

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO CONTRACT FOR POLICE SERVICE DOG AND HANDLER TRAINING

SOURCE: Police Department

COMMENT Since January of 2014, the City of Porterville has operated with three (3) police service dogs, with the anticipation of filling the fourth vacant service dog position when possible. A certified trainer conducts monthly certified training with the service dogs and their handlers.

The training has been provided by Adlerhorst International, Inc., which services several southern California police agencies. Our police service dogs currently travel to Bakersfield to obtain this monthly certified training. The current monthly charge by Adlerhorst International is \$150 per service dog, which does not include travel and fuel costs. The annual travel costs are estimated to be approximately \$5,400. The annual travel costs to train four (4) police service dogs would be approximately \$7,200.

In an effort to reduce costs, staff time, vehicle wear and tear, etc., staff conducted research into training options. Thorough research was completed by department staff and it was determined that an additional local vendor could mitigate some of these issues without sacrificing quality of training. Top Dog Training Center, which is locally operated, is a provider of police service dog training and is currently used by the Tulare County Sheriff's Department, Exeter Police Department, Farmersville Police Department, Dinuba Police Department, Corcoran Police Department, and Delano Police Department.

The trainers for Top Dog Training Center provide monthly training in Tulare County, including in or near the city of Porterville, which would reduce travel expenses and time expended. The current cost by Top Dog Training Center per service dog is \$100 monthly, which would equate to an annual cost of \$3,600 to train our three current police service dogs. When a fourth K-9 team is established we will receive a discount and the cost per service dog would be reduced by 10%, incurring an annual cost of \$4,320 for the four K-9s.

The Department would like to enter into an agreement with Top Dog Training Center to acquire the necessary monthly training for the Porterville Police Department's service dogs and handlers. The benefit of using this local vendor is the dramatic reduction in travel costs, including fuel expenses, per diem, and travel time.

D.D.  Appropriated/Funded  C.M.  Item No. 8a

Funds for this maintenance training are available in the training budget of the current Police Department budget.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council authorize the Chief of Police to enter into an agreement with Top Dog Training Center for monthly certified training of service dogs and handlers.

Attachments: Quote from Top Dog Training Center
Quote from Adlerhorst International

ADLERHORST INTERNATIONAL, INC.

3951 Vernon Ave.
Riverside, CA 92509
(951) 685-2430

QUOTE ONLY

Date
3/2/2015

Name / Address
Porterville Police Department 350 North D Street Porterville, CA 93257

Qty	Description	U/M	Cost	Total
4	Annual Billing K-9 Off-Site Monthly Training Minimum 12 8hr sessions		1,800.00	7,200.00

All merchandise subject to California sales tax.

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Subtotal	\$7,200.00
Sales Tax (8.0%)	\$0.00
Total	\$7,200.00



March 1, 2015

Lieutenant Jake Castellow
Porterville Police Department
350 N. D Street
Porterville, Ca 93257

Dear Jake,

This letter is in response to your request for information about the training services I can provide for your police service dog teams. I have included the training I provide, and the cost.

Quotation

The maintenance training would be one 8-hour block a month. The locations would all be within Tulare County We usually rotate training locations between various jurisdictions. This way the handlers and dogs get exposed to differing training environments and travel times / costs are reduced. The cost for the maintenance training would be \$100 per month or \$1200 per year per dog/hander team.

Your department is slated for (4) four patrol dog / handler teams. I would offer you a multiple team discount of 10% off the maintenance training costs. The yearly cost would then be \$1080 per team (one dog and hander) per year or \$4320 per year for all four teams.

Please let me know if you have any questions about this or would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Jay Brock
Owner / Director of Training