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HPD Hosts Iron Dog K-9 Competition

Harrisonburg, VA – The Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) will host the Iron Dog Police K-9 Competition this week.

On Wednesday, October 14, HPD will welcome law enforcement agencies from Virginia and Maryland and their police dogs to the annual event.

There will be nine separate events that officers and their dogs will have the opportunity to compete in.

“Being a canine handler is such a specialized assignment and this is an opportunity for us to train and compete against other agencies with a similar specialty,” explained Sergeant Carl Cline, K-9 unit supervisor. “This is also a chance for the handlers to test the skills and agility of their dogs.”

Officers with HPD have participated in this event in other localities but this is the first time HPD has had the opportunity to host the Iron Dog event. A total of 27 teams will be participating in this year’s competition.

HPD’s K-9 Unit is comprised of five officers, one supervisor and six canines. Each member of the unit has been partnered with either a Belgian malinois or a German shepherd. The dogs are all cross trained in patrol utility work and scent detection work.

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