

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

WISCONSIN / GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER Service Dog Project



WISCONSIN VEST-A-DOG

Protecting the dogs who protect those that protect us!

Have you ever given thought to how important a K-9 is to a police or sheriff department? Probably not unless you've had an interaction with these agencies or these dogs. The benefit to these agencies is a K-9 can run faster than an officer, perform more thorough searches and help keep an officer safe during apprehensions. They also are a great community assistance tool.

K-9 officers reduce the risk to human officers by alerting to danger long before a human can detect it. Every day they loyally carry out their dangerous work to keep us safe. They deserve the same level of protection as their human partner which is a bullet and/or stab proof vest. Many law enforcement agencies in Wisconsin do not have funds to purchase body armor as K-9 units are usually volunteer sponsored. The average cost of each vest is \$1000 to \$1500 depending on the type of vest (bullet or stab proof) suited to the specific dog.

Help us provide vests to K-9s in Wisconsin. Every vest is guaranteed for 5 years, so even if the dog has one now, it will need replacement eventually. We are not certain at this time, which agencies we will be assisting, but the need is there and as we look at the database we will have a better idea. Let's protect these animals – **they do good things for good people just like Eastern Star.**

