



# Margate Police Department

ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael Palma, Chief of Police

FROM: Michael Druzvik, Major, Field Service Bureau *MD*

DATE: April 2, 2025

SUBJECT: K-9 Unit

To maintain optimal K-9 Unit operational readiness and ensure continuous seven-day coverage, including both daytime and nighttime operations, I respectfully request authorization to acquire a replacement canine. This request is necessitated by the recent reassignment of Officer Sturm and the retirement of his K-9 partner, Bak, leaving the K-9 unit with only three active canines.

Maintaining a complement of four canines, with one assigned to each patrol platoon (I-IV), is essential for providing comprehensive support to our officers and enhancing service delivery to our residents. K-9 teams have consistently proven invaluable in apprehending violent offenders, conducting narcotics interdiction, detecting firearms, ammunition or currency, and fostering positive community relations.

Replacing K-9 Bak will ensure consistent coverage, reduce reliance on off-duty K-9 teams, and distribute workload equitably.

The selection and training of a new handler and canine, along with the procurement of specialized equipment, requires a significant time investment. To expedite this process and minimize any disruption to K-9 services, I recommend initiating this process as soon as feasible.

Given the specialized nature of police canine acquisition and the competitive market, I request authorization for the Chief of Police or City Manager, with Commission approval, to execute a sales agreement for the purchase of one canine at a cost not to exceed \$15,500. These agreements typically specify the exact canine being purchased and cannot be executed in advance. Due to this specialized nature, I also request a waiver of the bidding process.

The estimated costs associated with this acquisition are as follows:

- Canine Purchase: \$15,500 (not to exceed)
- Training and Utilization Equipment (RayAllen.com): \$1,100.00. This encompasses a 6-foot leash, a 15-foot leash, a traffic lead leash, an Icon tracking harness, a Dogtra 1900S with E-Lusive collar, a RAM black muzzle, choke chain and pinch collars, and an Advantage Stage 3 bite sleeve.
- Canine Care Items: \$575.00. Includes food/water bowls, first aid bag, kennel for handlers' home, shampoos, flea/tick medication, chew toys/rewards.
- Narcotics School: \$2,500.00
- K-9 Vest Carrier: \$275.00
- Uniforms: \$1,100.00
- Veterinary Care and Food (Annual): \$2,000.00

Total requested cost from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund: \$23,050.00 (not to exceed)

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Rec on 04/02/25 - Chl Gal Galu  
Approved to be placed on the agenda  
for commission approval.