

Each requirement must be signed off by a primary evaluator. Handler must be field qualified in area search or trailing prior to getting any article search sign-offs.

### **1. Log book**

The team shall have documented at least six months of current training in article search.

### **2. Article Search Exercises**

The team must demonstrate the ability to find/locate the below-listed articles from the categories of fabric, metal, plastic, and leather at one or more training sessions. Scent sources are to be placed 15 minutes before the dog begins searching. The team will have 15 minutes to complete each sign-off. These sign-offs may or may not be completed on the same day. The scent item location will not be known to the team.

#### **2.1. On-Line Article Search - Fabric**

A previously worn dark and dull colored shirt will be placed in an area approximately 25 feet by 150 feet along an active road. The item should not be readily visible to the dog and handler. The dog shall locate the item while working on a long line or leash.

#### **2.2. Surface Search - Metal**

A group of keys held approximately 30 seconds in the clenched fist will then be placed on the ground and shall not be readily visible to the dog or handler. The size of the search area shall be 20 feet by 20 feet.

#### **2.3. Small Article Search - Plastic**

Two plastic credit cards or similar objects held approximately 30 seconds in the clenched fist will be placed at least ten feet apart from each other on the ground in short vegetation. The size of the search area shall be 20 feet by 20 feet. The dog shall locate at least one of the scent items.

#### **2.4. Surface Search - Leather**

A leather wallet or similar object held approximately 30 seconds in the clenched fist will then be placed on the ground and shall not be readily visible to the dog or handler. The size of the search area shall be 20 feet by 20 feet'.

Southwest Search Dogs (SWSD) Article Search Sign-Offs

Handler \_\_\_\_\_ Dog \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** It is the handler's responsibility to have each of the categories listed signed and dated by an evaluator.

Sign-Off	Date	Evaluator Signature
1. Log Book		
2.1 On-Line Article Search - Fabric		
2.2 Surface Search - Metal		
2.3 Small Article Search - Plastic		
2.4 Surface Search - Leather		