

ROOKIE HANDLER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION

To: WLECHA Awards Committee

I would like to nominate Cpl. Ryan Schultz and his K9 partner, Chaz for Rookie Handler of the Year. Cpl. Schultz was partnered with K9 Chaz and hit the road on 2nd Shift for West Allis in March of 2020.

K9 Chaz located 19 people in various tracks and area searches in 2020.

K9 Chaz had 3 apprehensions (bites) on wanted subjects involved in felony offenses after tracks/area searches in 2020.

K9 Chaz located large amounts of cocaine and heroin during residential search warrants with the West Allis Police Departments Special Investigations Unit.

K9 Chaz located several articles of various types of evidence for West Allis Police Department cases and assisted other agencies in locating items valuable to their investigations in 2020 and 2021.

The following are some of the highlights of K9 Chaz's first year on the road.

On their 2nd day back in Wisconsin from training in North Carolina, Cpl. Schultz and K9 Chaz were dispatched to assist in tracking suspects involved in an Armed Bank Robbery. This occurred in downtown West Allis during rush hour traffic with heavy traffic, numerous people in the area and concrete. K9 Chaz was deployed to track the suspect(s). K9 Chaz immediately pulled hard down a sidewalk past several citizens on a busy Greenfield Ave. He ultimately did not locate anyone but camera footage confirmed he tracked directly to where suspects entered a getaway vehicle. A nice confidence boost to start the career.

K9 Chaz was deployed into a residential basement to assist in locating a burglary suspect refusing to give themselves up. K9 Chaz was deployed off lead into the basement. A few moments later, K9 Chaz apprehended a suspect concealing himself behind debris in the basement. The offender was striking and fighting K9 Chaz as he was biting and dragging the suspect by his foot. The area was incredibly small but K9 Chaz did not let go.

K9 Chaz was deployed to track 4 suspects that abandoned a stolen vehicle. K9 Chaz tracked on concrete to a nearby tavern where he tracked right to the entry door. All four suspects were inside the tavern and arrested.

K9 Chaz was deployed to track a suspect that ran from an accident following a pursuit. K9 Chaz tracked past a doggy day care and pulled officers to the offender, who was hiding underneath a semi-tractor approximately ½ mile from the crash scene.

K9 Chaz was deployed in a swampy/bog area to assist in locating suspects involved in an incident where MCSO Deputies were shot at. He searched through a 12-15 inches of water and brush so thick Cpl. Schultz could not see K9 Chaz in front of him. K9 Chaz located and apprehended a suspect hiding in a large swampy area with assistance from Greenfield PD Drone Unit.

K9 Chaz was deployed to track suspects that ran from officers and a stolen vehicle during a rash of Honda Thefts in the Milwaukee Area. K9 Chaz tracked and ultimately located 2 suspects hiding in a back yard. K9 Chaz apprehended one of the suspects near a garage and the other suspect gave up once seeing what happened to their partner. K9 Chaz continued on and located clothing and narcotic evidence that led to the arrest of a third suspect.

These highlighted deployments have been possible due to training put in with K9 Chaz by Cpl. Schultz and they continue to work to become a better team every day.

Cpl. Schultz and K9 Chaz assist with demonstrations around the Milwaukee Area. COVID-19 affected everyone including the West Allis K9 Unit. The West Allis Police K9 Unit is self-funded and relies on fundraising. Their annual golf outing was postponed to September of 2020 and still had a successful outing. The excitement of a new K9 on the force assisted with this turnout. Cpl. Schultz contracted COVID-19 in December of 2020 and it is believed K9 Chaz also contracted it during this time. K9 Chaz was incredibly lethargic (VERY out of character) and his hair was falling out. K9 Chaz bounced back in no time.

Cpl. Schultz and K9 Chaz's assistance with the WAPD K9 Unit led to the 2021 WAPD K9 Unit Golf Outing being the most successful outing to date in June of 2021.

A new K9 has brought lots of excitement to the West Allis Community. Cpl. Schultz wanted to be a part of the WAPD K9 Unit since his hiring in 2014 and he hopes to continue to improve and have success.

For these reasons and the work described in the above, I ask that you nominate Cpl. Schultz (and K9 Chaz) for Rookie Handler of the Year.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lt. Trever Pasdera
2nd Shift Patrol Division
West Allis Police Department