

## Patrol Cases of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2006

Officer Jay Thompson & K9 Harley  
St. Paul Police Department.

On 9-22-06 at 1944 hrs. a squad saw a car that was involved in a theft of a firearm. Officer Thompson responded and assisted in a felony stop of the vehicle at Highway 94 and Johnson Parkway. The car initially stopped but the occupant refused to comply with the commands of the officers. The driver began digging around in the center of the front seat, and, shortly thereafter, sped off, leading the officers on a vehicle pursuit.

The suspect attempted to make a turn when it exited the freeway, crashed into a car and fled on foot. As he ran north, the suspect had his left arm raised and was waving a handgun in an obvious effort to get the officers to stop chasing. Officer Thompson warned the suspect to stop or he would send his dog. The suspect refused to stop and continued running, crossing the street towards a dead end on Fourth Street then cut west into some thick bushes. K-9 Harley continued pursuing and chased into the bushes where the suspect had disappeared. Officer Thompson stayed back in a position of cover and, moments later, he could see K-9 Harley had apprehended the suspect and was pulling him out of the bushes. As he did so, the suspect began punching and kicking at the dog, trying to break free from his grasp. Officer Thompson ordered the suspect to stop resisting. The suspect continued resist the dog and had to be physically taken into custody by Officer Thompson and assisting officers.

After the suspect was taken into custody, a search of the area where the fight had occurred revealed the handgun lying in the grass. Officer Thompson and K-9 Harley assisted in the pursuit of an armed suspect that fled displaying a handgun while running away. If not for the presence of K-9 Harley, officers would have been forced to pursue in a much slower, tactical manner, possibly losing the suspect in the process.

The use of the police service dog allowed the officers to stay back in a position of cover and approach in a more tactical manner as K-9 Harley held the suspect down. A further benefit was the quick recovery of the handgun, both for its evidentiary value and the prevention of the gun falling into the wrong hands.

**Patrol Cases of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2006**  
**Case #2**  
Officer John Corcoran & K9 Shane  
St. Paul Police Department

On 8-21-06, at 1730 hrs. Officer Corcoran was called to 904 E. Fifth Street to conduct a narcotics search of the residence. Officers on scene had encountered a suspect coming out of a closet and recovered a large amount of methamphetamine in his possession. They obtained consent to search the home and Officer Corcoran brought in his K-9 partner Shane to perform a narcotics search of the home.

As Officer Corcoran began his search, he noticed numerous plastic baggies and glass pipes in the home. He began his search in the southwest bedroom and K-9 Shane immediately began indicating the presence of a narcotic odor by scratching at the lower

corner of a computer desk. As he did so, Shane pulled a loaded 9mm pistol out from under the desk. Officer Corcoran investigated further and found a used glass pipe and scale adjacent to where the gun had been.

Officer Corcoran re-initiated his search, ending at the closet that the suspect had initially walked out of. The closet was cluttered with electronic equipment, jackets and other items. K-9 Shane immediately showed interest in the closet and began to air scent heavily, trying to climb over a plastic tub and some other items. Officer Corcoran moved some of the items out of the way to allow Shane better access to the closet. He again sent K-9 Shane into the closet. This time Shane narrowed the source of the odor to a plastic storage box and he alerted, scratching and biting at the box. Officer Corcoran removed the box to be searched. It was found to contain numerous items of clothing and four plastic baggies containing one ounce of methamphetamine in each.

Officer Corcoran and K-9 Shane performed a narcotic search of a house locating drugs, paraphernalia and a loaded pistol. K-9 Shane quickly and efficiently located contraband and narcotics, which would have required an exhaustive search by the other officers and may not have been located without the use of the police service dog.