

August 10, 2003

To whom it may concern,

My name is Alan Olsen and I am a patrol sergeant for the Ada County Sheriff's Office in Boise, Idaho. I am in charge of the k9 Unit which consists of three patrol dogs, four narcotic detection dogs and one bomb dog. I am also currently one of the patrol dog handlers.

I am writing this letter in reference to Patrick O'Connor who was involved with the training of our three patrol dogs. From the very first week that I met Mr. O'Connor I was very impressed with his broad knowledge of training police dogs. Most of our dogs were very "green" when we purchased them. In addition to that we were all very new handlers with little or no experience as k-9 handlers. Mr. O'Connor trained us to have great control on and off leash with our dogs, i.e., building searches, area searches and general and tactical obedience. Our dogs were also trained in criminal apprehension, tracking, handler protection and call offs.

By the end of our training program we were all able to certify our dogs in the state of Idaho with no problems. As with all police dogs, each one of our handlers or k-9's had some type of training issue. Mr. O'Connor was very patient and persistent with teaching us the proper problem solving techniques we needed for our dogs to succeed.

All three of the police dogs that Mr. O'Connor trained are still working the streets of Ada County and we have all had great success with our dogs. With the help of Mr. O'Connor's training our k-9 Unit is one of the best if not the best k9 Unit in the state of Idaho.

I highly recommend Mr. O'Connor as a police K-9 trainer for your agency. If you have any questions please call me at (208) 377-7374, ext. 6506, or my cell phone (208) 870-8415.

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