

Providing free lifesaving medical care to retired law enforcement and military dogs no longer cared for by the government

## Owner of K9 Tex 'Blown Away' by the Generosity of Donors Like You!



K9 Tex served the Frederick County

Sheriff's Office in Virginia as a Dual-Purpose Patrol/Tracking and Narcotics

K9 for nearly seven years.

Meet K9 Tex, one of the 370 retired hero pups Paws of Honor is proud to support in their sunset years. Tex loved to work, and served the Frederick County Sheriff's Office in Virginia as a Dual-Purpose Patrol/Tracking and Narcotics K9 for nearly seven years. He is credited with numerous criminal apprehensions as well as hundreds of drug-related finds and arrests!

After Tex retired from service, his handler contacted Paws of Honor because Tex was experiencing medical issues. We told him to apply online so we could start taking care of this hero right away ... and Tex ended up needing emergency surgery the same day due to a possible mesenteric torsion.

The surgery would have cost his handler almost \$6,000, but instead, Tex's bill was PAID IN FULL by Paws of Honor – <u>thanks to the generosity</u> <u>of patriotic dog-lovers like YOU</u>!

Tex's handler told us (and YOU!):

"You have no idea how grateful and blown away I am by this! I would do anything in the

world for him. So by you guys taking the financial burden off me, I can't thank y'all enough!!! He's saved my butt at work several times."

Tex's handler clearly knows what you know, too: that **our heroic retired K9 officers deserve quality, accessible veterinary care** in return for their commitment and sacrifice.

And the kindness of friends like you meant Tex's family didn't have to worry about paying for an emergency trip to the vet; instead, they could focus on helping their best friend recover.

**Every day we at Paws of Honor put our heart and soul into serving the retired military and law enforcement K9s across America** – 598 K9s from



Paws of Honor and kind friends like you provided K9 Tex with nearly \$6,000 in lifesaving medical care, free of charge to his handler.

186 agencies since 2015! These hero pups selflessly served our country and communities – and supporting them in their retirement is the *least* we can do for them!

So thank you for your dedication to serving America's deserving retired working dogs in their golden years. Your kindness is **helping save the lives of hero pups like Tex**, giving them more time to live a happy and healthy retirement with their families. I hope you enjoy the stories in your supporter-exclusive *K9* 

#### Inside Your Paws of Honor Newsletter:

Page 2: Your Generosity Helping These K9 Heroes FALL Into A Happy, Healthy Retirement!

Page 3: What Will YOUR Legacy Be?

Page 4: "Thank YOU" From K9s and Handlers Helped By Donors Like You

*Corner* newsletter – highlighting all the good your generosity is doing for America's best friends!

# Your Generosity Is Helping These Hero Dogs FALL Into A Happy, Healthy Retirement!



### **Explosive Detection K9 Boka**

Hi! I'm **K9 Boka**, a seven-year-old German Shorthaired Pointer who served as an **Explosive Detection K9** with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). My dad and I worked at San Francisco International Airport from 2018 to 2022 -- and we even got to work the 2021 Super Bowl in Los Angeles!

## **Explosive Detection K9 Lady**

Hi! I'm **Military Working Dog (MWD) Lady**, and I served with the U.S. Air Force for almost six years. I trained as a **Single-Purpose Explosive Detection K9** and was assigned to Fairchild Air Force Base in Washington state. During my career I served on two United States Secret Service missions, one to San Diego and another to Japan, and responded to three off-base bomb threats. Today I'm a loving, goofy dog who still acts like a puppy. I'm energetic, enjoy playing in the leaves, and love retirement in Michigan with my family, who call me "Lady Bug."





## **Explosive Detection K9 Crock**

Hi! I'm **K9 Crock**. I served the **U.S. Army** for 10 years as a **Dual-Purpose Explosive Detection K9**, saving multiple lives during combat operations, keeping morale high, and putting my heart, soul, and life into my work! I have a great personality and am loved by everyone who has worked with me. My favorite thing to do during retirement is to sleep -- and my family thinks I've earned it.

Hi! I'm **MWD Rrodriguez**, and I worked for the **U.S. Army** at Fort Myer in Virginia, helping with security to keep everyone safe. I deployed multiple times to Iraq to assist in operation Inherent Resolve, and served multiple U.S. Secret Service missions at home and overseas. Today I'm enjoying a happy retirement with my former handler.





## **Explosive Detection K9 Ares**

Thank you from me and my dad! I'm K9 Ares and I served as an Explosive Detection dog for the U.S. Secret Service for six years. Late last year, I needed surgery and treatment to have my eye removed. Because of wonderful Paws of Honor donors like you, I got the surgery and care I needed. Thanks again for helping me. I hope you are able to continue helping friends like me.



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## Please Consider Joining Our Monthly Giving Club to Help Us Plan Ahead for K9 Surgeries and Emergency Care

Paws of Honor's **K9** Companion Club is a simple and secure way YOU can help care for America's K9 heroes after they retire from service -- with some great benefits that make it as easy as possible for you to continue your faithful patriotic support for America's four-legged heroes! If you join...

- ★ Your monthly donation is conveniently charged to your credit card each month, saving you time writing checks and searching for stamps.
- ★ Your monthly gift benefits even more K9 heroes because knowing we can count on your gift allows us to plan ahead financially and maximize our effectiveness.
- ★ You'll still receive important program updates and newsletters like this one, to see the good work your generosity is doing for our heroes.
- **★** You're free to cancel or pause your **K9** Companion Club membership at any time.

Your monthly gift can be life-changing in any amount. So I hope you'll join the **K9 Companion Club** today -- to support our K9 heroes in desperate need of urgent medical care and ongoing treatment to improve their quality of life. *To enroll, please see your enclosed reply form.* 



### **In Memoriam: K9 Porter**

This sweet boy is **K9 Porter**, who served as a **Patrol**, **Search & Rescue**, **Cadaver** and **Water Recovery K9** for the **Connecticut State Police**. Porter crossed the Rainbow Bridge in 2022 after an extensive and accomplished career, giving almost eight years of service to the state of Connecticut. Shortly after retiring in 2021, Porter developed Degenerative Myelopathy, and despite fighting hard, this awful disease took him from his family too soon. His handler says, "If a fraction of people on this earth had half the heart, courage and resilience of my partner, the world would be a better place."

# What Will YOUR Legacy Be?

## Prove Your Lasting Commitment to America's Four-Legged Heroes by Leaving a Bequest to Paws of Honor

### "If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went." – Humorist Will Rogers

Your past generosity has proven your commitment to helping America's brave retired working dogs. Now, won't you consider taking your giving to the next level by supporting them for years to come? It's simple and effective to do so by making a bequest to Paws of Honor in your will, insurance policy, or other planned giving option! *Your charitable bequest is needed and greatly appreciated by Paws of Honor, especially in tumultuous times like these!* 

### Proper Language to Include When Making Your Bequest to Paws of Honor:

"After Fulfilling All Other Provisions, I Give, Devise and Bequeath \_\_\_\_ Percent of the Residue of My Estate to Paws of Honor Tax ID # 47-5643489, Which Pays for the Medical Care of Retired Military as well as Federal, State, and Local K9s."

To schedule a confidential discussion of your options, email us at info@pawsofhonor.org or call (703) 403-8281. Paws of Honor does not provide legal or financial advice to prospective or current donors. Always consult your attorney and financial advisor before making any important decisions regarding your estate.

# German Shepherd Bit by Snake Lived 3 More Years Thanks to Friends Like You

Your gift to Paws of Honor helps provide veterinary care and products free of charge for retired military and law enforcement K9s who served our country bravely and are now in need of medical attention. The officers, handlers, and owners you're helping are so grateful for your support! Because, without your help, many would struggle to provide their furry companions with the proper medical attention they need to live healthy happy lives, even after they've retired from a life of service. The messages below are for <u>YOU</u> from the families of K9s supported by generous friends of Paws of Honor.

"The medical staff at Paws of Honor are truly angels. We met them after my retired police K9 partner had been bitten by a snake in my backyard. When this happened, he jumped back and in the process also tore his ACL. He was in such grave condition that the doctor told the vet techs not to get attached to my K9 because he wasn't expected to make it through the weekend. However, this did not change their treatment of him. They went above and beyond over and over for him. Because of them, I got to spend three more years with the best partner I ever worked with... I owe them a debt I could never repay for the love they showed my boy. I could never express all of my gratitude to them. This is the feeling every handler feels for the never ending support they provide."

- Handler of K9 Dante, a German Shepherd who served as a police K9 for the Prince William County Police Department "Paws of Honor were Angels that were sent to myself and Urbi. After six solid years of numerous [drug] seizures ... Urbi was able to retire and spend two good years in retirement fashion. He developed a growth which turned out to be Sarcoma Cancer. Paws of Honor was there for us. They paid 100% of Urbi's medical [care] ... I am forever indebted and grateful to Paws of Honor for the support that they provide to Retired Military and Law Enforcement Canines. The burden of medical care can be overwhelming but thanks to this great Organization, myself and many others can take a breath with our four-legged family members."

– Handler of K9 Urbi, a retired Narcotics/ Human Detector K9 for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection

"When I was given the opportunity to adopt my partner [K9 Rriverso], I never thought twice. Being able to spend his golden years relaxing with me and my family in the only home he had known for years was the ONLY option. I never considered how those golden years are the most expensive years of a dog's life. It gets more and more expensive to keep him comfortable and let him enjoy the things he enjoyed when he was younger. Thanks to Paws of Honor, he has been given much better care than I would have ever been able to afford. Rriverso is not just living his final years, he's thriving in them and enjoying them. When Rriverso ate one of the kid's cupcakes (foil and all) it was Paws of Honor that saved his life from the gastrointestinal blockage. Rriverso's life has been so greatly improved by the work of the wonderful people at Paws of Honor and we are eternally grateful for these wonderful years together, no monetary value can be put on that."

> – Handler of K9 Rriverso, an Explosive Detection K9 who worked security at Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C.