

# ORDER OF AFFILIATION

## EXECUTIVE ORDER 23-91

The purpose of this order is to outline the responsibilities of the Kenton County Government and the Kentucky Search Dog Association.

The Kentucky Search Dog Association is one of the officially recognized dog teams in Kenton County. By virtue of this order, the Kentucky Search Dog Association is officially affiliated with Kenton County Government and the Kenton County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency.

The Kentucky Search Dog Association shall serve the citizens of Kenton County by providing fully trained and equipped personnel and dogs in the following types of missions:

- Searching for missing or lost persons in wilderness and urban areas
- Searching for deceased persons on land and water
- Searching for disaster victims

The Kentucky Search Dog Association will respond and assist other agencies or departments upon request, but will not take the lead role in:

- Searching for missing or lost persons in wilderness and urban areas
- Searching for deceased persons on land and water
- Searching for disaster victims

The Kentucky Search Dog Association will not respond or assist with the following types of missions:

- Incidents with armed suspects who could cause harm to personnel or harm to search dog.
- Incidents of criminal activity, not related to rescue or recovery situations

The Kentucky Search Dog Association may be called to respond by any of the following services or agencies:

- Kenton County Judge Executive
- Kenton County Homeland Security/Emergency Management Director
- Kenton County SAR Coordinator
- Kentucky Division of Emergency Management Area 7 Manager
- Kentucky Division of Emergency Management SAR Coordinator
- Kentucky Division of Emergency Management

The Kentucky Search Dog Association may receive notification of calls for searches or recovery's in the following way:

- Any police, fire, rescue squad, EMS, EMA or public official can call the Dispatch Center or (911). Telecommunicates will notify team leaders via cell phones or alpha pagers of the nature and location of the call, and shall provide contact information. Telecommunicates will also notify the on duty Kenton County Emergency Management official of the request for service.

After receiving a request for assistance, a responding team member will contact the Kentucky Emergency Management Duty Officer to obtain an incident number and will advise the Duty Officer of the person requesting the assistance and contact information.

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A Kentucky Search Dog Association team member will not respond (self dispatch) to a search incident without an official request for assistance from an authorized representative as previously stated in this Affiliation Order.

In any State of Emergency declared by the Kenton County Fiscal Court, the Kentucky Search Dog Association shall fall under the direction and control of the Kenton County Homeland Security/Emergency Management and/or the Kenton County Judge Executive. The Kentucky Search Dog Association shall operate under their chain of command during the State of Emergency.

This affiliation agreement does not influence the organizational by-laws, standard operating procedures or powers of the Kentucky Search Dog Association incident command system, except during a declared emergency.

The Kentucky Search Dog Association shall maintain their equipment and property.

The Kenton County Government shall be responsible for all funds donated to the team by the county. The Kentucky Search Dog Association shall be responsible for all funds donated to the team by outside sources. The Kentucky Search Dog Association shall not charge for any services provided.

The responsibilities of all parties to this order of affiliation shall conform to those responsibilities as provided in KRS Chapter 39F.

This order of affiliation can be updated, modified, amended or canceled upon consent of the parties involved. If a vacancy should occur in any of the positions of this order, the order will remain in effect for thirty days while the order is renegotiated.

The effective order of this affiliation shall be for one year. It shall remain in effect until July 26, 2024, at which time the order of affiliation may be renegotiated, updated, modified or cancelled.

The affiliation agreement was approved and adopted by the Kenton County Fiscal Court on July 11, 2023.

All other written agreements of affiliation are null and void upon the effective date of this order.

Order ratified by the Fiscal Court of the County of Kenton.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kris A. Knochelmann  
Kenton County Judge Executive

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Kenton County Homeland Security/  
Emergency Management

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Kentucky Search Dog Association

Date: \_\_\_\_\_