July 18, 2025

The Honorable Ray Cross
Sheriff of Dade County
Dade County Sheriff's Office

Dear Sheriff Cross:

I hope this message finds you well. I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) regarding the recent tragic death of K-9 Georgia inside a patrol vehicle. Please accept our condolences during this difficult time.

We hope you will take this opportunity to consider phasing out and replacing K-9s with state-of-the-art technology, such as tactical robots, drones, or portable mass spectrometers, which enhance safety and operational efficiency without risking anyone's life.

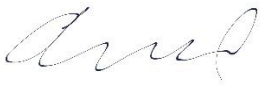
Thank you for vowing to take out of service any K-9 vehicle if related equipment is not working properly. If you've not already done so, please also ensure that every K-9 vehicle is equipped with a temperature-monitoring heat-alert alarm system that's inspected and tested regularly to ensure that it's installed and operated according to manufacturers' standards and remains fully functional at all times.

Even with the best planning, mechanical failures and human errors occur, and law-enforcement work is inherently hazardous for dogs. Just two days before Georgia died, a K-9 named Sam died in Lexington County, South Carolina, from apparent heat-related illness following a training session. Several weeks before that, Maine State Police K-9 Baxter died in a hot car and Albuquerque Police Department K-9 Rebel was shot and killed during a suspect pursuit.

Dogs will do anything to please and protect their handlers, but they do not sign up to risk their lives as their partners do. **The best way to protect K-9s from harm is simply not to use them.**

Thank you for your consideration and for all that you do to keep your community safe.

Most respectfully,



Allison Fandl
Manager of Special Projects
Cruelty Investigations Department | PETA