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Siloam Springs Police Department's K9 Fado Awarded Bullet and Stab Protective Vest

Friday, October 16, 2015 (*Siloam Springs, Ark.*) Siloam Springs Police Department's K9 Fado has been awarded a bullet and stab protective vest

Siloam Springs Police Department's K9 Fado has been awarded a ballistic vest thanks to non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. K9 Fado's vest will be embroidered with the sentiment "This gift of protection provided by Vested Interest in K9s, Inc."

K9 Officer Fado is a "dual-purpose" narcotics detector/patrol dog. In addition to being trained to detect various types of street drugs, Fado is also trained for tasks such as searching buildings or open areas for suspects, tracking suspects or lost persons, physically apprehending suspects, and handler/officer protection. "We are grateful to Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. to provide protection for K9 Officer Fado as he is a valuable member of the team." said Siloam Springs Police Captain Monty Balk. "K9 Officer Fado provides a unique, valuable assistance to our force.

Corporal Stephen Deppner learned of Vested Interest in K9s while searching for a way to obtain a vest to help protect Fado. After learning what the organization does, he contacted them and applied for a vest donation. K9 Officer Fado and Corporal Stephen Deppner have been partners since November 2013.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. is a 501c (3) charity located in East Taunton, MA. whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States. The non-profit was established in 2009 to assist law enforcement agencies with this potentially lifesaving body armor for their four-legged K9 officers. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provided over 1,550 protective vests, in 49 states, through private and corporate donations, at a cost of over 1.4 million dollars. All vests are custom made in the USA by Armor Express in Central Lake, MI.

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