

**Heather Roche**  
**SEARCH and RESCUE Specifics (Active in SAR since 1989)**  
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Worked with law enforcement agencies on numerous searches on the local, state, regional, and federal levels: VA/WV/NC/SC/MD/PA/DE/TX/DC/MS/LA/OK/FL/NY local and state police/sheriff/fire departments, county & state fire marshals & arson investigators, ATF, Federal Public Defenders Office (SC), VA/MD/NC Department of Natural Resources, NY DEC/Forest Rangers, Choctaw Wildlife & Parks Police and AG Office, Maryland National Capital Park Police, FEMA, NASA, KlassKids Search Center, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children Team Adam & Project Alert teams, NecroSearch International, Navy Criminal Investigation Service, Army CID, and the FBI.

**Trained, experienced, and finds in:**

- Wilderness: live, articles, inaccessible, and cadaver
- Water: fresh and aged
- Urban & Natural Disasters
- Cadaver: above ground, buried, and buildings: including fresh and aged (modern, historical & pre-historical), disarticulated remains, crime scenes, evidence, residual scent, vehicle search, and arson/fire scenes.
  - Approximately 300 local & national searches
    - Including Operation Noble Eagle - Pentagon September 16-27, 2001 for Human Remains Recovery and Hurricane Katrina in Bay St. Louis, MS 2005
    - FEMA deployments include: La Plata Maryland tornado 2002, the Space Shuttle Columbia crew recovery efforts 2003, Toys R Us roof collapse 2003, Hurricane Isabel October 2003, Hurricane Rita 2005 and the NIH parking deck collapse 2004.
    - High profile cadaver searches
  - Certified 5 canines in various specialties (live, FEMA USAR, land & water cadaver)
  - FEMA Canine Search Specialist
  - Former VA State Certified Operational Dog Handler
  - Manage and lead searches. Acting Field Team Leader.
  - Instructor, evaluator, & presenter
  - Currently investigating using canines for historical & ancient grave detection

**Numerous courses taken and certified in:**

- Andy Rebmann's/K-9 Specialty Search School:
  - Beginner Cadaver Seminar (1 day) 6/97
  - Intermediate Cadaver Course (1 week) 4/08
  - Advanced Cadaver Course (week long) 10/98, 4/03 & 10/04
    - Proficiency Certified 10/98, 7/03 & 10/04
  - Advanced Cadaver workshop (2 days) 5/99, (3 days) 10/10
  - Disaster for 1<sup>st</sup> Responders (3 days) 7/02
  - Basic Cadaver Course (week long) 10/00 & 7/03
    - Proficiency Certified 7/03
    - Evaluator for other students taking Proficiency test 7/03
- International Police Work Dog Association (IPWDA):
  - 2006 Nationals: USAR & Cadaver (week long) 9/06
    - Advanced Human Remains Detection Certification (two canines) 8/06
    - Disaster/USAR Certification 9/06
  - 2007 Nationals: USAR & Cadaver (week long) 10/07
- North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA):
  - 2011 Nationals: Cadaver (week long) 6/11
    - Human Remains/Cadaver Detection Certification (two canines) 6/11
- Law Enforcement Training Specialists (LETS):
  - 2011 Camp Atterbury Seminar: Cadaver (week long) 5/11
    - Human Remains/Land Cadaver Detection Certification 5/11

- Independent land/building cadaver certification tests:
  - Evaluator: Lisa Higgins of CCC, LaSAR & St. Tammany Sheriff Dept
    - 12/05, 12/07, 7/08, 11/09, 10/10, 10/11
  - Evaluator: Jonni Joyce 7/02
- Independent water certification tests:
  - Evaluator: Lisa Higgins of CCC & LaSAR
    - 5/07, 7/08, 9/10, & 10/11
- FEMA's Canine Search Specialist course at Disaster City, TX (week long) 10/02
- Brevard County Sheriff's First Annual HRD Seminar (FL)(week long) 3/09
- Old Dominion Water Cadaver Course (Instructor: Lisa Higgins) (week long) 10/01
- Old Dominion Water Cadaver Course (Instructor: Lisa Higgins) (week long) 10/02
- VA IAAI Fire Investigation School: "Fire Fatality & Death Investigation" (Instructor: Dr. Elayne Pope) 3/10
- Canfield & Mosley K9 Seminar (3 days) (Instructor Lisa Higgins) 10/08
- Swift Water Level 1 (1 day) 5/01
- NY SAR Council Seminar (USAR & cadaver - 2 days) 4/01
- Body Movement in Water (Instructor: VSP Diver, Mike Berry) (1 Day) 6/99
- MD National Capital Park Police: Mock Crime Scene & Moot Court 12/98
- MD MSTTF SarEx Crime Scene Class 4/07
- Attended NASAR's annual conference 2002 and 2004
- Jonni Joyce Instruction:
  - Water Search class (two days) 7/01
  - SAR Dog Workout I (land cadaver - 2 days) 3/02
  - SAR Dog Workout II (land cadaver - 2 days) 7/02
  - Building Search Class (cadaver & USAR) 3/07
  - Water Search class 5/07
- VA Department of Emergency Services:
  - Managing Search Operations (40 hours) 4/92
  - Hug A Tree 1990
  - Field Team Member (40 hours) 2/90
- National Cave Rescue Commission:
  - Cave Rescue (2 Days) 4/90
  - Managing Cave Rescue (2 Days) 6/90
- Triangle Rescue: Vertical Rope Rescue 1990
- VAVRS:
  - Vertical Rescue 5/90
  - EVOG 6/90
- Rocky Mountain National Park: 3 day SAR course 6/91
- Wilderness First Aid & CPR
- FEMA required HAZMAT, WMD, & ICS courses
- Certified EMT 1990-1998
- Certified VCIN/NCIC (2 days) 1994

**Class Instructor/Presenter:**

- Guest instructor in Georgia: Crime Scene Protocol/Report Writing; Advanced Cadaver class 12/00
- Assistant cadaver instructor for week long water seminar at Old Dominion 10/02
- Assisted with instruction at the First & Second Human Remains Detection Specialized Training Invationals hosted by the Washington County Sheriff's Department, K-9 Services of Washington County and Mississippi Department of Archives and History. 2003 & 2004
- Guest instructor for LaSAR on disaster/USAR scenes & skills for first responders & canines 6/05
- Cadaver instructor at Jonni Joyce SAR Dog Workout Seminar 7/04 & 8/06
- Cadaver instructor for beginning & advanced cadaver at DELMARVA SAR's SarEx 5/05
- Cadaver instructor for beginning & advanced cadaver at MSTTF SarEx 11/05 & 11/07
- Cadaver instructor at Jonni Joyce SAR Train-the-Trainer Seminar 1/06
- Cadaver instructor for land and water HRD at ARDA's National Conference 10/06 & 10/09
- Assistant cadaver instructor at Jonni Joyce Water Seminar 5/07
- Assistant cadaver instructor at Canfield & Mosley K9 seminar 10/08
- Cadaver instructor for Canfield K9 seminar 4/09
- Cadaver instructor for FL's Brevard County Sheriff's Office (week long) 11/09 & 11/10

- Cadaver instructor for NCMEC's Joe Canfield's Fall Seminar with Lisa Higgins (week long) 10/09
- Cadaver instructor for BARC's Advanced Building HRD Workshops 3/10, 5/10, 10/10, 3/11
- Presented on "Using Canines to Aid in Locating Historical and Pre-Historical Remains" to the Anne Arundel County Chapter of the Maryland Archaeology Society 10/04
- Presented on "Using Canines as a Remote Sensing Tool: What Archaeologists Can Learn From Search & Recovery Dogs" & conducted field work with the Massanutten Chapter of the Archeological Society of Virginia 5/05
  - Archeological Society of Maryland Spring Symposium 4/11

**Affiliations/Memberships/Other:**

- Founder of Bay Area Recovery Canines 2003 to present
- (FEMA) Maryland Task Force 1 (MDTF1) canine handler March 2002 to 2010
  - Red FEMA certified Type I 4/07
  - Red FEMA certified Type 2 2/05
- North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA) member 2011 to present
  - Raven HRD/cadaver certified 6/24/11
  - Penta HRD/cadaver certified 6/24/11
- Law Enforcement Training Specialists (LETS) member 2011 to present
  - Penta Land HRD/Cadaver certified 5/11
- National Narcotic Detector Dog Association (NNDDA) member 2009
  - Raven certified in Cadaver 2/09
- United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) member 2008
- International Police Dog Work Association (IPWDA) member 2006 & 2007
  - Red & Alley certified in Advanced Cadaver
  - Red certified in USAR
- National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)
  - HRD Resource List handler: Team Adam & Project Alert
- National Search Dog Alliance member (NSDA) 2007 to 2009
  - USAR Standards Committee Member 2007
- Country Class Canines instructor & evaluator 1/08 to present
  - Red, Alley, Raven, Penta certified in land & water cadaver
- Captain of the Maryland State Police Eastern Shore Crime Scene Team 2006
- Maryland SAR Teams Task Force (MSTTF) member
- Trainer on Jonni Joyce's SAR Trainer Board August 2005 - 2007
- Bridgewater Tactical Rescue Squad 1989-1990
- Harrisonburg Rescue Squad 1990
- Blue and Gray SAR Dogs 1990-1996
  - Three years as Training and Membership Officer
- Dogs East 1996-2001
- Chesapeake SAR 2001
- Assisted training DC Metro Police Department's cadaver K9s with MNCPP 4/01 & 3/02
- NCRC-ER Staff Member 1990
- National Park Ranger at Rocky Mountain National Park (1991):
  - First ranger accompanied by a SAR dog in Rocky Mountain National Park
  - 3 Day SAR class Kick-off Presenter on using dogs for search work
  - Trained with SAR Dogs of Colorado