



EL SEGUNDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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MITCH TAVERA, CHIEF OF POLICE

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Death of Retired Police K-9 “Tarkan”



It comes with great sadness to announce retired police canine “Tarkan” lost his battle with cancer today and was put to rest. His former handler and partner for life, Officer Kenny McShane was by his side when Tarkan passed.

Tarkan was born on July 24, 1999 in Holland, where he earned a “Politiehond 1” certification in October 2002. After being chosen for police service in the United States, Tarkan traveled to Riverside, CA, and was selected by our organization as Officer

McShane's partner. Together they endured an intensive and rigorous six-week police canine course, where they earned their Police Service Dog Team certification. When Officer McShane and Tarkan reported for duty in the City of El Segundo, their designated call sign became "3K8" (3 King 8).

3K8 served as a team for five years beginning in January 2003 to January 2008. During their career, Tarkan became certified in Narcotics Detection and conducted over 237 drug searches, 18 evidence/article searches, 99 felony suspect searches, and they completed over 50 public demonstrations at City functions. Their work resulted in the capture of 17 felony suspects, the seizure of over 700 lbs of marijuana, 10 lbs of cocaine and over \$600,000.00 in drug tainted US currency.

As if work was not enough, 3K8 competed in over 20 police service dog competitions, where they earned "Top Dog" honors in Riverside along with 8 other first place trophies in their career.

My Partner (Author Unknown)

"My dog is more than my partner you see, because he is a very good friend to me. He's the nose I don't have, the eyes I have not, he's one of the best partners most cops ain't got. Day by day we do what we do best, his four paws never seem to rest. He always does whatever I ask, seeming to enjoy every task. I know one day his work will be done, but for now we can only have fun. For my dog is more than a partner to me, my dog is my best friend and he always will be."

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