

SISD Police Department K-9 Team

The Southside ISD Police Department K-9 team consists of Officer Chris Thomas and RUGER, a Labrador retriever. The SISD Police Department created the K-9 unit to combat the presence of illegal narcotics on SISD campuses and support facilities.

Officer Thomas received his Canine Certification Training from the Department of Defense, and RUGER was certified by Global Training Academy. RUGER is able to detect the scent of a number of narcotics, and will notify the handler with a passive alert.

The goal of the Southside ISD Police Canine Program is to be proactive and deter the presence of illegal drugs on and around district property, by employing a three prong approach to narcotics detection:

- Proactive – This is a key component to the success of reducing drugs on school campuses. The canine team will augment our D.A.R.E. program by reinforcing the anti-drug message through presentations, career days, etc.
- Preventive - The canine team will be making unannounced visits to high school and middle school campuses to conduct random sweeps (checking of designated areas; i.e., common areas, staff and student parking lots) for the presence of illegal narcotics.
- Reactive – The canine team will be available to assist administrators, staff, community, and outside law enforcement agencies in response to specific information.

To schedule the Southside ISD Police Canine Team for a presentation, or for any other inquiries, please contact Sgt. O'Callaghan at 882-1620 extension 5137 or email at him at Robert.O'Callaghan@Southside.k12.tx.us

