A MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF WAYNE IVEY

As the Sheriff of Brevard County I could not be more proud of our members and their accomplishments to make us one of the most professional and innovative agencies in the country. The almost 1,500 proud men and women of our agency work tirelessly every day to create new ideas by not only thinking outside the box but by continually thinking outside the warehouse where the boxes are stored!! Through their efforts and innovation our agency is able to provide our citizens with the highest level of service possible.

A perfect example of our contemporary style of innovation is our new “Comforth Dog” program that combines various components of our agency and community in a “Win-Win” effort to help those in need. This one of a kind program uses Inmate Labor to provide advanced training to dogs from our Animal Care Centers. The program is focused on training the dogs to work as a therapy dog in the areas of child victimization and recovery. Regardless, if it is helping with a recovering child victim, helping veterans and first responders suffering with anxiety disorders, or a citizen of our community in need of animal-assisted therapy this unique program has just the right pet to help just the right person.

The Brevard County Sheriff’s Office “Comfort Dog” program is a “Win-Win” at many levels providing those in need with a professionally trained Comfort Dog, helping our Animal Care Centers achieve “No Kill” status, teaching inmates a trade to assist them when they reenter back into society, and all at no expense to our taxpayers or our recipients.

Without question, the positive effects of having one of our canine companions has the ability to change the quality of life for those who truly need our help. If you, or anyone you know could benefit from this program, please contact the Paws & Stripes College through the e-mail link provided in this brochure.

Brevard County Sheriff

Wayne Ivey

RESOURCES & PARTNERSHIPS

Brevard County Sheriff’s Office
Paws & Stripes College
E-mail for Application:
pawsandstripescollege@bcso.us

Do you know someone who may benefit from the unconditional love of man’s best friend?

Well, this magnificent program is a win/win initiative that frees up kennel space in the local Public and Private Animal Care Centers, provides dogs a forever home, and provides an incredible resource to those in need!!

Apply here: pawsandstripescollege@bcso.us

COMFORT DOG PROGRAM
Presented by:
The Brevard County Sheriff’s Office
Paws & Stripes College

www.spacecoasttherapydogs.com
**Paws & Stripes Comfort Dog Programs**

**CHILDREN WITH BEHAVIORAL & EMOTIONAL DISABILITIES:**

- Reduces anxiety & anger
- Increase communication
- Produces social interactions
- Positive mood stabilizer
- Helps with teaching responsibility
- Stimulates cognitive response

**STUDENT VETERANS:**

- Decreases anxiety in public place
- Reduces symptoms of PTSD
- Increase in undisturbed sleeping
- Produces social interactions
- Stimulates cognitive response
- Higher test scores
- More likely to graduate

---

**Program Outline**

**K-9 Training & Selection**

- Shelter & Rescue Dogs receive basic obedience training from county sentenced female inmates
- A K-9 Specialist screens dogs for temperament & behavioral characteristics for advanced training
- Potential owners are referred to the Paws & Stripes through community partnerships
- Potential owners must complete an (8) hour training course that is held over a period of 4 days.

**8-hour Mandatory Training Course**

- Basic Obedience
- Rapport & K-9 Care
- Comfort Dog rules & regulations
- Adapting to a new home
- Additional Opportunities for advanced training

**40 hour Advanced Training Course**

- Designed for those with, or without a K-9 Partner
- Learn the Do’s & Don’ts of deploying a Therapy dog for child victims in the Florida Justice System
- Instructions & Practical Application include:
  1. Basic & Advanced Obedience
  2. Behavioral Observations
  3. Vehicle Ops
  4. Investigative Interview Technique
  5. Work place adjustments
  6. National Registration
- Home Adaptation (For those obtaining a K-9)

DISCLAIMER: BCSO Comfort Dogs are NOT designated Service Animals nor registered with a National Therapy Dog Organization.

Law Enforcement & Multidiscipline Crimes Against Children Therapy Dog Training

---

(This course prepares K-9 teams to complete the necessary requirements of becoming a Nationally Registered as a Therapy Dog Team)