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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, April 11, 2024

**NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C.** – The Charleston County Sheriff's Office is excited to announce its newest member to the K-9 Unit, Winnie, who will be a firearms K-9.

K-9 Winnie is a 19-month-old black labrador. Upon Winnie's adoption being finalized last Tuesday, she immediately started her training with the CCSO K-9 Unit. She will continue her training for the next six weeks as she works with her handler to become well-versed with all odors indicative of firearms.

"The goal is to make Winnie a person-born odor dog, which is a class of its own, meaning she will find guns on people," said Sgt. Matt Anderson, who will be training Winnie.

"K-9s bring value to law enforcement agencies, being able to go and do things that deputies cannot," said Charleston County Sheriff Kristin Graziano. "This is hugely beneficial to the community in that she can walk through a school or community event in which firearms are not allowed and let us know if someone has a gun."

Winnie was donated to the Sheriff's Office from the K2 Kennels Program out of North Carolina.

You can find a video featuring K-9 Winnie on our social media pages.

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