



Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handler Association

P.O. Box 136 Germantown, WI 53022
<http://www.wlecha.org>

AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Please complete this form and submit with your nomination letter to:

WLECHA
c/o Award Nominations
PO Box 136
Germantown, WI 53022
wlechatreasurer@gmail.com

Handler Name: Justin Weisbecker

K-9 Name: Koda

Agency: Fond du Lac Sheriff's office

Category (Please circle one per form)

Handler of the Year - Rookie Handler of the Year - Meritorious Apprehension - Meritorious Article Find

Meritorious Track with Apprehension - Meritorious Track - Meritorious Narcotics Find

Nominator: Ryan Waldschmidt

Title: Captain

Agency: Fond du Lac Sheriff's office

Phone: 920-929-3390

E-Mail Address: ryan.waldschmidt@fdlco.wi.gov

Hours of Work: 8am - 4pm

Membership must be current to be eligible for an award

All nominations must be postmarked or submitted by e-mail by August 15th to be accepted

Canine teams may be submitted for multiple awards.

Please submit separate nominations for each category.



Mylan C. Fink, Jr.
Sheriff

Mark R. Strand
Chief Deputy

July 25, 2018

Dear WLECHA Awards Committee,

I am honored to nominate Deputy Justin Weisbecker and his K-9 Koda for the Rookie Handler of the Year/ Handler of the Year Award. Deputy Weisbecker and Koda recently completed their first year as a K-9 Team and have already improved the safety of our community with some significant accomplishments. In their first year as a team, the pair were able to remove a significant amount of narcotics from our roadways, successfully track an armed robbery suspect to his front door, assist in the apprehension of a suspect involved in a high speed chase, stopped a subject actively running from officers, and participated in numerous community events.

Deputy Weisbecker was selected to be our next K-9 handler in early 2017 and he was given the task to research several different K-9 vendors. He spent several days researching and talking to K-9 vendors across the state and country and presented his findings to administration. Ultimately, Jessifany K-9 Services in Iron Ridge, Wisconsin, was selected and has proven to be an excellent choice! Deputy Weisbecker then personally worked with the vendor and selected K-9 Koda from several available dogs.

Detection-

During their first year on patrol, Deputy Weisbecker deployed Koda 162 times, most of which were for narcotics. As a result of these deployments, over 50 significant criminal arrests were made, along with numerous criminal referrals and ordinance arrests. One deployment resulted in the seizure of over two pounds of marijuana, and another deployment led to four arrests, several ounces of cocaine, and an illegal firearm being located. Four firearms were recovered as a result of searches completed by the team, including a stolen handgun which had been involved in a crime that occurred in a neighboring county. These deployments were all made concurrent with regular patrol related duties.

Tracking-

On October 9, 2017, Deputy Weisbecker and K-9 Koda assisted the Fond du Lac Police Department after an armed robbery occurred in their jurisdiction. A female victim was robbed by a suspect with a rifle outside a local restaurant. The suspect fled on foot during a heavy thunderstorm, and a short time later Deputy Weisbecker and Koda arrived on scene and deployed for a track. They were able to establish a track in the heavy rain, and tracked across several surface types including a gravel parking lot, two paved

roads, down a sidewalk, and thru several grass surfaces. The track lasted just over a half mile and concluded when K-9 Koda tracked the suspect to the front door of an apartment. The track was the critical component that helped investigators identify and arrest the suspect. Deputy Weisbecker testified during the jury trial and was given several compliments on his knowledge and professionalism from both seasoned investigators and the district attorney. The suspect was found guilty of all charges in early 2018.

Patrol-

Deputy Weisbecker and Koda were utilized after a high speed chase in our jurisdiction ended with a crash. After exiting the vehicle, the suspect just laid in the tall grass and refused to follow any commands. Deputy Weisbecker and Koda arrived on scene, and Koda was given a command to bark. This gained the attention of the suspect, who immediately started following commands and was taken into custody with no further issues.

Community Relations-

Deputy Weisbecker and Koda participated in several community events and conducted several demonstrations throughout the year. The team provided demonstrations for several area scout troops, church groups, a junior police academy, and a local summer camp. During one of several public relations assignments at the county fair, Deputy Weisbecker and K-9 Koda were able to assist in the apprehension of a suspect fleeing from other officers on foot. They were able to cut the suspect off and upon identifying themselves as a K-9 team, the suspect immediately stopped and surrendered without further incident.

During their first year as a K-9 Team, Deputy Weisbecker and K-9 Koda greatly exceeded our expectations. Their regular contributions to our office and surrounding agencies have established them as a very successful team, and have unquestionably made a positive impact in our community in many different ways. Due to these contributions, I am nominating them for Rookie of the Year/ Handler of the Year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Waldschmidt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Captain Ryan Waldschmidt