



Caroline Thomas Jacobs,
Director

**CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES &
HOMELAND SECURITY**

Law Enforcement Branch

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Donald M. O'Keefe, Chief

**Search Methods and ID in a Burned Environment
Hosted By:
Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office**

September 18, 2026

POST Control #: 9410-21042-26-001

Search Methods and ID in a Burned Environment is a 1 Day, 8-hour classroom and field instruction course with Forensic Anthropologists Instructors. This course is designed by the Chico State Anthropology Department and California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Law Enforcement Branch, for search and rescue coordinators and search and rescue teams members in agencies that may need to conduct a search and rescue mission during all hazard incidents. This course is directed toward Sheriff Office Search and Rescue coordinators, their alternates, team leaders, team members and Coroner personnel. Course objectives include:

- Introduce participants to forensic anthropology and the role forensic anthropology plays in death investigations in a burned environment
- Gain familiarity with human and nonhuman bone identifications, including bone morphology.
- Provide hands-on experience with human and nonhuman bone, including identifying bones in field searches.
- Introduce participants to fire scene search methodology and locational analysis of victims.
- Educate personnel on safe and effective searching methods.
- Provide practical experience in identifying burned bone in fire scenes

- Teach K9 Handlers safe and effective canine deployment strategies

PLEASE BRING:

Lunch, snacks, drinks, and safety gear (thick soled boots, gloves, eye protection). Masks, and Tyvek suits will be provided. Dress for all types of weather as it can be unpredictable. The afternoon portion is all outside. K9 handlers should bring their dog's working equipment, including leash(es), collars, rewards and decontamination supplies.

***K9 Handlers see prerequisites (end of document) before registering.**

DATE:

September 18, 2026, at 0800 hrs.

TRAINING LOCATION:

Best Western Miner's Inn
122 E. Miner St., Yreka CA 96097

LODGING:

Best Western- Miner's Inn
122 E Miner St Yreka, CA
530-213-5075
Group code **"Siskiyou SAR Training"**

COURSE REGISTRATION:

Applicants should register online using the link below as soon as possible as class size is limited. After receiving your application, we will confirm your attendance and deliver further instructions by email.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Please click on the link below or scan the QR Code and complete the application. You will receive e-mail verification of receipt.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/vc4t7ahEdD>



***K9 PREREQUISITES:**

1. Canine is certified to Cal OES type 1 cadaver guidelines. A copy of the canine team's certification documentation is required seven days prior to the canine participating, send to: woof5@searchdogs.com.
2. Canine has an independent passive final response to human decomposition and bone odor.
 - a. A recall-re-find is not considered passive.
3. Canine's final response can be cued with a verbal command/marker and canine is responsive to the command/marker when in odor.
4. Canine has a reward system that motivates it for the work.
5. Canine does not mark human remains odor (urinate or defecate in, on or near it).
6. Canine does not attempt to come into physical contact with human remains.
 - a. This includes: eating, licking, pawing, jumping on, picking up, running away with remains.
7. Canine can work with distractions including but not limited to people in close proximity, other canines nearby, noise, distractions typical of an operational environment.
8. Canine must pass a proficiency test before being allowed to participate in the afternoon session. More details will be available upon registration.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Course Specific Questions:

Celeste Fowler

(559) 284-2203

Celeste.Fowler@caloes.ca.gov

General Questions:

CalOESsar@caloes.ca.gov