



LARAMIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
1910 PIONEER AVENUE
CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82001
www.LCSOwy.org

Brian Kozak
SHERIFF

Date of Release: May 26, 2026
Contact: Brandon Warner 307-633-4751 Brandon.Warner@laramiecountywy.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Laramie County Sheriff's Office K9 Teams Successfully Complete Annual IPCA Certification

The Laramie County Sheriff's Office is proud to announce that all agency K9 teams successfully completed their annual certification process through the International Police Canine Association (IPCA) during the month of May. The certification process ensures that LCSO K9 teams maintain the highest levels of proficiency, reliability, and readiness - in line with national best practice for law enforcement K9 units.

LCSO's Dual Purpose K9 teams completed certification in both patrol and illegal drug detection disciplines. Patrol certification evaluates a K9 team's ability to safely and effectively perform tasks such as apprehension, obedience, control, and tactical deployment. Illegal drug detection certification tests the K9's ability to locate the odor of illegal substances, including methamphetamine, marijuana, fentanyl, cocaine, and heroin, in a variety of real-world environments and scenarios.

The LCSO Detention Center K9 team also successfully completed illegal drug detection certification, demonstrating proficiency in locating the odor of the same illegal substances within detention and correctional environments. Additionally, LCSO Explosive Odor Detection (EOD) K9 teams successfully completed certification involving the detection of various explosive materials and propellants. These teams play a critical role in public safety, assisting with threat response, suspicious package investigations, dignitary protection, and proactive explosive detection operations.

All certifications were conducted and evaluated by independent officials outside of the Laramie County Sheriff's Office to ensure objective assessment and compliance with recognized professional standards.

The International Police Canine Association is a nationally recognized organization dedicated to advancing police canine training and operational

standards. IPCA certification programs are designed to test K9 teams under standardized, scenario-based conditions that mirror the challenges encountered in the field. Annual certification helps ensure that handlers and K9s remain proficient and capable of performing their duties safely and effectively.

The Laramie County Sheriff's Office would like to congratulate K9 Dak and Deputy Wiltanger, K9 Yapp and Sgt. Atencio, K9 Cash and Deputy Sill, K9 Arek and Deputy Groendal, and K9 Blair and Deputy Wright on earning another year of certification. Their commitment to training and operational excellence helps ensure the continued safety and security of our community.

The Sheriff's Office would also like to recognize K9 Diana and her handler, Deputy Adam Hall, who are currently participating in an intensive six-week training course. Upon graduation, K9 Diana will support both the School Resource Deputy program and Patrol Division as an illegal drug detection K9. We look forward to welcoming K9 Diana to the 2027 certification week and seeing the impact this team will have serving the citizens Laramie County.

This was a joint certification which included handlers from Albany County Sheriff's Office, Gleenwood Springs Police Department, as well as the Cheyenne Police Department. The Laramie County Sheriff's Office congratulates all K9 handlers and their partners on their successful certifications and continued commitment to excellence.



Riding for the BRAND as one team to fight crime!