecstasy

Methamphetamine

TRAINING

- Certification is given if the K-9 meets the training objectives and passes all the requirements set forth in the program
- K-9 will live with the handler at home so continuity of training can be a priority
- If the K-9 is certified in both Patrol and Narcotics, the handler and the K-9 are mandated to attend monthly training sessions with the NHSP K-9 Unit to sharpen skills and to maintain certification standards

K-9 Deployment for Plaistow

- Over the years, the K-9 has been a great tool for the Department as well as the community.
- The K-9 has assisted in hundreds of cases involving missing persons, wanted persons, narcotic detection, community events, protection of the Officers, building and vehicle searches, etc.



K-9 Demonstration



K-9 Demonstration



Equipment Costs:

- Canines are purchased from breeders in every corner of the world with the majority being purchased from European countries
- In 2008, our K-9, Kraken, cost \$6,000. The current price range of a well trained dog is estimated between \$5,000 and \$9,000.

Equipment Costs:

A K-9 cruiser platform (cage insert) is the cage and area that the K-9 rides in during the shift.

This platform includes:

- Hot Dog Climate Control System w/paging system
- Bail Out door popper
- Attached 1 gallon water bowl
- Cost = \$3,412.04

Equipment Costs:

- Just like the Officers, the K-9 needs to be protected through the wearing of a bullet proof vest.
- Kraken received his vest through donations in 2008
- Cost = \$2,265.00

Equipment Costs:

A majority of the K-9 miscellaneous equipment has been purchased out of pocket by Sgt. Porter. These items can range from collars, leashes, and patrol harnesses to training toys made by Kong. There is a kit pre-assembled that has most of these items that are used to sustain the K-9 and his training needs

Cost = \$999.00

Summary of Costs:

Purchase of K-9:	\$6-\$9,000
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Cruiser insert with (climate control):	\$3,412
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Ballistic Vest	\$2,265
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Training/Other Supplies	\$ 999
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Total:	\$12,676 - \$15,676
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Fundraising Goal:

- Due to the fact that Kraken had to be retired early due to his illness and eventual passing in August of 2015, funding is not currently in the budget to replace the K9.
- With a partnership between the community (residential and commercial), the Town and the Police Department, our goal would be to fundraise \$15,000 for the purchase of a new K-9 and related equipment
- The K-9 program has provided exceptional service to the Department and the community for the past 28 years and we are hoping to continue this program with the support of the community.
- In the past, the community has shown overwhelming support for this beloved program.

Questions:

