

**CRIMINALISTICS EXCELLENCE**  
**2005 PATROL CASE OF THE YEAR**  
**OFFICER STAN BELDE & K9 JAGR**  
**MAPLEWOOD, MN PD**

On June 14<sup>th</sup> 2005 Officer Stand Belde & K9 Jagr responded to assist in the search for a suspect who was armed with a compound bow and had pointed it at an occupant of a vehicle and then proceeded to smash out the vehicles windows.

The first responding officers had searched and recovered two guns and a compound bow from the suspects' home and were informed the suspect had fled out the back door prior to the K-9 teams' arrival.

The K-9 team and a back up officer began to deploy and issued a K-9 warning before they started their search at the back of the home where suspect was last observed. The area led into a large adjacent park and wooded area. The area was sealed off by perimeter officers who had witnessed the suspect fleeing when he attempted to evade the perimeter established. Perimeter officers report several sightings of the suspect, failing to stop, suspect continuing going deeper into the wooded area to avoid capture. The K9 team now on the track and eagerly pursuing the scent arrived at a pond. K9 Jagr entered the pond and could be observed with his head held high air scenting intently indicating that the suspect was near. Once the team got to the south side of the pond K9 Jagr began barking at heavy underbrush. Officer Belde gave another K9 announcement and waited for the suspect to surrender but suspect failed to respond. K9 Jagr was released and disappeared into the heavy underbrush and a struggle could be heard. Officer Belde again announced for the suspect to come out of concealment but only heard a splashing gurgling sound. Officer Belde fearing his partner was in trouble responded and found K9 Jagr had apprehended the suspect by his left shoulder. The suspect apparently waded back into the water and was now holding the K9 Jagr's head under water. Officer Belde jumped into the water and engaged the suspect and was able to free his partner. The suspect still resisting arrest grabbed K9 Jagr again forcing his head under water. The fight continued and K9 Jagr again took the suspect by his forearm and together Officer Belde and K9 Jagr were able to over power and handcuff the suspect.

The search had taken 90 minutes and was a continuing moving problem as the suspect continued moving into the heavy wooded area. The area was contained by perimeter officers, the suspect ignoring several warnings that area was surrounded and a K9 would be deployed.

The 2005 Criminalistics Excellence Award™ is presented to Officer Stand Belde & K9 Jagr for their action that resulted in successfully neutralizing what could have been a tragic incident.