

# **Massachusetts State Police asks public to not approach officers and K9s while in training**

“Twice over the past week, an MSP K9 Unit Trooper and dog have been approached by members of the public during training exercises because of their interest in our dogs.

One of the people was walking a pet dog and wanted to let the pet interact with the MSP K9. While our K9 teams do their best to isolate themselves when training, sometimes – especially when the teams get in some training between missions – the training occurs close to public areas.

Because our K9 teams usually train while working their regular shifts and constantly change training venues, there may be occasions when passersby may see them training. While we normally love to meet and speak to the people we serve, for the safety of all involved, we respectfully ask the public to never approach a K9 team while they are training or when the Troopers are giving their partners a break, especially if you are walking your pets.”