

**1028. LAW ENFORCEMENT CANINES & LAW ENFORCEMENT CANINE QUALIFYING OFFICIALS**

**(1) CANINE QUALIFICATION**

- (a) A canine used in law enforcement in the State of Arkansas may be qualified by a law enforcement canine qualifying official
- (b) Law enforcement agencies that choose to use the CLEST canine qualification program shall meet or exceed the minimum standards approved by CLEST for the type of canine being qualified.
- (c) Law enforcement canine qualifying official certificates issued by the Division remain the property of CLEST and the Division shall have the power to revoke or recall any certificate.

**(2) LAW ENFORCEMENT CANINE QUALIFYING OFFICIAL CERTIFICATION**

- (a) A person desiring to qualify law enforcement canines in the State of Arkansas may be certified by the Division as a law enforcement canine qualifying official.
- (b) A person desiring to obtain a law enforcement canine qualifying official certificate must:
  - (i) Submit an application to the Division;
  - (ii) Submit a letter confirming compliance with 1028(2)(c); and
  - (iii) Submit proof of completion of the Arkansas Qualifying Official course.
- (c) Applicants must have five (5) years of experience as a canine officer, or be actively serving as a qualifying official with a nationally recognized police canine organization, to be eligible for a law enforcement canine qualifying official certificate.