



**The Charette Foundation**  
**Robbie Gail Charette Police Canine Support Program**  
**P.O. Box 2227**  
**Brenham, Texas 77834**

**Purpose:**

The Robbie Gail Charette Police Canine Support Program was formed to offer financial assistance to Texas Law Enforcement agencies. Agencies with less than seventy-five (75) sworn personnel who need narcotics and/or explosives detection canines are encouraged to apply for this grant. Robbie Gail's unending support for law enforcement, desire to enhance officer safety and effectiveness, and love for dogs are the reasons this program was initiated.

**Requirements:**

Agencies must commit to:

1. Legal ownership of the donated canine (ownership must belong to the agency's oversight authority not to an individual);
2. a full-time, effective and efficient canine program;
3. classify the donated canine as a "working dog" as long as it is healthy and able to perform required duties;
4. submit established department canine policies and procedures to the Foundation prior to "taking ownership" of the canine;
5. reoccurring expenses for training, certifications, food, housing and health care;
6. obtain annual certification(s) from a nationally recognized certifying organization such as the National Police Canine Association;
7. provide adequate housing, transportation, food and medical care for the canine throughout the canine's tenure with the agency;
8. provide handler with the appropriate canine equipment prior to initial training;
9. transport vehicle must be equipped with a canine heat alert system;
10. provide on-going handler and canine training with a competent qualified trainer;
11. canine training (must meet the industry standard of a minimum of 16 hours of training each month);
12. documenting all canine trainings and utilizations, and require supervisory review of all records;
13. provide department executives and the Foundation with quarterly reports and accumulated annual report of all canine utilizations and trainings;
14. provide an annual statistical report to the Foundation for review and possible publication on the Foundation's website;

15. sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the law enforcement agency and the Charette Foundation releasing the Foundation and its board members from any further financial responsibilities and/or liabilities;
16. sign photo publicity release form that would allow the Foundation to post on social media;
17. seek approval from the Foundation to “transfer” the donated canine if the agency decides to discontinue their canine program (most likely, approvals will be granted to agencies that meet the requirements of this agreement); and
18. Allow the current or previous handler first choice upon the canine’s retirement (must accept ownership of the animal as a private citizen). If this option is not possible, the canine must be retired to an individual with experience handling police or military canines.

**Awarded agencies will receive the following benefits:**

1. Trained narcotics or explosives canine detection dog from an approved vendor (all vendors must be approved by the Foundation’s board members).
2. Introductory two-week handler course paid by the Foundation. The Foundation will cover the cost of training and room and board (note: awarded agencies are required to pay for the handler’s transportation costs).
3. The vendor will provide awarded agencies a Certificate of Good Health from a licensed veterinarian.
4. All awarded canines will be microchipped.

**Definitions:**

1. Adequate housing – a secured covered, temperature-controlled area for the canine to rest and exercise, and access to drinking water
2. Awarded agencies – Texas Law Enforcement agencies with less than 75 sworn personnel in good standing with the State of Texas that are approved to receive a trained canine by the board members of The Charette Foundation
3. Foundation – refers to “The Charette Foundation”
4. Full-time - a minimum of 32 hours per seven-day period
5. Robbie Gail Charette Police Canine Support Program – a program of the Charette Foundation
6. Working dog – a police canine trained by certified industry professionals to perform law enforcement functions in the detection of illegal narcotics and/or explosives