



**CITY OF BURNSVILLE, MINNESOTA
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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Eric Gieseke
Chief of Police



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**BURNSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT K-9 JET AWARDED
'HEALTHCARE FOR K9 HEROES' GRANT**

Burnsville K-9 Jet was recently awarded a "Healthcare for K9 Heroes" grant from Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. This 501c (3) nationwide charity, located in East Taunton, Mass, lives by the mission to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States.

About the Grant

The "Healthcare for K9 Heroes" grant is a medical insurance program that covers annual policy premiums for K9s. Since 2016, the charity has donated more than \$60,000 toward medical reimbursement programs for self-funded K9 units.

The "Healthcare for K9 Heroes" grant is awarded to departments who have (1) the financial burden of raising funds to support their K9 unit, (2) who have no more than three K9s, and (3) who have previously been awarded a vest through Vested Interest in K9s, Inc.

Law enforcement dogs ages two through seven are eligible. The annual medical reimbursement insurance policy, administered by *Trupanion*, will cover illnesses, injuries (including those sustained in the line of duty), diagnostic testing and therapies. The plan allows the freedom to use any licensed veterinarian, specialty center or emergency hospital in the United States and Puerto Rico.

About Trupanion

Trupanion is a leader in medical insurance for cats and dogs and offers injury and illnesses coverage for working and service dogs – both on and off duty. For nearly two decades, *Trupanion* has given pet owners and working dog owners peace of mind so they can focus on their dog's recovery, not financial stress. *Trupanion* is honored to support these brave K9 heroes and is committed to providing the highest value in medical insurance to help them receive the best veterinary care.

(more)

2019 Recipients

In addition to K-9 Jet, the following K9s and agencies were selected for the grant in 2019:

Columbia Fire Department, MO, K9 Izzo; Elizabethtown Police Department, KY, K9 Lola; Petersham Police Department, MA, K9 Bleu; Natchitoches Paris Sheriff's Office, LA, K9 Bessi; King and Queens Sheriff's Office, VA, K9 Tyson; Montville Police Department, CT, K9's Barrett and Molly; Carroll County Department of Corrections, NH, K9 Chloe; Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, KY, K9 Luma; Ecorse Police Department, MI, K9 Vader; Delta County Sheriff's Office, MI, K9 Jet Dearborn Heights Police Department, MI, K9 Bain; Harper Woods Police Department, MI, K9 Kaiser; Northern Kentucky University Police Department, KY, K9 Arrit; City of Allen Park Police Department, MI, K9 Phantom; Hancock County Sheriff's Department, ME, K9 Finn; Pittsfield Police Department, MA, K9s Niko and Jango; Rolling Meadows Police Department, IL, K9 Scar; Maywood Police Department, NJ, K9's Remington and Vader; German Township Police Department, OH, K9 Idus; Vinton Police Department, IA, K9 Gino; Bannockburn Police Department, IL, K9 Odin West Union Police Department, IA, K9 Xena; Forest City Police Department, IA, K9 Kona; Ludlow Police Department, KY, K9 Oakley; Broadway Police Department, IL, K9 Jax.

In addition to the healthcare reimbursement program, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. has provided more than 3,300 law enforcement dogs with bullet and stab protective vests in 50 states, at a value of \$5.7 million dollars. For more information, please call 508-824-6978. Tax deductible donations are accepted via mail to: Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. P.O. Box 9 East Taunton, MA 02718 or online at www.vik9s.org.



(High Resolution Photo Available Upon Request)

Cutline: *K-9 Jet wearing the bullet, stab protective vest, donated by "Vested Interest in K9s, Inc."*

For more information on the Burnsville Police Department visit www.burnsvillemn.gov/police.

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