



EDGEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT

"Policing For The Future, Today"

135 East Park Avenue
Edgewater, FL 32132-0100
Joseph P. Mahoney, Chief of Police

K9s United
Post Office Box 365
Saint Augustine, Florida – 32085

On behalf of the Edgewater Police Department and K9 community I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and appreciation for what K9s United does for law enforcement K9s. Without your support, leadership and dedication some programs would not be able to function. Your relentlessness to get Senate Bill 96 "Fang Memorial Bill" signed sent a sharp message to criminals everywhere and yet again proved your support for our profession. Words alone are not enough, but I do thank you all.

The Edgewater Police Department was established in 2012 and started with one K9 Team. Over the years we have grown to three K9 teams and this year certified our first FDLE K9 Instructor. The unit collectively deploys nearly 500 times a year for various functions to include patrol searches, drug deployments, search warrants and our favorite, community demonstrations. Our Unit hosts trainings weekly for various agencies, to include the New Smyrna Beach Police Department, Seminole County Sheriff's Office and Florida Highway Patrol.

Below you will find a grant justification list for the Edgewater Police Department K9 Unit. Any and all consideration is appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns relating to the requested items, please do not hesitate to contact me:

Item 1: Agility & Search Training Equipment

Approximately three years ago, the Edgewater Police Department was gifted six wooden search boxes by the New Smyrna Beach Police Department. The search boxes were constructed of wood and built by the Boy Scouts. The boxes need replaced badly. As you know, these boxes are not cheap and strategic budgeting is needed. The boxes are used for fundamental training for area searching and building searches, as well as several agility drills. New boxes would not only enhance the ability to train, but would also increase the safety of the K9 Teams.

Link to Requested Equipment: [Search Boxes - Set of 6](#)

Total Cost: \$13,995

Item 2: Patrol Ballistic Vest

Historically, we have been able to acquire ballistic vests for our dogs. However, with the addition of our newest K9 and replacement of another dog, we are down to one ballistic vest. As you are well aware, police dogs are exposed to violent situations and their safety is paramount. The technology of ballistic vests for K9s has increased substantially over the last few years. Our old vests are hot and bulky and hinder the dog just as much as they help them. We are graciously requesting three K9 Storm Patrol/SWAT vests for our unit:

Link to Requested Equipment: [Police K9 Vest](#)

Total Cost: \$3,479 each (Total: \$10,473)



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Item 3: Impact Collapsible Dog Crate

As a unit, we travel several times annual for school, training and most recently a week-long deployment in Taylor County, Florida for the Hurricane Idalia relief efforts. The dogs on the unit currently have airline crates for travel overnight, but these crates aren't sturdy and do not ventilate well. The dogs are able to chew on the plastic which is dangerous. The cost of safe metal crates is astronomical and as a unit, we have had to evaluate our needs and prioritize accordingly. We are humbly requesting three Impact collapsible crates to improve the safety of the dogs during deployments and schooling involving overnight stays.

Link to Requested Equipment: [Impact Dog Crate](#)

Total Cost: \$1,199 each (Total: \$3,597)

Item 4: Martin System E-Collar

We have used e-collars for years on our unit; however, with the improvements in technology the quality e-collars have all but priced us out of the market. Generally, when our dogs are working patrol, we like to have multiple points of control to enhance the safety of the dog when deployed. If one control point fails, it is imperative to have a backup plan. In order to effectively have a reliable control solution for the dogs and to enhance training, we are requesting three Martin System - K9 remotes with Chameleon IIIB with Bluetooth.

Link to Requested Equipment: [Martin System Remote](#)

Total Cost: \$1,174.95 each (Total: \$3,524.85)

Item 5: Demanet Semi-Competition Bite Suit

The EPD K9 Unit utilizes bite suits regularly during K9 training to enhance our scenario-based trainings. Currently, the unit has one bite suit in decent shape with is used regularly. After the addition of a new dog and brining more dogs into the training unit, the need for a new practical bite suit is more real than ever. We are asking for a Demanet Semi-Competition Bite Suit to be used for our trainings.

Link to Requested Equipment: [Demanet Semi-Competition Bite Suit](#)

Total Cost: \$1,695

Item 6: Ray Allen Schutzhund Blinds

We do not currently have any blinds to enhance our trainings. The Schutzhund blinds would increase our abilities to train our dogs, not only enhancing safety, but also our patrol capabilities.

Link to Requested Equipment: [Ray Allen Schutzhund Blinds](#)

Total Cost: \$279.99 each (Total: \$839.97)



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Item 7: Alfa Blank Starter Pistol

Gunfire is not only mandatory in the FDLE certification, but it is a vital part of training. The safest way to train for K9 deployments under or involving gunfire is the utilization of a starter or blank pistol. The pistol we are sending to you for consideration are orange to promote safety and are proven in the industry.

Link to Requested Equipment: [Starter Pistol](#)

Total Cost: \$299.99 each (Total: \$899.97)

Item 8: Hard Dog Slammer Muzzle

Muzzles are extremely important to implement into training. It builds drive in the dog and is arguably one of the closest replications to a live bite in training. It is imperative to utilize a proven quality muzzle in training to protect the dog and handler. Quality muzzles are not cheap and should be replaced every few years to ensure useability and safety. The Unit currently has one muzzle which is shared amongst the dogs. In order to improve efficiency, we are requesting three Hard Dog Smaller Muzzles.

Link to Requested Equipment: [Slammer Muzzle](#)

Total Cost: \$399.95 each (Total Cost: \$1,199.85)

Item 9: Modular Training Table 3.0

Bite tables are used in K9 training for limitless exercises. EPD historically constructed their own bite tables, but the tables are made of wood and it is not as safe for the dogs as quality manufactured tables. It is important to have reliable tie points for the dog to ensure they stay attached during exercises. We hope you consider granting a modular training table to enhance the units training functions.

Link to Requested Equipment: [Modular Training Table](#)

Total Cost: \$1,670

In close, we truly appreciate your time, consideration and support. If we can ever be of assistance or provide our facilities for classes, education or seminars or if K9s United ever needs any support, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Officer Epitropoulos – K9 Zar
Sergeant Lawler, Special Services

Officer Nugent – K9 Drako

Officer Rippeon – K9 Drago
Captain Geiger