

SIBLING SU

MEET K9s4COPS BENEFICIARIES AND
SIBLING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
RANDY AND CASEY THUMANN.



PERHEROES

ARTICLE BY TANYA RANDALL

RRANDY AND CASEY THUMANN are the first siblings to be awarded K9 partners through K9s4COPs.

The Central Texas natives serve in neighboring counties. Randy works for the Fayette County Sheriff's Office in criminal interdiction, while Casey patrols for the Weimer, Texas, Police Department in Colorado County.

Casey was first awarded K9 Lido, so named for K9s4COPs benefactor and legendary automotive executive Lee Iacocca, in the summer of 2017. Her older brother Randy received K9 Kolt with the proceeds from former Minnesota Vikings and University of Texas football star Brain Robison's Reel 'Em In Foundation, after the retirement of his nationally famous K9 partner Lobos in early 2018.

Randy and K9 Kolt work criminal interdiction, which is basically taking crime off the streets. Their main



patrol is along Interstate 10 in Fayette County, where they try to apprehend narcotics and drug money and stop human trafficking.

"No matter how hard you work for it, it's not something you can achieve every day," says Randy, who makes 24 to 28 major seizures a year. "It's a lot of homework, patience and persistence. The reward is phenomenal when you finally get what you're looking for."

A K9s partner is one of his greatest assets.

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—RANDY THUMANN



said Randy, who has been K9 assisted for 10 years. "The dog has brought me a lot further along in my career."

Articles say that Randy and his previous partner K9 Lobos were responsible for taking more than \$100 million in narcotics and contraband off the highways, but truthfully, once the totals got so high, they quit counting.

They were honored by the Motor Vehicle Criminal Interdiction Association for having the largest cold stop heroin seizure in the United States, and Randy was named Criminal Interdiction Officer of the Year.

K9 Kolt is already working to set records of his own.

"I don't think it will be a problem," Randy said of K9 Kolt taking over for Lobos. "He's a great dog, fast learner and super smart. It's been really fun having him. I think he'll exceed what Lobo did. Of course, a lot of Kolt's success will come from things I've learned from having Lobos and what I've learned from other dogs."



Casey, an army veteran, followed her brother into law enforcement and K9 handling. Her patrol consists of 2.5 square miles of Weimer, but she also get called by Texas State Troopers to assist in searches if needed.

It was during one of those assists on the Interstate that they duo got their first major seizure, 15 kilos of cocaine, valued at \$1.5 million.

“Would I like to do more like brother does?” she said. “Yes, but I know it’s not possible. I’m a patrol officer not criminal interdiction. But, I try.”



K9s4COPS is committed to being part of a solution that works to keep communities, schools, and children safe. We do not believe that budget cuts should ever keep an officer from having a K9 partner. For more information on how you can support K9s4COPS and K9s4KIDS, please visit K9s4COPS.org, call 936-825-9900 or email info@k9s4cops.org. Thank you for your support!

For their efforts, Casey and K9 Lido were named 2018’s Newsmaker of the Year for Colorado County and K9s4COPS Rookies of the Year.

“I told my brother at least I got you beat on one award,” she laughed. “K9s4COPS has been a great thing for us. My dog is my protector and he’s with me all the time. It’s a lot of work, but it’s worth it. One day we will get our load.” 🍷

