

**Shay Cook**  
**BA, RVT, LATg, CPIA**  
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### **Canine Wilderness, Trailing and Cadaver Handler/Instructor**

#### **K9s**

- **Zinka von Sontausen BN, TDX, HT, CGC, SAR Wilderness, PAM, Trailing Type 1/Terrain 1, Cadaver Type 1/Terrain 1**
- **Wren von Sontausen BN, RV, TDX, SAR Trailing Type 1/Terrain 1, FEMA CA-TF4 (Live)**

#### **K9 Handler Accomplishments**

Wilderness "Area" certifications (CARDA/OES) Type 1 Terrain

Cadaver certifications (CARDA/OES) Type 1 Terrain

Trailing Certification Wilderness and Urban (CARDA/OES) Type 1 Terrain

SAR Tech II (NASAR)

#### **Insect Detection Dogs (IDDOGS Inc.)**

Jul 2007 – Aug 2012

President/Co-founder

- Coordinate all dog trainings, testing and trials.
- Evaluate dog teams (handler and canines) for appropriate work ethics drives.
- Create estimates, invoices and all reports for clients.
- Project coordinators working with clients to assure needs are met and assess additional requirements.
- Oversight of all documentation, create and maintain forms, client database, QuickBooks, map programs (Terrain Navigator Pro) and additional documents as needed.
- Work with regulatory agencies to meet guidelines and protocols.
- Compile raw data, materials and abstracts for research grants

#### **Search and Rescue (SAR) 09/95 to present**

Perform search and rescue functions as requested for the State of California, Alameda Sheriff Office, Marin County Sheriff Office, and Yosemite National Parks. Certified five canines in three disciplines, in addition I have served on the evaluations committee, training committee, training group leader, district representative, dispatcher, dog coordinator (planning, logistics and operations), member at large on board of directors, and function as media liaison when requested. I have deployed on over 400 searches.

#### **Professional Affiliations/Experience**

- 1995 to present - California Rescue Dog Association
  - (CARDA) District Representative, Member at Large (BOD), K9 Handler, Training Group Leader, Evaluator
- 2006 to present - Alameda County Sheriff Office
  - (ALCO) K9 Handler
- 2011 to present - Yosemite National Park
  - (YODOGS) Team Lead/K9 Handler
- 2016 to present - Marin County Sheriff Office
  - (MCSO) K9 Handler, Track lead
- 2020 to present – Oakland, CA Task Force 4 FEMA

#### **Education/Certifications**

1994 Registered Veterinary Technician with State Of California Veterinary Medical Board

1996 CPR for the Professional Rescuer (Annual recertification)

1996 Emergency First Aid Response (Every three-year recertification)

1996 Track Awareness and Searching

1997 Rescue Systems 1 (RS1) – Industrial Emergency Council (USAR/OES)  
1997 Wilderness First Aid  
1999 Hazardous Material Course First Responder Awareness  
1999 IS-10 Animals in Disaster Awareness and Preparedness  
1999 IS-11 Animals in Disaster Awareness and Preparedness  
1999 Amateur Radio License (FCC) – HAM License K9AID  
1999 Canine Decontamination – Institute for Canine Forensics  
1999 Bone Identification  
2000 ATV Basic Safety Course – ATV Safety Institute  
2001 First Responder Operations Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Terrorism  
2002 Certified Professional Manager  
2003 Bachelor’s Degree in Business Management  
2005 Bone Identification  
2006 Advanced OES/SAR Driver Training  
2006 IS 100 Introduction to the Incident Command System  
2006 IS 200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents  
2006 IS 700 National Incident Management System (NIMS) an Introduction  
2006 Decomposition processes  
2006 SARTECH II (National Search and Rescue)  
2006 Section Chief Management (Office of Emergency Services)  
2006 Emergency Vehicle Operation (EVOG)  
2006 BASARC Section Chief Management Course (BASARC)  
2009 Urban Shield  
2019 IS-800.c National Response Framework, An Introduction

**Conferences/Seminars**

1997 BATSAR-97 (Instructor)  
1998 The Big Picture – Institute for Canine Forensics  
2001 SAREX  
2004 SAREX  
2011 SAR City (Instructor)  
2012 SAREX (Instructor)  
2012 Mare Island, CA Chris Weeks Seminar  
2013 Presentation on K9 Search and Rescue Team Inc. (Instructor)  
2014 Presentation to Yosemite (Instructor)  
2014 SLO Locating the Dead  
2014 SAREX (Instructor)  
2015 Alameda County, CA Chris Weeks Seminar  
2015 Yosemite, SAR Days Presentation (Instructor)  
2015 SAREX (Instructor)  
2016 Cody, WY Jonnie Joyce Seminar  
2016 Yosemite, SAR Days Presentation (Instructor)  
2016 SAREX (Instructor)  
2017 Yosemite, SAR Days Presentation (Instructor)  
2017 SAREX (Instructor)  
2018 Yosemite, SAR Days Presentation (Instructor)  
2018 SAREX (Instructor)  
2019 SARDOG – Larimer Co, CO (Instructor)  
2019 WASAR CON WA (Instructor)  
2019 Windriver Seminar, WY  
2019 SAREX Marin, CA (K9 Track Lead)  
2019 FACTS Seminar, TX (Instructor, Wrangler)

**Certificate/Letters of Appreciation**

1998 Monterey County Sheriff-Marshall-Coroner- Public Administrator Department  
1998 County of Santa Clara Medical Examiner-Coroner

2006 Sheriff's Department Madera County  
2006 County of Santa Clara Office of the Sheriff  
2006 10 Year Service Award CARDA  
2006 Governor's Office of Emergency Services Law Enforcement Branch  
2006 Alameda County Sheriff's Office  
2006 Alameda County Sheriff's Office  
2009 Alameda County Sheriff's Office, Sandra Cantu  
2009 Hayward Police Department  
2012-2013 CARDA Larry Peabody Award  
2012-2015 Yosemite National Park, Rixi, Outstanding Service to Yosemite Search and Rescue YODOGS  
2014 Governor's Office of Emergency Services Law Enforcement Branch, Oso, WA Mudslide  
2015 Marin County Sheriff's Office  
2015 Marin County Sheriff's Office  
2015 Yosemite National Park  
2016 Alameda County Sheriff's Office  
2016 Alameda County Sheriff's Office 10 Years' Service  
2017 Alameda County Sheriff's Office, Ghost Ship Fire  
2017 Alameda County Sheriff's Office, Oakland Fire  
2017 CARDA 20 Years' Service

### **Noteworthy Searches**

Deployed on over 400 searches throughout the state in Wilderness, Urban, Trailing or Cadaver discipline with some noteworthy searches listed below:

1998 Monterey Co. CA, Christina Williams  
1998 Contra Costa Co. CA, Lisa Norrell  
1998 San Mateo Co. CA, James Holt  
1999 Santa Cruz Co. CA, Xiana Fairchild  
2005 Contra Costa Co. CA, John Finney  
2006 Mendocino Co. CA, Michael Price  
2006 Alameda Co. CA, Nina Reiser  
2008 Alameda Co. CA, SF "Cadaver Van Case" Leonard Milo Hoskins  
2009 San Joaquin Co. CA, Sandra Cantu  
2009 Contra Costa Co. CA, Jaycee Dugard  
2010 San Bruno, CA San Bruno Explosion  
2012 Yosemite, CA Big Oak Flats  
2014 Oso, WA Mudslide  
2015 Yosemite, CA, Michael Dahl  
2016 Yosemite, CA Mt. Whitney  
2016 Yosemite, CA White Wolf  
2016 Vallejo, CA Pearl Pinson  
2016 Oakland, CA "Ghost Ship" Fire  
2017 Santa Rosa, CA "Tubbs" Fire  
2018 Santa Barbara, CA "Montecito" Mudslide  
2018 Mariposa, CA Mudslides  
2018 Butte, CA "Camp Fire"

### **Publications/Articles/Podcasts (author/speaker)**

1995 K9 First Aid (with Adela Morris)  
2010 CANIDAE® "Can Dogs Be Trained to Sniff Out Insects?"  
2010 Presumed Dead by Henry Lee  
2012 The German Shepherd Dog "The Life of Rixi"  
2013 Backpacker Magazine "Heroes"  
2015 Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) Guidelines "K9 Tactical Emergency Casualty Care Working Group – Challenges Facing Prehospital Care for Operational K9s Injured in the line of duty"  
2015 K-9 Cops Magazine "Importance of K-9 Decontamination"  
2016 PBS New Hour "Inside the extraordinary nose of a search-and-rescue dog"

2016 Poop Detectives: Working Dogs in the Field by Ginger Wadsworth  
2017 Search Dog Podcast NSDA “EPISODE 46 Canine Decontamination”  
2018 SEARCHDOG ““In The Zone” K9 Handler Shay Cook Interview Feature!”  
2020 Police K9 July/Aug “The Importance of Decontamination”  
2020 Police K9 Sept/Oct “Scent Article Collection for SAR Handlers”

**Presentations**

An Overview of Search Dogs  
K9 Search Management – ICS perspective for deploying K9 teams  
Briefing  
Debriefing  
Helicopter Awareness  
Knowledge of Scent  
K9 Area/Wilderness Foundation Skills  
K9 Area/Wilderness Search Strategy  
K9 Body Language  
K9 Decontamination  
K9 & Handler Fitness  
K9 Trailing Tactics  
K9 Trailing Tactics an Operational Perspective  
Reality of Scent for Area and Trailing Teams