

Canine cops get bulletproof vests

Non profit group provides funds

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- Amy Phillips

GRANBY, Mass. (WWLP) - The group VESTED INTEREST IN K-9'S gave bullet proof vests to seven canine members of local police departments.

The dogs from Wilbraham, Lanesboro, Williamstown, Pittsfield and Granby were presented their new gear at the Granby Public Safety Complex.

Granby's interim chief, Alan Wishart, says safety always comes first for all members of the department, including canine Ralph.

"Our canine officer, Officer Carpenter who's always with him, certainly if they're searching for a suspect, Ralph is always probably 20 to 30 feet ahead of him on a lead. So he's very likely to encounter that suspect before Officer Carpenter does, so it's very important that he have some protection as well," said Wishart.

VESTED INTEREST IN K-9'S is a non profit fund raising organization that provides bullet proof vests for K-9 officers throughout Massachusetts. For more information log on to their web site at www.vik9s.org.

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