



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: MATTHEW KILF
K-9 Name: DREA
Agency: VERONA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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: JESSE CHRISTENSEN
Title: SERGEANT
Agency: VERONA POLICE DEPARTMENT
Phone: (608) 845-7623
E-Mail Address: Jesse.Christensen@ci.verona.wi.us
Hours of Work: 3pm - 11pm

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.



VERONA POLICE DEPARTMENT

111 Lincoln Street
Verona, WI 53593-1520
Phone: (608) 845-7623

BERNARD J. COUGHLIN
Chief of Police

MERITORIOUS K9 ARTICLE FIND AWARD

It is with great pleasure that I nominate K9 handler, Matt Kile, of the Verona Police Department, for the Meritorious K-9 Article Find Award. Officer Kile was partnered with K9 Drea, a German Shephard, in August of 2017. This is Officer Kile's first police K9.

On August 3, 2018, at approximately 4:40 a.m., the City of Madison responded to a report of a female who had just held a gun to another females head. The suspect fled on foot and was eventually apprehended by the City of Madison. The gun was not in her possession. Officer Kile was summoned at 5:25 a.m. to assist the City of Madison with an article search for the firearm. K9 handler Matt Kile and his partner, Drea, began the article search at approximately 5:40 a.m. The location of the article search was at a dog park, with a majority of area having grass approximately 3' high.

Officer Kile deployed Drea to the northern edge of the search area and gave her the command to find items with a human odor. Upon giving Drea the command to search for items with a human odor, she sniffed near the ground intently. Officer Kile continually directed Drea to sniff in the tall grass, as they walked a patrol route through the area.

After spending several minutes on the northern edge of the search area, Officer Kile escorted Drea to the southern edge of the search area and directed her to sniff for items with human odors. They conducted a similar patrol-route search starting at the southern edge of the search area and working to the north. As they were approximately 15-20 feet to the north of the south end, Officer Kile observed Drea display alert behavior. Drea displayed a head snap to the right and turned completely around from the direction she had been walking. Drea pushed her nose to the bottom of the tall 3' grass and froze while staring at the area. Drea's tail began wagging intently from side to side and her breathing intensified. Officer Kile walked over to where Drea was frozen in place and observed part of a black piece of metal that appeared could possibly be a handgun. Officer Kile moved Drea from the area and notified the Madison Police officers on scene that the handgun was possibly located by the dog. A Madison Police officer walked over and confirmed that the item was a black revolver handgun. The item was located at 6:03 a.m. and believed to be the weapon the female had discarded.

The suspect was booked into the jail on felony charges.

Respectfully submitted,

Sgt. Jesse L. Christensen
Verona Police Department