

CRIMINALISTICS EXCELLENCE
2005 DETECTOR CASE OF THE YEAR
OFFICER SCOTT FAIFERLICK & K9 HANK DALLAS
COUNTY IOWA AND DEPUTY DENNIS GEORGE & K9 ECHO
POLK COUNTY IOWA

On May 5th 2005 Deputy Scott Faiferlick & K9 Hank of Dallas Co Iowa responded to a call for K-9 assistance on a traffic stop at the 112 mile marker on I-80. The vehicle was a large RV Motor Home. K-9 Hank was deployed and gave alerts to the under side of the vehicle but investigators could not locate a compartment. K9 Hank continued showing interest in the motor home.

The motor home was moved off Interstate 80 for safety reasons and to allow better access. Deputy Faiferlick requested Deputy Dennis George & K-9 Echo of the Polk County SO for a second K9 sniff. K-9 Echo alerted to the same areas as K-9 Hank and deployed under the motor home. The deputies could observe K-9 Echo standing on her rear legs digging and scratching at the floor of the RV. Echo had to be physically removed and upon prying off the metal of her intense indication the following narcotics were removed: Two pounds of Marijuana and 360 pounds of Cocaine valued at \$16 million dollars.

The alert by K-9 Hank provided probable cause to hold the vehicle for a more detailed search. K-9 Echo provided the exact location of the hidden compartment. The team work of the officers and departments made for a state record seizure. Further investigation revealed the suspects and RV were stopped twice before, but this time, K-9 Hank and K-9 Echo were on duty.