



# City Of Tukwila

## Police Department

An Accredited Agency

Jim Haggerton, Mayor

Michael Villa, Chief of Police

**Distribution:**  
Local Media  
Mayor's Office  
City Administrator  
City Clerk's Office  
Council Analyst  
PD Administration  
PD Supervisors  
PD Records

# PRESS RELEASE

## For Immediate Distribution

Type of Incident:	<b>Tukwila K9 Receives Protective Vest</b>		
Location:	<b>Tukwila Police Department</b>		
Date/Time Occurred:	<b>6/16/15</b>	Case Number:	text
Press Contact:	<b>Ofc. Zack Anderson</b>	Phone Number:	<b>(206) 433-7187</b>

### Description of Incident

#### **Tukwila Police Department's K9 Doc has been awarded a bullet and stab protective vest**

The Tukwila Police Department's K9 Doc has been awarded a ballistic vest thanks to a nonprofit organization, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc., and a fundraising event held by, Jack Hassing, a student at University Place Primary School provided \$950.00 for K9 Doc's vest. The vest will be embroidered with the sentiment "Stay safe with love from Jack & the Hassing Family".

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. Each vest costs \$950.00 and has a 5 year warranty. The nonprofit was established in 2009 to assist law enforcement agencies with this potentially lifesaving body armor for their four legged K9 Officers. Through private and corporate sponsorships, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provided over 1417 law enforcement dogs in 49 states with protective vests since 2009 at a cost of over \$1.3 million dollars.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. announces their signature tank top is now available online for a \$20.00 donation at [www.vik9s.org](http://www.vik9s.org). Proceeds will provide bullet and stab protective vests, for police dogs actively working without the potentially lifesaving equipment.

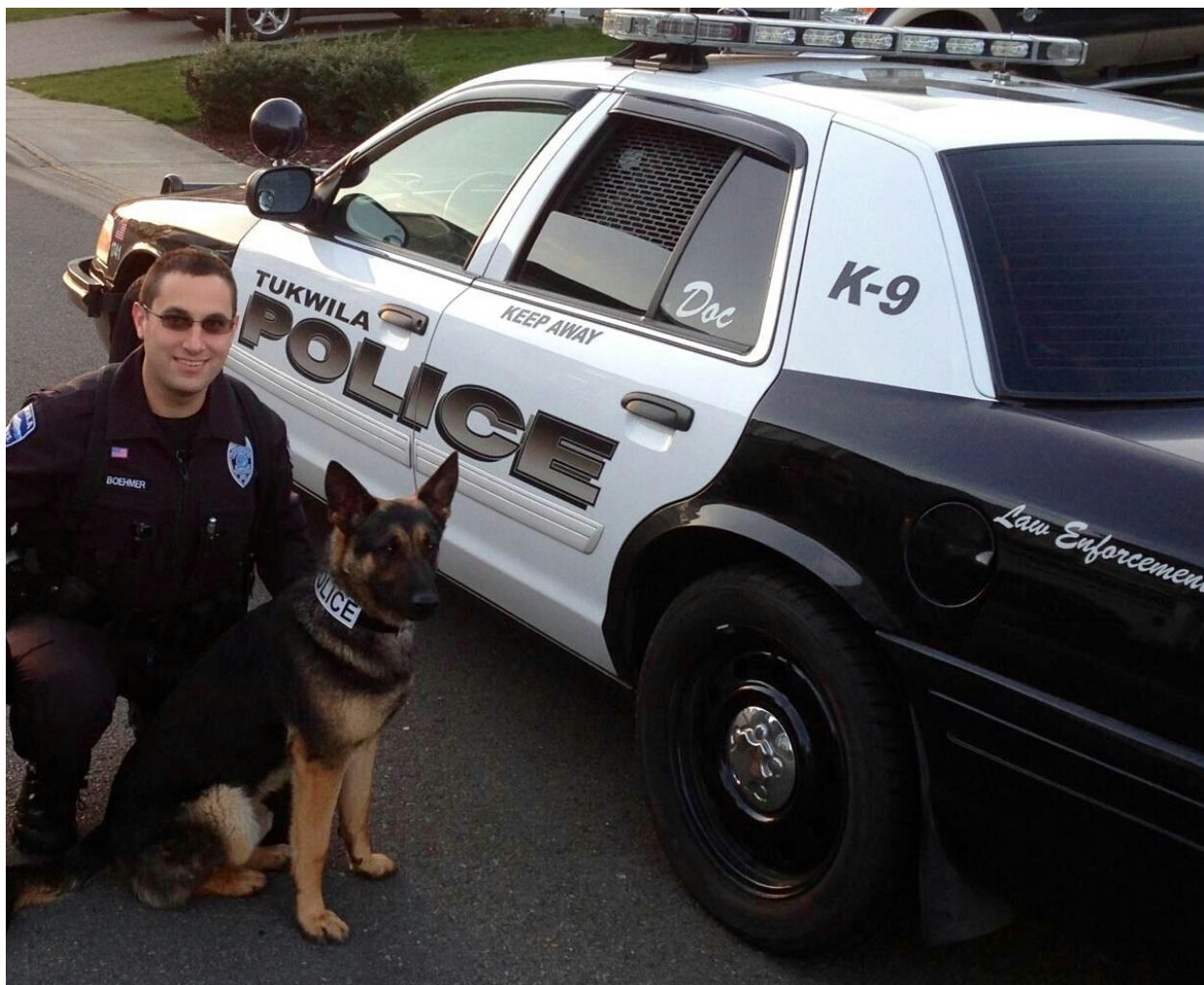
The organization orders the U.S. made vests exclusively from distributor Regency Police Supply in Hyannis, MA who also does the custom embroidery on the body armor. Vests are manufacturer by Armor Express in Central Lake, MI.

New K9 graduates as well as K9's with expired vests are eligible to participate. The program is open to law enforcement dogs who are US employed, certified and at least 19 months of age.

For more information or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978. Tax deductible donations accepted via mail to: Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. P.O. Box 9 East Taunton, MA 02718 or the website: [www.vik9s.org](http://www.vik9s.org)

**Bio for K9 Doc:**

Handler, Officer Boehmer, and Doc are a generalist K-9 team with the Tukwila Police Department. The two completed their 570 hour training course with Redmond and Bellevue PDs in July 2014. The team then joined the patrol division and is currently working with a night shift squad. Doc is a 2 year old Shepherd who was born in Hungary then sent to Vohne Liche Kennels where he was handpicked by Officer Boehmer and the Tukwila K9 Cadre before promptly beginning his training at only 13 months old. Doc and Officer Boehmer were trained as a generalist team. Their deployment capabilities include suspect tracking and apprehension, evidence location, and building/area searches. Doc lives to work and enjoys nothing more than coming to patrol with his fellow Tukwila Officers. On his days off Doc lives with Officer Boehmer and his family. He enjoys playing with his other dog Drake, a black lab and loves going to the cabin, swimming and especially boat rides.



Released by:  
Public Information Officer Anderson  
(206) 433-7187