



FACT SHEET

OPS CANINE UNIT

2019

TIMOTHY C. WARD COMMISSIONER

CLAY NIX DIRECTOR OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Office of Professional Standards Canine Unit is responsible for enhancing public safety throughout the state of Georgia by providing prompt and effective canine support for the Georgia Department of Corrections, public schools, as well as local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.



OVERVIEW

The Canine Unit currently houses, trains, and deploys tracking and trailing canines, narcotic detection canines, explosive detection canines and cell phone detection canines.

STRUCTURE

- 12 canine kennels
- 26 canine handlers
- 60 canines strategically housed throughout Georgia

Of the 60 canines, 32 are tracking and trailing dogs (Bloodhounds), 21 are narcotic detection dogs (German Shepherds and Belgium Malinois), 4 are explosive dogs (2 German Shepherd and 2 Belgium Malinois) and 3 narcotic cell phone detection canines (Belgium Malinois).

HANDLERS

- All GDC handlers are Law Enforcement mandated officers and are required to complete the Georgia Police Academy.

MAINTENANCE

- Yearly training to include firearms, CPR/First Aid and annual narcotic detection certification for the team.
- Upkeep and medical treatment of all canines.
- The Department has a partnership with Purina, who donates a portion of the food used to feed the canines. The partnership and donations assist with offsetting the cost of the program.

LOCATIONS - 12

BALDWIN STATE PRISON

- 2 Narcotic
- 1 Narcotic cell phone

- 3 Tracking
- 3 Handlers

COWETA AIRPORT

- 2 Narcotic
- 3 Tracking
- 2 Handlers

CENTRAL STATE PRISON

- 1 Narcotic
- 1 Narcotic cell phone
- 3 Tracking
- 2 Handlers
- 1 Explosive

DODGE STATE PRISON

- 2 Narcotic
- 2 Tracking
- 2 Handlers
- 1 Explosive

GEORGIA DIAGNOSTIC & CLASSIFICATION PRISON

- 1 Explosives
- 2 Narcotic
- 2 Tracking
- 2 Handlers

GEORGIA STATE PRISON

- 3 Narcotic
- 3 Tracking
- 3 Handlers

HAYS STATE PRISON

- 2 Narcotic
- 2 Tracking
- 2 Handlers

LEE ARRENDALE STATE PRISON

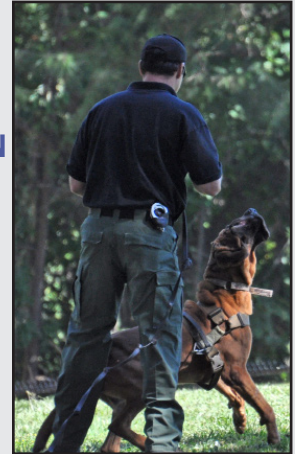
- 1 Narcotic
- 3 Tracking
- 2 Handlers

LEE STATE PRISON

- 1 Narcotic
- 1 Narcotic cell phone
- 2 Tracking
- 2 Handlers

PHILLIPS STATE PRISON

- 2 Narcotic
- 2 Tracking
- 2 Handlers





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STATEWIDE SERVICES CANINE UNITS

- Utilized on a daily basis.
- Conduct narcotic searches of the inmate living units and outside detail sites.
- Conduct routine searches of visitors, staff and other civilians at state facilities.
- Canine Units in North Georgia are involved with assisting the United States Army Rangers with Combat Readiness Training.

NARCOTIC DETECTION CANINES

- Assist probation, parole and other state local and federal agencies with search warrants, fourth amendment waivers and safety checks on our state highways and interstates.
- Narcotic detection dogs are also routinely utilized to conduct school searches in many of our state's public schools.

TRACKING CANINES

- Assist with the recapture of escaped felons from state and county facilities.
- Work closely with local law enforcement agencies to assist with the apprehension of fleeing felons throughout the counties across the state of Georgia.
- Assist in tasks such as arrest warrants, crimes in progress escapes from local police departments, etc.
- Assist with missing persons throughout the state.

EXPLOSIVES DETECTION CANINES

- Assigned to:
 - Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison
 - Dodge State Prison
 - Central State Prison
 - Baldwin State Prison
- Assist local, state and federal law enforcement agencies with many different tasks and missions.
- Assist the Department with bomb threats made at any of our state facilities.

- Used during mass gatherings in an effort to keep areas sterile and free from any potential harm.
- Utilized to assist with the clearing of areas for many high-profile venues such as campaign headquarters, campaign events and many sporting events.
- Assist with the clearing of schools once a threat has been made.
- Assist with many murder investigations.
 - Used to look for murder weapons and other explosive devices and evidence

CANINE DEPLOYMENT

- In 2011, Canine Units were deployed on:
 - 1,631 departmental calls, 408 outside law enforcement calls. Units removed 418 cell phones, 168 weapons and 67.11 lbs. of illegal narcotics from state facilities and probationers' residences
- In 2012, Canine Units were deployed on:
 - 1,291 departmental calls, 363 outside law enforcement calls. A total of 339 cell phones and 105 weapons were removed from state facilities. Additionally, 36.7 lbs. of marijuana, 2.43 oz. of methamphetamine, 16 meth labs and 5.2 lbs. of cocaine have been confiscated from our facilities and probationers' residences.
- In 2013, Canine Units were deployed on:
 - 1,595 departmental calls and 508 outside law enforcement calls. A total of 224 cell phones and 184 weapons were removed from state facilities. Units also removed 24 lbs. of marijuana, 10 oz. of cocaine, and 12.5 oz. of methamphetamine from state facilities and probationers' residences.
- In 2014, Canine Units were deployed on:
 - 2,015 departmental calls and 447 outside law enforcement calls. A total of 369 cell phones and 119 weapons were removed from state facilities. Units also removed 26.3 lbs. of marijuana, 2.4 lbs. of cocaine, and 12.1 lbs. of methamphetamine from state facilities, state detail sites, and probationers' residences. An additional 106.66 lbs.





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of tobacco were removed from state facilities and detail work sites.

- In 2015, Canine Units were deployed on:
 - 1,981 departmental calls and 843 outside law enforcement calls. A total of 306 cell phones and 183 weapons were removed from state facilities. Units also removed 19.4 lbs. of marijuana, 12.7 oz. of cocaine, and 8.7 lbs. of methamphetamine from state facilities, state detail sites, and probationers' residences. An additional 91.1 lbs. of tobacco were removed from state facilities and detail work sites.
- In 2016, Canine Units were deployed on:
 - 1,699 departmental calls and 538 outside law enforcement calls. A total of 140 cell phones and 86 weapons were removed from state facilities. Units also removed 9.6 lbs. of marijuana, 30 grams of cocaine, and 7.4 lbs. of methamphetamine from state facilities and state detail sites. An additional 16.9 lbs. of tobacco were removed from state facilities.



FISCAL YEAR 2019 JULY - OCTOBER STATS

- 457 Departmental call outs
- 356 OLE call outs
- 188 Cell phones
- 11 weapons
- 14.5 lbs marijuana
- 2 lbs. meth
- 57.5 lbs tobacco