



North Region EMS System

Policy Section #	Administrative	
	AD 209	Date 8/2023`
Title	Animal Transport: Service/Support /Law Enforcement Animals	
Page	1 of 2	

Purpose To provide treatment and transport guidelines for law enforcement and service animals.

- Policy**
- 1) Law Enforcement Animals
 - a. North Region EMS System Providers may transport a police dog injured in the line of duty to a veterinary clinic or similar facility if no persons require medical attention or transport at that time.
 - b. A "police dog" means a dog owned or used by a law enforcement department or agency in the course of the department or agency's work, including a search and rescue dog, service dog, accelerant detection canine, or other dog that is in use by a county, municipal, or State law enforcement agency.
 - c. EMS personnel will require the assistance of the police dog's police handler to approach the dog and ensure it is safe for EMS personnel to attend to the police dog.
 - d. EMS personnel may provide BLS-level first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and life-saving interventions. Providers are NOT authorized to provide ALS-level care to a police dog.
 - 2) Service Animals
 - a. A service animal is a dog individually trained to perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The functions performed by the service animal must be directly related to the person's disability.
 - b. EMS personnel may ask the following two questions to determine if an animal is a service animal:
 - i. Is the animal required due to a disability?
 - ii. What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?
 - c. EMS personnel shall make reasonable accommodations to allow service animals to accompany individuals with disabilities during patient transports.
 - d. The presence of a service animal should not hinder the provision of necessary medical care. The safety and well-being of both the patient and the service animal should be considered.
 - e. EMS personnel should not separate the patient from their service animal unless it poses a direct threat to the safety of others or if the presence of the animal interferes with the provision of medical care.
 - f. If the service animal needs to be temporarily relocated during medical procedures, efforts should be made to reunite the patient and their service animal as soon as possible.
 - g. Before leaving the scene, EMS personnel shall communicate with the receiving hospital staff to determine if the hospital can receive the patient with the service animal.
 - i. If the receiving hospital cannot accommodate the service animal due to exceptional circumstances (e.g., infection control, safety risks, specific medical procedures), alternative arrangements should be made to



North Region EMS System

Policy Section #	Administrative	Date 8/2023`
Title	Animal Transport: Service/Support /Law Enforcement Animals	
Page	2 of 2	

ensure the patient's continuity of care and the well-being of the service animal.

- h. EMS personnel should document the presence of a service animal in the patient care report, including any pertinent details such as the animal's behavior and interactions.

References

<https://ag.state.il.us/rights/servanimals.html>

<https://idhhc.illinois.gov/resources/service-animals-resources.html>

Attachment

Evert Gerritsen
EMS System Administrator/Coordinator

Michael I. Peters, MD
EMS Medical Director

Written 8/2023
Reviewed/Revised 9/07/2023
IDPH Approval 9/07/2023
Effective 9/07/2023